

Douglas County Master Gardeners



FEBRUARY 2012

Volume 27, Number 2



covered. This month our training will be designed to introduce or reacquaint another source of advanced training, Mini-College. Come hear members that attended last year share their experiences in learning in both classroom and social settings.

Mini-college has become one of the highlights of my summer activities. We are fortunate to have Steve as our agent, who provides a constant source of information in Douglas County. Now, stop and picture this. OSU has agents throughout the state and once a year those agents and other gardening experts are invited to share their knowledge with gardeners throughout the state (and out-of-state too). This year our Mini-College will be held in Salem at Willamette University, July 25-27. Enrollees will have the opportunity to stay in

(continued, p 2)

YOUR PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Learning keeps our minds young and active, and Master Gardeners certainly provide many opportunities for doing that. We all remember our first experiences in the winter training. Posterior lobes firmly implanted on cold green courthouse chairs. Wondering which end would go into overload first. But somehow we all made it through and have gone on to share that knowledge (well maybe not the cold bottom part) with our community. What really made it all come together for me was when I finally got to work in the plant clinic and farmers market. People started to ask me questions and I really felt I needed to be able to answer them. Thank goodness I had done the homework. Not that I remembered what the answer was, but that I knew how to use the Sustainable Gardening book to find the answers. Each question was a learning experience for me. And as an added benefit, I got the feeling that I was helping my fellow Douglascians learn more about gardening.

Because of an overly energetic mentor I was dragged to the monthly continuing ed classes. Leo was probably doing his first of many tours as vice president then and I started to look forward to the monthly training sessions. Today the tradition continues and Barbara works long and hard to provide meaningful training. She is always open for suggestions from the membership on subjects you would like to see

Calendar of Upcoming Events

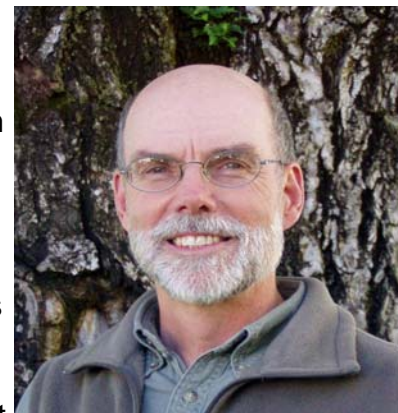
Feb 3	4-H School Gardening/Training Teachers&Volunteers;12:30 - 3p.m., Lookingglass School
Feb 8	Executive Board Meeting, 9 a.m., Ext. Kitchen
Feb 15	Advanced Diagnostics, 10 - noon, Ext. Kitchen
Feb 17	Pruning trees/shrubs, 1 - 4p.m., Dis. Garden
Feb 20	Pruning roses/hydrangea, 1 - 4p.m., Dis. Garden
Feb 23	CE & Chapter Meeting, 9a.m., Extension Annex
Feb 25	Spring Into Gardening, 8:30a.m. - 4p.m., UCC
March 3	OMGA Quarterly Meeting
March 7	Executive Board Meeting, 9a.m., Ext. Kitchen
March 9	Pruning ornamental gardens, 1 - 4p.m., Discovery Garden
March 14	Executive Board Meeting, 9 a.m., Ext. Kitchen
March 17	Great Gardener Series, 10 - noon, Ext. Annex
March 23	Set up for Trash to Treasure Sale, 9a. - 4p., Extension Annex
March 24	Trash to Treasure Sale, 9a. - 4p., Extension Annex
March 29	CE & Chapter Meeting, 9a.m., Extension Annex

the palatial dorm suites (college dorms have changed since the 50s), eat in their cafeteria (so has cafeteria food), and enjoy their eco-friendly campus. Go to http://www.willamette.edu/dept/scheduling/facilities/meeting_conf/index.html#31 for a slide show presentation of the campus facilities. Mark your calendars, plan to attend, and enjoy the fellowship of Master Gardeners from around the state. Scholarships are available. You will come home as not only a better Master Gardener, but a better gardener as well. Our OMGA Rep, Debbie Haynes will keep us all informed of pertinent information regarding Mini-College.

Now for *the piece de résistance* in advanced educational opportunities. Every other year an International Conference is held for Master Gardeners. Last year I was fortunate to attend the one in West Virginia with representatives from every state, Canada, Africa and even a delegation from Korea. The speakers were among the best I have heard. Next year, 2013, the International conference will be held aboard a Holland America Cruise Line Ship. The dates are September 7-14, 2013. Reservations will start as early as 7 May 2012. To keep informed of the latest developments go to www.uaex.edu/imgc2013 and mark this site as one of your favorites.

This month I would like to give orchids to Mary Hoffman for all the behind the scenes work that she has done for us and to John Denny for making our DG chemical room a safer place to work.

—Larry Sutton



Steve Renquist
OSU Extension Agent

I take quite a bit of time during the winter months from January to March having pruning classes for Master Gardeners and the public because it is one of the easiest ways for me to help others prevent extreme cruelty to plants. No other gardening practice when done incorrectly can cause such destruction of natural beauty in the plant kingdom. Pruning poorly without an understanding of a plants natural form, or just chopping a plant down to reduce its size does nothing to enhance your landscape, and in fact can make your trees unsafe to be around.

A few years ago I offered advanced level pruning classes to veteran Master Gardeners to develop pruning instructors who also could be teaching pruning classes to the public around Douglas County. We had some interest but not enough to capture the fancy of several people to continue teaching. I would like to encourage any veteran or class of 2012 Master Gardener to let me know if you would like to work with me over the next few years developing your pruning skills. I really would like to have 2-3 or more people out of our Douglas County MG chapter who would like to become master pruners and instructors for our pruning classes.

I would consider someone a master pruner if you have developed the knowledge of how most of our locally used shrubs and trees grow, what form is both beautiful and healthy for these plants, the best time of year to prune these plants, and what type of pruning cuts should be used. The final step to being a master pruner is often difficult to teach. It is what I would call the artistic talent. I have met a number of people with good pruning knowledge who still leave tortured plants in their wake. You are a master pruner when you train and prune plants that look like you never

Agent's Report:

Pruning Classes for Master Gardeners

In January, I held several pruning classes for Master Gardeners. I introduced many of you from the class of 2012 to some fruit tree pruning concepts, and we spent a few hours in the Japanese garden discussing the proper time and way to prune Japanese maples. We also had an afternoon session in the Discovery Garden orchard pruning fruit trees.

touched them.

If you have an interest in becoming a pruning teacher, and in helping me put on pruning classes, eventually doing some classes on your own, please let me know. Our January classes have come to a close. However, we still have pruning sessions in February and March as well as several workdays in the Discovery Garden that I will be leading. Join in our classes to learn more and think about taking your pruning skills to the next level.

The next time you go for a walk in your neighborhood take a closer look at all the trees and shrubs that if they could, would be screaming at the top of their lungs, *Help! Don't let these misinformed people torture me any more!*

We all need to be advising more of our Douglas County neighbors on the right ways to prune.
—Steve Renquist

Vice-President's Column

If you were unable to attend our chapter meeting this month, you missed a great presentation on agriculture in Brazil. Our Horticultural Agent, Steve Renquist, spoke from firsthand experience obtained while he lived and worked in Brazil. Especially interesting were slides he shared showing how and where their crops are produced, including the fruiting characteristics of each crop i.e. cacao, sugar cane, coffee, rice, soybeans, oranges, etc. Thanks to Steve for an enjoyable and informative continuing ed presentation! At our February chapter meeting we will be hearing about OMGA's annual Mini College, which was held this last July in Newport. Several of our members will be sharing their own mini college experiences. Come support your fellow gardeners and hear why mini-college should be on your "bucket list."

—Barbara Robinson

OSU Douglas County Master Gardeners Chapter Meeting January 26, 2011

The meeting was called to order by President **Larry Sutton** at 10:10 a.m. with 58 people in attendance.

The agenda was approved as presented.

There were 3 new students introduced to the membership.

The minutes were approved as presented in the December newsletter.

Agent Report: **Steve Renquist** had handouts available for the Spring Into Gardening Program, which will be held at UCC February 25, 2012. The Grafting class has been changed to April 4, 2012. The Great Gardener Series has been modified with all classes held on a Saturday with the first class starting on March 17, 2012.

Committee Reports

Membership: **Cindy Rich** reported we have 153 paid veteran members and 38 students totaling 191 paid members. There are over 100 members that have not paid their dues. **Cindy** is still contacting members who have not signed the insurance waiver. She is still working on getting signatures.

OMGA: **Debbie Haynes** reported that our chapter will be hosting the first quarterly OMGA meeting on March 3rd. Seventy people are expected to attend the meeting. We will be providing breakfast and lunch for the attendees. **Debbie** is working with committees to handle food, set up, decorations and service. She still needs help with food volunteers. On another note, the OMGA will not be doing a newsletter in the near future. They are looking for an editor. We now have a DCMG face book page. Click on "Like" to receive updates from our site.

Treasurer: Toni Rudolph gave a cash flow update. There is currently \$15,756 in our accounts. We ended the year with \$8,000 to be used for expenses until the plant sale.

Vice President: Barb Robinson thanked **Steve Renquist** for his CE presentation this morning. The CE program for February will be a report on Mini College in 2011 with multiple presenters on different subjects.

President: Larry Sutton explained we would like to expand our presence on the Internet and is looking volunteers with web development/hosting/administration experience. **Larry** also thanked everyone who contributed to the Endowment Fund. There is now over \$38,000 in the fund. **Larry** introduced **Michelle Harding** who is the 2012 Class Representative. **Michelle** will report back to the new students.

Committee Reports

Community Outreach: Leo Grass discussed the Great Gardener Series, which will resume March 17th and run through October 2nd. **Chris Rusch** will present the first class on growing potatoes, peas, and cold crops. The MFP's will have a presentation on how to preserve these types of produce. There is a complete schedule for the season and flyers can be picked up at the Extension office. **Leo** also advised the UV Home Show will be held March 2 - 3, 2012 at the Douglas County Fairgrounds. The theme will be on seed germination and propagation. There is a sign up sheet available. **Leo** also announced a 4-H School Gardening Workshop for Teachers and Volunteers, which will be presented by Tracy Martz, Youth Development Agent, DC OSU. This short workshop will show how gardening is introduced into the school system and working with kids in the garden. The workshop will be on February 3rd. Details in the Calendar of Events.

Plant Clinic: Judy Mercer thanked **Chris Rusch** and **Marilyn Klingbeil** for their wonderful work as our librarians. We had 1,187 contacts in 2011. **Judy** discussed the clinic training, which will basically use the same training process as last year. **Judy** discussed the rules and handed out lists of requirements.

Discovery Garden: Julie Stanbery said there have been some outstanding weather/work days at the garden. **Chris Rusch** had a fantastic day in the Japanese Garden with **Steve Renquist** showing how to prune Japanese Maples. **Bill Utter** and **Viviane Pulis** have volunteered to head the Herb Garden. **John Denny** has refurbished 3 fire extinguishers and mounted them in the chemical room, the green shed, and the yellow shed near the tractor fuel. They will now be maintained by the Parks Department. There is a first aid kit in the main greenhouse. **Dave Hopkins** and **Gale Robinson** have moved the irrigation pipe and cleaned up other sites. **Julie** reminded everyone to keep the gates and all doors closed and turn off lights at the Discovery Garden. **Julie** will write an article for next month's newsletter regarding rules for renting the Pavilion. A reminder that normal Tuesday workdays will resume once class is over. The pruning schedule is as follows:

- * January 27th, 1 - 4 p.m. - fruit trees
- * February 10th, Workday - **cancelled** - to be rescheduled
- * February 17th, 1 - 4 p.m. - trees and shrubs
- * February 20th, 1 - 4 p.m. - roses and hydrangeas
- * March 9th, 1 - 4 p.m. - ornamentals

Victory Garden: Mik Carlson had a discussion regarding the Victory Garden. The plot has been designed for this year. **Mik** had seeds donated from UCAN, left over from last year, and purchased any seeds needed. Because there are so many hungry in Douglas County, **Mik** brought in the left over seeds so MG's can plant them in their home gardens. She is asking that any extra produce be donated to UCAN. **Mik** and **Lorreen Robinson** will be glad to deliver the produce to UCAN if you bring your vegetables to the garden on Tuesday mornings during the summer.

Awards: Betty Ison is handing out the annual swinger bars. Just a reminder, the hourly swinger bars are handed out in January of each year. Check your hours and contact Pam Barrows for any corrections.

Publicity: **Bonnie Courter** has been busy sending out PSA's on the Plant Expo. She is also working on a flyer for the Plant Expo.

Plant Sale: **Barb Robinson** had sign up sheets available for the Plant Sale. Set up will be May 4th and the sale will be on May 5th.

Winter Training: **Maureen Benice** wanted to let everyone know what a great bunch of new students. Spring Into Gardening will be February 25th. Members can sign up to take classes or sign up to help. Please hand out flyers to family or friends, or post at your favorite location.

Hallmark: **Linda Thames** has been busy making cards for the several members who have had family members pass or who have been ill this month. **Roy Riggs** wife, Phyllis, passed away unexpectedly in late November. **Diane DeMicco's** husband, Carmise passed away January 13th.

Trash to Treasure Sale: **Julie and Bob Agee** will chair the sale, which will be held March 24th. Set up will be on March 23rd. Sign up sheets are available. **Julie** is looking for a volunteer who has storage room prior to the sale. Bookmarks are available for advertising. **Larry Sutton** announced that **Julie and Bob** are stepping down so we will need a chair for next year's sale.

Newsletter: **Larry Sutton** advised for **Joe Yetter** to have your articles to **Joe** by Saturday noon.

Announcements

Barb Robinson announced there will be an MFP Sale - Everything But the Kitchen Sink - Saturday January 28th at the Annex.

Myra Weber is missing her book - last seen at the Advanced Diagnostics Class. (The book was found.)

Meeting adjourned at 11:08 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie Hesseltine
Secretary

NOTES FROM THE CLINIC

Happy Valentine's Day to you all.

As of February 1st, we will be starting the Clinic Training for the class of 2012. Once again we will have a core of 5 Teachers who will be with the students throughout their training. We will have a training outline that the instructors will be following and each student will have a corresponding checklist. This checklist will allow both the student and teacher to track their progress. This way we can be sure all of the points are covered with every student.

As you know, all of the training cannot be completed in two sessions. It will continue throughout the year. Once the first two sessions with their mentors have been completed by all the students we will open the veteran slots up to the whole membership. The formal training with the teaching core will continue through the end of May. At that point it will become the responsibility of all Veterans to continue the training.

I have copies of both the training outline and the Office Protocol in the Clinic Office. Please pick them up before working the Clinic. When you have students working with you in the Clinic you will be able to pull their checklist and see what they still need to cover. By following the Office protocol and the training outline all of our students will receive the same information and the same level of training. The Student Checklists are being kept in the blue accordion folder in the bottom left hand drawer of the desk.

In February we are officially open on Monday and Wednesday, which limits our training days so Karolyn Reicks and I have volunteered to come in on Thursdays and Fridays. In March we are open on Monday, Wednesday and Friday and Karolyn will come in on Thursdays. These will be training days as we are not officially open. After the class ends in mid-March we will also be open on Tuesdays with Chris Rusch volunteering to cover that extra day.

I look forward to working with you all and I know we are going to have a great year.

—Judy Mercer
Plant Clinic Manager

Editor's note: Your editor inadvertently omitted Linda Thames' Hallmark column from the January issue. I regret this error. Hallmark is a very important part of this community, I extend my apologies to Linda and to the members. —Joe

HALLMARK

When it's appropriate for a card to be sent to a member (a special anniversary, illness, surgery, etc.,) that task comes under what we call HALLMARK. It is always helpful to know if, for any reason, this information is to be kept confidential or if it can be announced to the membership. I also never mind being told by more than one person. What's sad to me is that many times it seems people think I know, so they don't bother to tell me.... On a personal note, I also enjoy hearing from those who have enjoyed receiving their cards. That makes my day!



Please notify me if you know of an MG to whom a card should be sent and/or if the membership should be notified.

After the January Membership meeting I received a lovely note from Diane DeMicco that reads:

*"To all Mg's,
Thank you so much for your card of sympathy upon the death of my husband, Mike. It is much appreciated.
Diane DeMicco"*

Linda Thames
linbill2@charter.net
541-673-3978

Community Outreach

Someone seems to have scrambled the calendar, we get our December rains, and our February spring preview in the same month of January. This is the time when gardeners turn to reading seed catalogs, as a placebo for actually working in the garden. Paul Simon recognized this phenomena when he wrote 'Kodachrome', something about sweet imagination, and all the girls he knew in high school.

Spring is just over the next gentle rise in the road ahead, and so is another great Community outreach year: *Spring into gardening*, and the *Great Gardener series* will give us plenty of community exposure to show off our gardening skills to our friends and neighbors. The folks down the hall, in the 4H office have invited us to participate in a program to integrate gardening into the elementary, and middle schools. Gardening groups from all around the county will be looking to us to shine the light of know-how on their gardening projects. It's going to be a GREAT year!

—Leo Grass

Oregon Master Gardener Association Representative

On March 3rd, upstairs in the auditorium, Douglas County Master Gardeners will host the first quarterly OMGA meeting!

We are expecting about 70-75 people from all over Oregon to join us for the Board meeting. It will be an exciting time hosting this event.

Because we are serving both a breakfast and a lunch, if you haven't already volunteered to bring food, please think about contributing! We still need 4 each of veggie soups and chili/meat soups, breads, several desserts, and lots of finger food snacks: fruit, cheese and crackers, chips and dip, pretzels, hard candies.

Meanwhile, you can email me at thedebhlhay@gmail.com to inquire or to contribute, or catch me on Tuesdays at class. Instructions on where and when to bring all items will come in an email from me through Shirley later on in February.

Thank you to the NEW CLASS, especially, for already signing up to bring most of the food and door prizes! And to all the others who have graciously contributed, thanks to you also. Much appreciation for making this event fly!

OH, and IF you would like to try your hand at newsletter editing, the OMGA is looking for an Editor for the Northwest Newsletter! Because they do not have one, our state-wide newsletter has been suspended. If you are interested in this job, it pays in a multitude of volunteer hours, please contact me or Larry Sutton!

Deb Haynes
541-677-0900

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Dues for 2012 are overdue. Please pay as soon as possible. Thanks to those who have paid. Dues are \$10 per person or \$20 per couple to receive your newsletter online. If you choose to have it mailed, you need to include an extra \$5 to cover postage. The new class of trainees' dues are included in their fees for this year. You can drop off your payment and completed form to the plant clinic's dues drawer or mail to me. See the form included in this newsletter for my address.

Cindy Rich
Membership Director

Is it just me—or is it warm in here?

On January 25th, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) released the new version of its Plant Hardiness Zone Map. This new map was jointly developed by USDA's Agricultural Research Service (ARS) and Oregon State University's (OSU) PRISM Climate Group.

The map is available online at www.planthardiness.ars.usda.gov.

The new map offers a Geographic Information System (GIS)-based interactive format and is specifically designed to be Internet-friendly.

Most gardeners in the United States will see that they have “moved” half a zone (five degrees Fahrenheit). Roseburg is now in USDA zone 9a. The new map is a result of more data, more recent data, and more sophisticated data from more weather stations. It is important for us gardeners, and for people concerned with invasive species, plant diseases, and with insect vectors of plant disease and human disease (and diseases of other animals, of course.)

We can still have a long cold, wet spring this year (sound familiar?), and perhaps we will get frost in June and snow in July this year or next. But you should take a look at the new map, and maybe try some plants that seemed just barely out of reach for you on the last map. <http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?contentid=2012/01/0022.xml&contentidonly=true>

Joe Yetter, editor

NEW HOUR SWINGER BARS FOR 2012

by Betty Ison-Awards Chairman

The following volunteers have earned new swinger bars for 2012. Come see Betty Ison to get your new swinger. You must turn in your old swinger to get a new one. Just as a reminder new swingers are only given out once a year in January, so if your name is not on this list you have not earned a new bar and will have to wait until January of next year should you earn the hours to get one during the year.

60 HRS:	Fred Alley Ruth Frank Gary Machachek Anne Nicholas Jean Wall	Diane Billings Robin Grant-Crooks Sandra Medina Pam Sadler	Dennis Connor Laura Jordan Darlene Morey Sydney Shapro	Carol Dalu Roger Kirkpatrick Nancy Nessel Tressa Upton
200 HRS:	Terrie Allen Jeanne DeCato Marva Lee Jone Merrill McFarland Chris Rusch Gayle Ward	Beth Brown Rebecca Drew Eileen Kelley Marj Milroy Nan Sieck	Susan Bundren Jamie Gentry Marilyn Klingbeil Tia Nihart Ruth Stafford	Barbara Colebank Sharon Hopkins Harriet May Lorreen Robinson Jon Thran
500 HRS:	Noel Groshong Geri Johnson Lori Salars	Debbie Haynes Barbara Leeb Janet Wicka	Debbie Hesseltine Cindy Rich Paula Yingst	Doug Johnson Toni Rudolph
750 HRS:	Ted Benice Yvonne Henderson Gale Robinson	Jackie Carpenter Dave Hopkins	Bonnie Courter Neal Meyer	John Denny Barbara Robinson
1000 HRS:	Pam Barrows	Judith Mercer	Joe Yetter	
1500 HRS:	Judy Huntley	Sally Johnson	Richard Johnstone	Anne Waddington
2000 HRS:	Leo Grass			
2500 HRS:	Karolyn Riecks	Irene Thomason		
4000 HRS:	Shirley Purcell			
4500 HRS:	Roger Sawyer			
5000 HRS:	Gloria Amorde	Larry Sutton		
6500 HRS:	Tasha King			
7500 HRS:	Julie Stanbery			
11,000 HRS:	Betty Ison			

Links to Other Sites (annotated)

(suggestions for additional links are solicited)

<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas/> Welcome to the Mother Ship! Browse, read, repeat.

<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas/horticulture> The Horticulture link, with further valuable links.

<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening/enews/> Northwest Gardeners' e-News.

<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening/calendar/> What you should be doing in your garden this month.

<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/metro/newsletter> The Metro Master Gardener Newsletter.

<http://hort.oregonstate.edu/> OSU Horticulture.

<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/sorec/gardening/mga> Jackson County MGs' Garden Beet.

<http://oregonmastergardeners.org/GardenersPen.htm> The Gardener's Pen! Don't forget to sign up by e-mail.

Voluntary Injury Coverage

When we went through the MG program, we had paperwork to sign. We found some volunteers did not sign the Voluntary Injury Coverage (VIC) form. This provides secondary injury protection for authorized volunteers and is limited to injuries due to an accident while performing volunteer duties. This coverage is provided by OSU at no cost to the MG volunteer. In order to have this coverage, the VIC form must be filled out and signed. If you choose not to participate in the VIC program, you still need to sign and check the block on the form. We will be contacting those that need to sign the form.

*Cindy Rich
Membership Director*

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Date: _____

Check No. _____

DOUGLAS COUNTY MASTER GARDENER 2012 DUES

(Due **BEFORE** 01/01/2012)

PLEASE complete ALL information below EVEN if nothing has changed:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____

PHONE: _____

You will be receiving the Master Gardener Newsletter online. If you choose to have it mailed to you through the post office, you will need to check the line below AND PAY AN ADDITIONAL \$5 TO COVER POSTAGE.

____ ***Please mail my newsletter. I have included an EXTRA \$5 to cover postage.***

The 2012 dues are **\$10.00 PER PERSON or \$20.00 PER COUPLE**. Checks should be written to DCMG. Drop your payment AND completed form in the plant clinic's **dues drawer** OR mail to: Cindy Rich @ 1666 NW Apache Dr., Roseburg, OR 97471

**Douglas County
Master Gardeners
Newsletter**

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Articles for the March 2012
Newsletter are due: Noon
Saturday, February 25.

Send to:

(joeleeyetter@yahoo.com)

as an attached file.

PC users: Word for Windows

Mac users: Pages

Font: Arial 12pt

Include "Newsletter" (one word)
in subject line. Include permiss-
ion if you want your telephone,
email, etc., published. Include
hyperlinks.

Executive meetings: first Wednesday, 9:30am, kitchen conference room; Chapter meetings: last Thursday, Jan thru May: 10am, annex auditorium; June, July, August: members' gardens, 10am; Sept: Pavilion, Discovery Garden, 10am; Oct, Nov: 10am, annex auditorium; (no December meetings).

Douglas County Master Gardeners of

OSU Extension Service

Important internet links:

Website: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas/mg>

Discovery Garden: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas/discovery-garden>

MG Plant Clinic Email: douglasmg@oregonstate.edu

Steve Renquist Email: steve.renquist@oregonstate.edu