



Garden Beet

Newsletter of the Jackson County Master Gardener™ Association January 2012

January Gardening

Christmas is over; the New Year is here. With all the excitement of the just past festival season, gardening is often left by the wayside. It's tempting to tell ourselves there's nothing to do in the garden this time of year. But gardening is a "pastime" that is never finished.

Take a walk around your garden to see what needs doing. Remember to stay off lawns when frozen. Water landscape plants underneath wide eaves and other sites shielded from rain. Examine landscape plants for any problems. Look for field mice damage on lower trunks of trees and shrubs. Eliminate their hiding places by removing weeds. You'll be amazed at how many weeds have already flowered and are now going to seed. Get rid of them before the seeds have scattered. Clean up remaining leaves and cut back browned and dormant perennials. Mulch vacant beds and reapply or redistribute mulches that have blown or washed away.

January is a good time to do some serious garden planning. Inventory last year's seeds. Seeds generally last three years with good germination. Start cool season seeds like lettuce, cauliflower, leeks and geranium. Sow seeds of slow growing starts like ageratum, nicotiana, portulaca, snapdragons, asparagus, and [artichokes](#). See *The Garden Guide for the Rogue Valley: Vegetables, Berries, Melons* for the varieties that do best in our area.

When choosing seeds and plants from catalogs, keep in mind the number of plants you can handle, as well as varieties and location. Don't let those beautiful photos tempt you into ordering plants that will not thrive in your garden conditions and keep your order to what you can reasonably grow.

Have a soil test performed on your garden soil to determine nutrient needs. If you like to get the kitchen garden off to an early start, begin warming and drying the soil now by covering it with clear plastic.

This is an ideal time to sharpen and repair garden tools. On a mild day, empty the greenhouse, sweep it out, wash it down, and generally disinfect. This is also a good time to clean out pots and seed trays, especially when the weather is too poor to do anything else. Clean up garden furniture and apply protective oil to wood surfaces.

January is an excellent time to plant nursery stock.

Trees and shrubs planted now will have ample time to establish root systems before hot weather arrives. When selecting a spot, remember areas that are sunny now may be in the shade when deciduous trees are in leaf. Be sure to keep newly planted trees and shrubs well watered until they are established.

Now is a good time to prune trees because they are dormant and deciduous trees have lost their leaves, making it easier to see what needs to be done. Prune limbs that are too low and get in your way, limbs that hang over the house, and dead branches that could pose a safety problem.

Early winter is a good time to make an application of dormant spray to fruit trees to help control over-wintering insect and disease problems. Do it when the temperatures are above freezing, the weather is dry, and the air is still. And remember to apply according to label directions.

Check your stored bulbs, fruits, and veggies for decay or dry rot. Dispose of any that are showing signs of deterioration. Didn't get around to planting your tulips, daffodils, hyacinths and crocus yet? Although it's getting late, they can still be planted if done right away.

Remember to monitor houseplants for correct water and fertilizer. Examine them for insect infestations. Clean dust from the leaves. Protect sensitive plants from cold drafts in the house especially at night and close to windows and doors. Propagate split-leaf philodendrons and other leggy indoor plants by air-layering or vegetative cuttings. Gather branches of quince, forsythia, and flowering cherries to bring indoors to force early bloom.

Did you have a live evergreen tree for the holidays? Trees that have been indoors only three to five days will do best adapting to freezing temperatures again; those that have been indoors 10 days or longer will have marginal success but it's worth a try. Move the tree to an unheated indoor space so that it begins to acclimate to the cold. Keep it away from direct sunlight and keep it watered. You can plant it outside in about 2 weeks.

Take a gardening class. Make a resolution to spend more time in your garden this year. And have a Happy New Year full of happy gardening.

Jane Moyer, Master Gardener 2005

"We will LEARN, PRACTICE, and TEACH the art and science of gardening in the Rogue Valley."

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OSU Advisor's Report

OSU Extension introduced *Ask an Expert* widgets on Extension websites during 2011. Widgets (small question boxes on the webpages) let individuals ask Extension staff and volunteers questions about a wide range of subjects, including home horticulture. In fact, since implementing *Ask an Expert* in Oregon last spring, the majority of questions have been about gardening.

Who are the experts of *Ask an Expert*? They are Extension staff and volunteers. In the gardening area, it's the horticulture staff around the state and Master Gardener volunteers. Folks asking a question identify their county and the question is routed to an expert from their county who has identified the subject area as one where they're willing to answer. In Jackson and Josephine Counties, home horticulture questions are researched and answered primarily by three Master Gardener volunteers, with help from other Extension staff and me.

What kind of questions do we get? Think about your Plant Clinic experience. Almost any question that could come into the Plant Clinic comes to the AAE expert. A few samples from this year included these:

- Can you tell me why my tomato plants have bright yellow spots on the leaves?

- Our plum tree has a large web with caterpillars inside of it. Is this a pest we need to remove from the tree?

- I have a 5-year-old tea rose that is no longer producing flowers. Now I am getting orange pods/nut-like things. Have you heard of this? Is my rose still healthy?

In 2011, there were 133 questions from Jackson and Josephine Counties and 99 (or 75%) were home horticulture subjects. That number is much less than the over 3000 questions that came into the Plant Clinic, but most seemed to be clients who otherwise don't have contact with us. *Ask an Expert* is a supplement to our traditional clinics, and a way to reach even more citizens.

Are you interested in becoming a Master Gardener *Ask an Expert* volunteer? It only requires an email address on your part,

and a willingness to check your email regularly for assigned questions. Talk to me for more details. It's one more way to help educate our community about sustainable gardening practices.

Bob Reynolds

Jackson County OSU Home Horticulture Agent
Master Gardener 2005

BEET BOX

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President's Message

January is named for Janus a Roman god whose temple was locked in times of peace and open in times of war. Hopefully the temple will not open this year! Janus also had two faces and so January is a good time to look back at what we achieved last year and forward to what we can achieve in 2012.

Thank you to Li Harder and all the retiring members of the board for carrying us forward with success in our big projects after Spring Fair and Winter Dreams, Summer Gardens and in our important social events, the quarterly meetings, the picnic, and the Awards Banquet.

Looking forward, we welcome new members to the board who I hope will help us renew and refresh, as all organizations need to do. "We have always done it that way" is probably what the pterodactyls said and look where it got them!

Therefore, as we go forward, I think we have to develop our sense of community to include those who are not Master Gardeners. Maybe they cannot afford it, maybe they work on Wednesdays, maybe they just do not know what being a Master Gardener is all about, but notwithstanding it behooves us as the Jackson County Master Gardeners to get out into the community and to quote our mission, "learn, practice and teach the art and science of gardening in the Rogue Valley." Let us share our experience and expertise for the good of the community as a whole.

As a presidential initiative, I would like to arrange a meeting of our head gardeners as soon as possible. Although we talk and gossip and share on Wednesdays, I wonder if we couldn't be less solitary and more cooperative in our approach to the wonderful gardens we manage at the Extension Center. Maybe the Practicum can produce annuals and perennials as requested by the various head gardeners. Who knows? It is certainly worth discussing.

I hope that unlike Janus we will not be two-faced, but look forward to the New Year with great hopes and aspirations for our own gardens and for JCMGA.

Michael Riding
President 2012
Master Gardener 2009

Classes in January

It's January, a time to stay home, curl up with the gardening catalogs and dream, also known as "the month of no evening classes." Why not add your calendar and the lists of 2012 classes to that pile of catalogs? These cold dark nights are a perfect time to put classes of interest on your calendar to avoid missing any you want to attend.

Included with this *Garden Beet* you'll find all the 2012 class schedules: the Wednesday schedule for Jackson County Master Gardener students, the Thursday schedule for Josephine County Master Gardener students, and the schedule of OSU Extension Saturday and Evening Classes. Even though there are no evening classes this month, there are plenty of classes in both Jackson and Josephine counties that veteran Master Gardeners who are wearing their badges can attend for free to brush up on their gardening knowledge and skills. Print them out. Hang them on the refrigerator. Write them on the calendar. Make a date now to attend with a friend.

If, like many of us, much of the information from the "Basic Botany" classes has leaked out of your brain, sit in on the two-part class in either county. Master Gardener Ron Bombick will be teaching Part I in Josephine Co. on January 12, Thursday and in Jackson Co. on January 18, Wednesday 1 pm - 4 pm in both locations. He'll follow up with Part II on January 19, Thursday, 9 am - noon in Josephine Co. and on January 26 Wednesday, 1 pm - 4 pm in Jackson Co.

Master Gardener Advisor Bob Reynolds will be presenting "What's Sustainable Gardening?" and "Vertebrate Pest Management" on January 19, Thursday, 1 pm - 4 pm in Josephine Co. Both will be repeated in Jackson Co. in February.

Southern Oregon University Climatologist Greg Jones will teach "Rogue Valley Climate and Weather" January 25, Wednesday, 9 am - 10:30 am in Jackson Co. Bob Reynolds will teach the same class January 26, Thursday, 9 am - 10:30 am in Josephine Co.

Rounding out the month will be classes on "Houseplants: Care and Feeding," 10:30 am - noon with Cliff Bennett from Chet's Garden Nursery and "Annuals and Perennials," 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm with Master Gardener Marjorie Neal in Josephine Co. on Thursday, January 26. These classes will also be repeated in Jackson Co. later in the season.

All classes will be held in the OSU Extension Auditorium of the respective counties: 215 Ringuette St., Grants Pass (Josephine Co.), and 569 Hanley Rd., Central Point (Jackson Co.) Remember veteran Master Gardeners sit in the back. Please bring your own cup.

Garden Letter



Happy New Year! May this new start bring our attention to the important things in our lives. It can be a time to savor the many blessings we already have. How wonderful it is that Thanksgiving starts the holiday season with its moments of thankfulness and family gatherings, special occasions, and food celebrations. The holiday season continues its rush to end the year with a reaching out to old and new friends, giving and receiving, sharing. Music, lights, and celebrations make it so festive. It is a merry time, a special time, a time of remembrance and now a new start. It is another year, a traditional time of review and perhaps some resolutions to add to or change our lives. Recent news articles talk of research showing it helps our good health to be grateful. It can change our attitudes and we certainly can use help with that in our daily lives. We are all dealing with life changes, adversity, health issues, financial changes, etc. Our past few years have led to economic changes that have affected us all.

Thinking about the good things in preference to the bad can help us keep a better balance. There are many things to be grateful for no matter what. I resolve to spend some time being aware of those things. I have resolved every year these past few years to learn about some place in the world. Our community is the world now. We are all connected in some way. It started with a Granddaughter's college class her freshman year. Something called Core. It was focused on the Middle East. Where is the Middle East anyway? What did I know? Very little, but I like talking with my grandchildren. So began my quest, which has turned into a wonderful addition to my life. She sent information. Far too stuffy for me, so Haydn helped with the computer and we figured out what was the Middle East. I made a beeline for my favorite place, the public library. It was more my speed and I found books about people who lived there, both in history and currently. I read some of their current writers and some of the ancients. We studied maps,



art, history, religion, anything and everything including the daily news. It was ongoing that whole year. Do I know about the Middle East? No. However, I have an idea about it now.

Then she went to Spain for Spanish immersion and I fell in love with Grenada, the art and architecture. Photos she sent on Facebook

introduced me to the computer and that widened my awareness not only of Spain firsthand but also of the marvel the computer can be. Spain flooded my heart and mind with the beauty of a country I had never even considered.

Next, I chose Scotland, the land of my heritage. I was disappointed. The history was wrapped with Great Britain and was bloody violent. I added Britain



which until recently was part of Scotland, or was it visa versa? It got better! The gardens there have kept me fascinated and the details of many of them read like novels to me. The drought tolerant gardens of Beth Chatto have become my mentors. Sissinghurst and others are

wonderful, so formal, yet the gardeners do as we do, try, test, move, and change. The gardens filled my heart and soul and saved that year.

Did I mention that during that time I read a beautiful book on the Chinese Garden? China has become a fascination and will be an ongoing study. These



"travels" have been first class. At my convenience, with beautiful books some of which I now own, I will learn more. Mryl Bishop is giving a class on Chinese Gardens this year. I will be there. This year a second granddaughter is in Clermont-Ferrand, France and I am beginning my journey of awareness and learning to France. Oh, the gardens to come, I can hardly wait!

My New Year's wish for you is to open your hearts and minds to awareness. Like we talk about doing in our gardens, feed the soil, and there will be growth and beauty in our lives. Happy New Year and come visit the gardens at Extension, there are tiny reminders already that spring is on its way. You are welcome.

Cora Lee
Master Gardener 1994

Gardening Gourmet

A Midwinter's Wonder

With the slumbering garden grasped in its frozen stillness, we anticipate scooping up that first shovel full of virgin spring soil. With the last holiday decorations and guests now gone for another year, the surroundings seem bleak for lacking crimson, emerald and crystal brilliance. However, hope abounds.

Searching for something to perk up that pallid garden palette? Then spring for a splash of Italian Alpine strawberries. Why bother with minuscule plants when one can cultivate the conventional? Although technically an herb, these bold-green compact plants not only add interest to the landscape, but also offer the most intensely fragrant, delectably sweet fruits.

After a profuse shower of miniature snowy blossoms, Alpines are adorned with either crimson or white berries. The white (sometimes referred to as cream or yellow) you'll find most exotic with their intense pineapple flavor. No kidding. They're also larger and sweeter than their red counterparts.

Although propagated from seed (they usually don't send out runners but readily reseed from fallen fruits), you cannot simply sow and grow. Alpine seed must be stratified (subjected to freezing temperatures) to encourage germination. Since we don't have consistent freezes in our area, we must create such environments. To do this, fill 4" planting containers with sterile seed mix. Broadcast seed atop. Lightly sprinkle with a bit more mix gently patting surface with your hand. Don't water since it causes seed to expand and burst when freezing. Place pots in freezer.

After 4 weeks, remove containers, placing them atop a heated mat or other 70° space. When thawed, water plants with a weak kelp/fish emulsion solution. **Have patience!** In about 2-3 weeks, you should see the first seedlings emerge. Continue keeping under light source until plants are about a month old. Transplant

individual seedlings to six packs filled with good organic potting soil. Keep watered (not soggy) with weak kelp/fish emulsion. Start acclimating outdoors about two weeks before last frost.

Although most strawberries prefer full sun, Alpines need afternoon shade to keep them from burning and eventually succumbing to the heat. Tuck plants between rocks, make a border or incorporate in planters. They are wonderful fruiting ground covers and make adorable potted gifts.

Being early spring bloomers, their fruits ripen well before other berries, and you'll get an abundance of berries. Being relatively disease free, and since feathered diners avoid them, a four foot row will fill your fruit bowls. However, with Pixcee plucking her fair share, you might want to make sure you have extras to satisfy those fruit craving canines or felines.

When winter is mild, you may have berries in December, since being day neutral they'll continue growing regardless of daylight length. Once frost finally nips the last fruits, winterize by simply giving them a good clip with the shears. Leave about one and a half inch of stalk above the crowns. No mulching necessary.

Leafing out again early in spring, these delightful Alpines will not only provide you with their sweet fruits and abundant seedlings, but also perfume your garden for years to come.

Sydney Jordan Brown
Master Gardener 2000

Seed sources:

www.kitchengardenseeds.com (they have both red and white Alpine seeds)
www.territorialseed.com
www.strawberryseedstore.com

Alpine Almond Muffins (These are whole grain low fat muffins.)

Whisk together in a large mixing bowl:
2 cups white whole-wheat flour (or non-gluten type)
2/3 cup rolled oats
1/2 cup toasted sliced almonds
4 teaspoons baking powder
1/2 teaspoon sea salt
1/4 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon nutmeg

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Lightly grease muffin pan or line muffin pan with paper baking cups.

Add the wet mixture to the dry mixture in bowl incorporating with a few light strokes until the dry ingredients are just moistened. Do not over mix. The batter will be light but lumpy. Fold in the fresh Alpine Strawberries using just a few strokes.

Spoon batter in muffin cups so that it's slightly mounded (if you want rounded tops). Place in oven and bake for about 15-18 minutes. Muffins are done when indent in their top springs back from the light press of a finger.

Makes one dozen standard muffins

Whisk together in a medium size bowl:

1 large egg
3 tablespoons organic toasted sesame oil
1/2 teaspoon almond extract
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 cup nonfat yogurt
2/3 cup applesauce
1/4 cup agave nectar (or honey)
1 cup fresh Alpine Strawberries, leave whole

HERBAN RENEWAL

Rose (Rosa spp)



The rose is considered to be an herb because of its many non-horticultural uses and associations. However, I have carefully avoided researching roses because of the complexity of the topic. Now I

am trapped; the International Herb Association has declared the rose as the Herb of the Year for 2012.

Roses are native to the Middle East but have naturalized and are widely cultivated throughout the world in temperate Zones 2-8. There is little point in attempting to give my usual botanical descriptions of roses (with approximately 150 species) except in very general terms. Roses are usually deciduous shrubs but may climb or creep. They are sometimes evergreen and may vary in height from 2'- 30'. They prefer a soil pH of 5.5 - 6.5 and like full sun. Leaves are alternate and usually pinnate. The flowers, which may appear from early spring to frost, are solitary or in branched clusters and range in color from whites, yellows, and pinks to reds. The fruit, a rose hip, is berry-like in appearance. Propagation is accomplished with seeds, cuttings and buddings. Cultivated roses are especially susceptible to a number of diseases and pests such as blackspot, mildew, canker, rust, aphids and viruses. (I'm certain that our Head Rose Gardener, Len Tiernan, could discuss this at great length.)

The genus name, *Rosa*, comes from the Greek word *rodon*, which means red and often translates in secret meanings as passion. Pink roses imply simplicity, white roses as purity and yellow roses as jealousy. The Greeks claim the red rose was from the blood of Aphrodite who stuck her foot on a thorn while attempting to help Adonis but the Turks say the color came from the blood of Muhammad. The flower was hung over tables, which meant that everything should be kept secret; hence the term *sub rosa*. Even today there is sometimes a plaster rose in the center of conference room ceilings. Of course, roses are associated with courtship and marriage, perhaps most famously in *Der Rosenkavalier* in which an emissary of the groom presents a silver rose to the intended bride whereupon the emissary and the bride fall in love thus depriving the Marschallin of her boy-toy. (In this country real roses, not silver, are often given to mothers of the principals.)

Other than beauty we probably love roses for fragrance although many, especially modern roses, have no scent. The Romans used the rose as a strewing herb but for perfumes it is necessary to obtain the pure essential oil. It has been estimated that 10,000 pounds (~ 960,000 roses) are required for 1 pound of oil. *Rosa damascena* or *R. gallica* are most commonly used. As with most herbs, the oil can cause contact dermatitis and sensitive people can be allergic to rose pollen. Rose oil contains ~ 300 chemical constituents.

Rose hips, in my opinion, are a bonus. While maturing with cold weather they change colors from green to yellow to red. Depending upon where they were grown and the care taken during harvesting, they may contain high amounts of vitamin C along with A, B, E and K. The cost of vitamin C from hips is roughly 25x more than the synthetic vitamin. They also contain organic acids and pectin, which make them mildly diuretic and laxative. The flavor of rose hips, also known as hipberries, is tart and has been described as cranberry-like. Rose hips are used in tea, wine, jelly, jam and sauces and are a treat for the birds. Rose petals are used for many of the same purposes and also in ice cream, brandy and vinegar. They can be crystallized for decorative purposes and even served in sandwiches; I'll think about that one but at this time I believe I'll pass.

Rose products have been used for a variety of medicinal purposes. Pliny (in AD 77) claimed 32 different ailments were helped by rose products. American Indians combined petals with bear grease to alleviate mouth sores. Honey of roses was used for sore throats and rose vinegar to cure headaches. Rose hip bags helped puffy eyes. In World War II dog rose hips supplied England with vitamin C.

Roses were found in King Tut's tomb. Cleopatra reportedly had rose petals knee-deep in her palace when she entertained Mark Anthony. Another story says that during a wedding procession of a Persian princess on a rose-petal strewn canal the scent was so wonderful that it led to the manufacture of attar of roses. William Penn brought 18 rose bushes to this country from England in 1699 and John Adams was the first president to plant roses near the White House. Roses are widely used in potpourri in both the dry and moist types; the latter may last for 50 years. The petals are also used for making rose beads.

And now a few notes for gentlemen: briarwood pipes are not made from rose wood but 42% of men's fragrances do contain rose oil.

Ellen Scannell
Master Gardener 1986

Master Gardener Profile



Daniel Jokelson
Master Gardener 2011

Daniel grew up in Berkeley, CA and at the age of 25 he decided he wanted to see the world.

For several months he visited friends and toured England and Scotland. While he was there he discovered the World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms (WWOOF) organization, which is dedicated to providing travelers a place to live in exchange for their labor. He spent about 3 winter months on an Irish family homestead, assisting them in establishing their permaculture farm enterprise. Heat was provided from an overgrown stand of woods, water came from the creek, and they grew their own food. In spite of the Olympian hardships of living in a cold and drafty 400-year-old stone house, Daniel became hooked on the philosophy of permaculture and organic farming.

From Ireland, Daniel moved on to gardening, grounds keeping, and landscaping for 15 months on an Israeli kibbutz.

After returning to the Bay Area, he did an internship with an organization in San Francisco that promoted urban gardening. There he helped maintain a demonstration garden and did a compost/garden educator training program.

The next step in Daniel's gardening journey led him north across the Golden Gate Bridge to the Green Gulch Farm Zen Center in Marin County. He spent 4-1/2 years there split between there and Tassajara Zen Mountain Center, the monastic wing of the San Francisco Zen Center. It started with a 6 month organic farm apprenticeship and he stayed on to work in the two-acre flower and herb garden. He spent 1-1/2 years at Tassajara living the monastic life, working in the kitchen, and doing gardening/landscaping. Although he enjoyed the gardening and the Buddhist philosophy, the regimented living and the many hours of sitting and meditating made him wonder if he would become unable to "make it" in the outside world, so he left the safe and structured existence of the Zen Center.

This time he journeyed south of San Francisco, to the small community of Woodside, where he found a job running a three acre organic farm supplying produce for two high-end restaurants in the Bay Area. It was rewarding, but proved to be a rather lonely and isolated existence. At the same time, some friends of his from Green Gulch Farm had bought 280 acres in the Applegate on which to live communally, practice organic farming, and sell the fruits of their labor here in the Rogue Valley. Daniel has always been attracted to the idea of communal living and sustainable agriculture, so he left California to join them. It was hard but rewarding work that included construction of a communal building, and growing organic cut flowers for the Siskiyou Cooperative CSA.

Currently, Daniel resides in Ashland. He has started a business called "A Farm in Your Backyard." His service is a perfect solution for people who want to eat organic homegrown produce but don't have the time or skills to devote to it. Daniel will contract with a property owner to design and set up the garden—amending the soil, installing drip irrigation, and then planting and maintaining the garden tailored specifically to the individual owner's needs. It's like having your own CSA box delivered right from the backyard—can't get much more local and fresh than that!

Carolyn Wolf & Michael Fowell
Master Gardeners 2008

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Reduce: About 35% of all electricity produced is for home use. The EPA estimates that homeowners could reduce home electricity use by 30% just by using energy more wisely and purchasing energy-efficient products. Unplugging seldom-used appliances and electronics could save you \$10 on your monthly electric bill. Layered clothing, wool socks, even wearing a hat instead of turning up the heat all help. (Eighty-five percent of our body heat is lost through our heads.) Take this quiz to see how energy efficient your home is.

<http://life.familyeducation.com/energy-resources/humans-and-environment/56571.html?detoured=1>

Reuse: Food experts tout reusable bags for eliminating waste and routinely clean their own. If just one item leaks, it is easy enough to toss that bag in a sink filled with bleach water. A new study found that bacteria like E. coli could flourish in unwashed, reusable bags. The study tested 87 reusable bags randomly obtained from California and Arizona shoppers. Eight percent of the bags were found to contain E. coli, among other harmful food-borne pathogens. When reusable bags contaminated with meat juice sat in a car trunk for two hours, bacteria multiplied tenfold so storing bags in the car is not the most sanitary strategy. Putting cloth bags through the wash can eliminate almost 100 percent of the bacteria. Yet the study, conducted by the University of Arizona, found only 3 percent of shoppers washed reusable bags between uses. The results were published in the *International Association for Food Protection* magazine. If your bags are sturdy vinyl or polypropylene, spraying them with an antibacterial or bleach solution and then wiping them out will do the trick. Minimize the risk and time spent cleaning bags. Designate one that is for meat only.

Recycle: If you still have your cut Christmas tree around, do not throw it away. Many charitable organizations, like the Boy Scouts and Lions Clubs, collect them to be recycled for uses in wildlife areas. Alternatively, you can cut off the branches and use them to cover tender or early flowering plants. The boughs cut from evergreens are natural coverings for plants during cold weather. When you are through with the evergreen boughs, they can be recycled through the compost pile, by shredding and using them for mulch, by adding them to your yard waste collection bin, or by taking them to a collection site where they will be transformed into landscaping material.

"Be the change you want to see in the world." Gandhi

Jane Moyer

Master Gardener 2005

2012 Master Gardener Board Members

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Archive Report

When Diane Seitz and I began working with Joan Long last year on the Archive Committee, our goal was to collect and organize archival materials and to put in writing the accurate history of our organization. So we looked to the permanent records of the organization - the Board minutes, the Garden Beets, and the OMGA Rep reports. These permanent records provide us with an historical account of who we are and what we have accomplished since our beginnings in 1979 - this is our organizational history.

But many times what we found were huge gaps in the information. In many instances, we're missing the original records and at other times, the records just don't tell us what we want to know. If the year-end results for every project are not recorded in one of our permanent records, then that piece of our history is lost forever.

So, we the Archive Committee, would like to encourage every current committee chair to quantify and/or describe your activities for 2011 and see that those results get recorded in one of our permanent records. The numbers from Plant Clinic are reported monthly at Board meetings and recorded into the Board minutes, so we have a permanent record. The Board has heard final reports from those projects that are already completed for the year such as Children's Garden, Spring Fair, School Grants and Scholarship, Scott's Garden, etc., so those results have been recorded in the Board minutes. But, we'd like to hear annual totals for ALL our activities and committees.

The bottom line is, if you're a committee chair or a committee member, sing the praises of what your committee has accomplished, share that information with all of us, and see that your successes have been permanently recorded in our organizational history.

Linda Holder, *Master Gardener 1998*
Archive Committee



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JOSEPHINE COUNTY - 2012 PROGRAM

Grants Pass Thursdays 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Week	Date	Topic	Instructor	SG
1	12-Jan	AM: Training overview/Introductions	Bob Reynolds	
		AM: Josephine County Master Gardener Association	Al Cook	
		PM: Basic Botany	Ron Bombick	1
2	19-Jan	AM: Basic Botany	Ron Bombick	1
		Noon: Spring Fair Committee Activity	JoCo MG Assn	
		PM: What's Sustainable Gardening?	Bob Reynolds	
3	26-Jan	AM: Vertebrate Pest Management	Bob Reynolds	18
		AM: Rogue Valley Climate	Bob Reynolds	
		AM: Houseplants: Care & Feeding	Cliff Bennett	13
4	2-Feb	Noon: Seeds of Spring Home Garden Seminar	JoCo MG Assn	
		PM: Annuals/Perennials	Marjorie Neal	8
		AM: Introduction to Soils	Marcus Buchanan	2
5	9-Feb	PM: Vegetable Gardening	Marjorie Neal	7
		AM: Backyard Fruit Production	Steve Renquist	10
		PM: Composting/Vermiculture	Rhianna Simes	5
6	16-Feb	AM: Pruning Ornamentals	Steve Renquist	4
		PM: Gardens & Watershed Protection	Frank Burris	6
		AM: Home Weed Management	Bob Reynolds	17
7	23-Feb	AM: Why Is My Tree Dying?	Max Bennett	15
		Noon: Spring Garden Fair Sign Ups	JoCo MG Assn	
		PM: Greenhouses/Growing under lights	David James	7
8	1-Mar	AM: Pesticide Use and Safety	Dan McGrath	19
		Noon: Spring Garden Fair Sign Ups	JoCo MG Assn	
		PM: Lawn Care	Pam Rouhier	12
9	8-Mar	AM: Urban Tree Care/Lab		9
		PM: Garden Entomology	Marsha Waite	14
		AM: Plant Diseases	Jay Pscheidt	15
10	15-Mar	PM: Plant Problem Diagnosis	Jay Pscheidt	16
		AM: Plant Identification/Lab	Warren Lytle	22
		PM: Integrated Pest Management	Marsha Waite	20
11	22-Mar	AM: Plant Clinic Activity	Bob/Wilma/Pemarellis	
		PM: Plant Clinic Activity	Bob/Wilma/Pemarellis	
		PM: Exam Review	Bob Reynolds	

Location: Josephine County Extension Auditorium

215 Ringuette St, Grants Pass

541-478-8613

Breaks One hour will be allowed for lunch. Students may bring their lunch and eat in the auditorium. There will be a mid-morning and afternoon break.

SG Refers to the applicable chapter in your "Sustainable Gardening" text
All regular class sessions are eligible for re-certification for veteran Master Gardeners



MASTER GARDENER™

JACKSON COUNTY - 2012 PROGRAM

Central Point Wednesday 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Week	Date	Time	Topic	Instructor	SG
1	18-Jan	AM	Orientation and Introduction	SOREC and JCMGA	
		PM	Basic Botany	Ron Bombick	1
2	25-Jan	AM	Rogue Valley Climate and Weather	Greg Jones	21
		AM	Orientation, Practicum Sign-up	Bob Reynolds	
		PM	Basic Botany	Ron Bombick	1
3	1-Feb	AM	What's Sustainable Gardening?	Bob Reynolds	
		AM	Weed Management	Bob Reynolds	17
		PM	Introduction to Soils	Marcus Buchanan	2
4	8-Feb	AM	Vegetable Gardening/Raised Beds	Marjorie Neal	7
		PM	Backyard Fruit Production	Steve Renquist	10
5	15-Feb	AM	Gardens & Watershed Protection	Frank Burris	6
		PM	Principles of Pruning	Steve Renquist	4
6	22-Feb	AM	Annuals and Perennials	Marjorie Neal	8
		PM	Why is my Tree Dying?	Max Bennett	
		PM	Vertebrate Pest Management	Bob Reynolds	18
7	29-Feb	AM	Pesticide Use and Safety	Dan McGrath	19
		PM	Lawns	Pam Rouhier	12
8	7-Mar	AM	Urban Tree Care	Bill Harrington	9
		PM	Composting and Vermiculture	Rhianna Simes	5
9	14-Mar	AM	Plant Diseases	Jay Pscheidt	15
		PM	Plant Problem Diagnosis	Jay Pscheidt	16
10	21-Mar	AM	Garden Entomology	Marsha Waite	14
		PM	Taxonomy/Plant Identification	Warren Lytle	22
11	28-Mar	AM	House Plants		13
		AM	Volunteer Opportunities	Ron Bombick	
		PM	Integrated Pest Management	Marsha Waite	20
12	4-Apr	AM	Plant Clinic Orientation	Bob Reynolds	
		PM	Plant Clinic exercise	Marsha Waite	
13	11-Apr	AM	Plant Clinic exercise (reports)	Marsha Waite	
		PM	Exam Review	Bob Reynolds	
		PM	Conclusion	Bob Reynolds	

Location: Jackson County Extension Auditorium
569 Hanley Road, Central Point
Phone 541-776-7371

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" text

All regular class sessions are eligible for re-certification for veteran Master Gardeners

Treasurer (Judy Williams) The current outlook for the year indicates an approximate break-even or a slight surplus. This depends on how many/when the dues for 2012 membership are received. It may be necessary to reprint Volume I of the *Garden Guide* before the end of 2012. To date, this year we have sold 750 of Volume I and 450 of Volume II.

President (Li Harder) thanked the Board for all their hard work this year. She also thanked the Marketing Team, *Winter Dreams* committee, Plant Clinic, and Jeff Haug for his help on the web site design.

Li shared thank you notes from J. Everett Barr School in Yreka, California and Siskiyou Co Probation Dept (Healing Through Horticulture Program) for seeds we sent them.

President Elect (Michael Riding) There were three write-in candidates for President-Elect 2012. They will be contacted soon.

Phil VanBuskirk (Bob Reynolds reporting): The budget will be cut less than originally proposed. Bob's position is not at risk. Other positions that are funded by Grants may be at risk.

OSU Advisor (Bob Reynolds) The Class of 2011 has now all graduated. We have 50 people signed up for the class of 2012, which is remarkable for this time of the year. We have all of our instructors. He invited all members to the opening day of classes on January 18. Bob asked that all members let him know about programs out in the community for which JCMGA are using their skill. This information is shared with the County commissioners and OMGA in their "Search for Excellence."

OSU has sent out a reminder regarding the policies that need to be followed when working with children. Bob passed out the 4-H policies to all present. They will be given to all members that work in the Children's Program. We do background checks on all persons working with children. Any suspected abuses should be reported to Bob and/or Phil and the local law enforcement offices.

OMGA Board President Elect (David Rugg) is working on laying the groundwork for OMGA Strategy 4. This will involve making OMGA more responsive and useful to the Chapters of OMGA.

Marketing (Carol Oneal) shared that Peter Dallas and Richard Brewer developed a video. They are trying to determine how to use the video. The pictures used are from this year's *Spring Fair*.

Bylaws Committee (Diane Seitz) The Bylaws Committee has met and reviewed the bylaws. Diane shared that any change to an Article of Association and Bylaws must have a 30-day waiting period prior to the changes taking place. Policies and motions can be changed immediately.

The suggested major changes are:

- Eliminating position of Vice President -- President-elect position fills most of those responsibilities

- Wording change for the nominating committee. Two secretaries should do tallying of voting results.
- Term limits on Executive Committee members including appointed members .
- Membership secretary position/responsibilities should be added to bylaws section.
- Children's Garden and Practicum chairpersons should be added as a standing committee, deleting Gramma's & Greenhouse chairpersons.
- Adding a section regarding a quorum.

There were many suggestions/questions made from the board; Diane asked all members to send any other question/comments to her regarding the bylaws and bylaw changes.

Community Outreach (Bonnie Martin) Habitat for Humanity has asked for a donation of money for purchase of a tree. A motion was made and was carried unanimously. Information has been sent out to all Community Gardens, County Offices, etc. regarding our Community Garden Grant program. Grant applications must be in by January.

Bonnie presented a slide show about the Sam's Valley Elementary School After-School program. Bonnie and Honey Brown worked weekly in the spring with 8 children from grades K-4 teaching them how to plant seeds and make worm farms.

Extension Advisory Council (Linda Holder) gave a report regarding the proposed AG Center being developed at SOREC. The biggest issues against having it here are: zoning, the well and sewer not supporting the expansion, and ways to get the money needed for this project. This will be a long process.

Membership Coordinator (Honey Brown for Cindy Williams) Forms were passed out for "Volunteer Opportunities Information." Contact Cindy Williams if you have a position that needs filling.

Plant Clinic (Wendy Purslow) Currently we have had 3,899 contacts. Two hundred seventy-three were made in May at Spring Fair. Thirty-eight per cent of our contacts have been from the Growers Market. More emphasis will be given to training the Master Gardeners on how/when to record their service for the coming year. If members have ideas on how to improve training, etc. please contact her.

Website team (Li Harder for Trisha Mullinnix): Many pictures and other information have been uploaded to the website. Jeff Haug, is working on the web design. Linda Holder and Diane Seitz have provided articles on histories of Spring Fair, Winter Dreams and Plant Clinic.

Master Gardener Practicum (Jane Moyer): The Practicum will be using the tables from the Children's Garden during the winter. Jane invited everyone to see the mural done by Carole Evans' husband.

Linda Greenstone, Recording Secretary

**JACKSON COUNTY
MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION**
Southern Oregon Research and Extension Center
569 Hanley Road, Central Point, OR 97502

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Calendar of Upcoming Events

January 6, 2012, Friday, 10 am – noon, JCMGA Board meeting, Extension auditorium

January 6, 2012, Friday, Deadline for applications for Community Garden Grants. Application information is available at the Extension Office located at 569 Hanley Road, Central or can be downloaded at <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/sorec/gardening/mga> Monetary awards will be given to qualifying Community Gardens on February 15, 2012.

January 18 - April 11, 2012, Wednesday, 9 am – 4 pm, Master Gardener Program, Extension Auditorium. Current Master Gardeners are encouraged to attend and earn credits toward re-certification.

February 11, Saturday, 9 am – noon, *"Grape Pruning", Chris Hubert, Oregon Vineyard Supply

February 18, Saturday, 9 am – noon, *"Fruit Tree Pruning", Terry Helfrich, Professional Orchardist

Archive Report

Don't throw away those old Master Gardener files.....

without first checking with the Archive Committee. We're always looking for back issues of the *Garden Beet*, Board minutes, Spring Fair or Winter Dreams material, committee reports, or anything else pertaining to Master Gardener projects. Please check with us before disposing of any organizational materials. Thanks!

Joan Long, Archivist, 858-0802



Oregon State University Extension Service

2012 Saturday and Evening Classes hosted by Jackson Co. Master Gardener Association

All classes are held at the OSU Extension Auditorium unless otherwise noted.
 * Classes eligible for Master Gardener recertification

Sat. February 11 *Grape Pruning Chris Hubert, Oregon Vineyard Supply
 The emphasis of this class will be growing grapes in the home garden especially how, when, and where to prune. Participants will learn terminology that applies to growing grapes, care of grapes, and solutions for common grape problems in the home garden. The class will conclude with an outdoor demonstration in pruning grapes so dress for the weather. 9:00 a.m.-12:00 Cost: \$10/MG free

Sat. February 18 *Fruit Tree Pruning Terry Helfrich, Professional Orchardist
 The emphasis of this class will be growing fruit trees in the home garden especially how, when, and where to prune. Selection of trees and planting site, tree structure, planting requirements, spacing, tree training will also be discussed. The class will conclude with an outdoor demonstration in pruning fruit trees so dress for the weather. 9:00 a.m.-12:00 Cost: \$10/MG free

Sat. March 3 *Rose Pruning Len Tiernan, Master Gardener
 Rose anatomy, rose care, pruning tools, and 10 principles for pruning roses will be discussed. The class will conclude with outdoor practice in pruning roses so dress for the weather and bring gloves, clippers, and loppers. 9:00 a.m.-12:00 Cost: \$10/MG free

Tues. March 6 *Fruit Tree Grafting George Tiger, retired OSU Extension Agent
Class limited to 25. Prepayment required. Materials fee-\$25 (all participants). Class fee-\$5 (MG free). See Paula in the Extension Office.
 Learn how to create your own apple tree or save grandpa's favorite apple tree. The techniques and tools for grafting fruit trees will be taught. Class members will choose apple tree varieties to make a minimum of three grafted starts to take home. 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Sat. March 17 Ready-Set-Grow, A Day for Beginners \$5 per class or 4 classes for \$15/MG free

8:30-10:00	*Seed Starting for Beginners	Don Shaffer, Master Gardener
10:15-11:45	*Vegetable Gardening for Beginners	Carol Oneal, Master Gardener
11:45- 1:00	Lunch (on your own)	
1:00- 2:30	*Annuals and Perennials for Beginners	Stan Mapolski, "The Rogue Gardener" KMED 1440/KTVL
2:45- 4:15	*Soil and Water for Beginners	Bob Reynolds, Master Gardener Coordinator

Thurs. March 29 *Early Bloomers Cliff Bennett, Chet's Garden Nursery
 Plant varieties that bloom early (either late winter or early spring) will be discussed and shown. Many plants that have something to offer other than flowers will also be included. 7:00-9:00 p.m. Cost: \$5/MG free

Tues. April 10 *Introduction to drip irrigation Don Steyskal, Grange Co-op
 This class will provide an introduction to micro-irrigation for water conservation and weed control. Topics will include basic components; system lay-out; and repair and modification. 7:00-9:00 p.m. Cost: \$5/MG free

Wed. April 25 *Springtime Pests Patrick Marcus, Master Gardener
 Flying, crawling, creeping, gnawing and other pests will be dealt with in this program. Patrick Marcus will demonstrate effective ways to send a wide variety of pests on their way. 7:00-9:00 p.m. Cost: \$5/MG free.

Sat. May 12 *Summer Care of Grape Vines Chris Hubert, Oregon Vineyard Supply
 Learn the most important grape management techniques after pruning. The proper summer management of grape vines includes early season shoot thinning, controlling head suckering, training vine growth for the rest of the season and controlling crop load. Class will take place outdoors in the vineyard. Come dressed for the weather. 9:00 a.m.-12:00 Cost: \$10/MG free

Tues. May 15 *Choose and Grow Rock Garden Plants Kelley Leonard, North American Rock Garden Society
 Learn the basics about building a rock garden: rocks, soil, and plants, along with some pointers on how to choose containers. Have a look at some rock garden plants growing in the Rogue Valley. 7:00-9:00 p.m. Cost: \$5/MG Free

Wed. May 30 * Growing Vegetables and Herbs in Containers Marjorie Neal, Master Gardener
 Marjorie Neal will demonstrate the ways to select containers, soil, plants; both vegetable and herb, that work well together to get your container garden growing. 7:00-9:00 p.m. Cost: \$5/MG free.



Extension Service Southern Oregon Research & Extension Center
 Oregon State University, 569 Hanley Road, Central Point, Oregon 97502-1251
 T 541-776-7371 | F 541-776-7373 | <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/sorec/>



- Thurs. June 14** *Don't Be Afraid of Perennials **Christie Mackison, Shooting Star Nursery**
There's more than evergreen plants for interest in the winter months. Learn about some great, long-blooming perennials and how to use them to be rewarded with blooms every month of the year. 7:00-9:00 p.m. Cost: \$5/MG free
- Thurs. June 28** *Introduction to Permaculture: The Self-Sustaining Garden **Cynthia Care, Garden Counselor**
Increase your garden's vitality and resilience, decrease your "carbon footprint" by applying permaculture principles and techniques: easiest-to-grow edible plants and managing weeds in an environmentally-sustainable way. 7:00-9:00 p.m. Cost: \$5/MG Free
- Mon. July 9** *Growing Ferns in the Rogue Valley **Drew Matthew, Grange Co-op**
The botany of ferns, including their differences from other plants, will be explained. Those native to the Rogue Valley will be explored. Choose an appropriate fern for your location and how to prepare the soil will be included. 7:00-9:00 p.m. Cost: \$5/MG free
- Thurs. July 26** *Winter Veggie Gardens **Janet Rodkey, Master Gardener**
What can grow outdoors in winter months? Garden maintenance, seed starting, frost protection, varieties of vegetables and herbs that will grow all winter in our region will be covered. Ornamentals will also be addressed. 7:00-9:00 p.m. Cost: \$5/MG free
- Tues. August 7** *Bees and Plants that Attract Them **John Jacob, So. OR Beekeepers, Old Sol Enterprises**
Bees are beneficial to a garden. How can gardeners help them help us? Bee and pollinator basics will be covered in this class along with planting strategies that will benefit them. 7:00-9:00 p.m. Cost: \$5/MG free
- Thurs. August 23** *Evening Plant Clinic/Garden Conversation **A Foursome of Master Gardeners**
Join Master Gardeners Baldassare Mineo, Regula Pepi, Marsha Waite and Bob Reynolds, Advisor for an evening of gardening conversation. Review your 2012 garden (real and imagined) and we'll talk. 7:00-9:00 p.m. Cost: \$5/MG free.
- Tues. & Wed. September 11 & 12** **Beginning Home Winemaking** **Linda Donovan, Pallet Wine Co.**
Learn to make your own wine. This class will take you through the complete process from harvest to bottle with the goal of learning how to make 10 gallons of "drinkable" wine. This is a two-evening class. 7:00-9:00 p.m. Cost: TBA
- Thurs. September 13** *Planting Riparian Areas **Tim Weaver, Little Butte Creek Watershed**
Learn how to stabilize banks along creeks and improve the riparian area on your property. A well-planted riparian area controls erosion, reduces bacteria transport, and improves shade for migrating fish. 7:00-9:00 p.m. Cost: \$5/MG free
- Tues. & Wed. September 25 & 26** **Advanced Home Winemaking** **Linda Donovan, Pallet Wine Co**
Expand your knowledge of wine chemistry and sensory evaluation by exploring the higher chemistry and microbiology of winemaking. This is a two-evening class. Prerequisite: Beginning Home Winemaking or its equivalent. 7:00-9:00 p.m. Cost: TBA
- Thurs. September 27** **Care of Your Well and Septic System** **Audrey Eldridge, DEQ Senior Hydrogeologist**
Have a well and a septic system? Want to know how to maintain them while protecting your drinking water? Learn how frequently to pump a septic tank, how to find your well log, what water quality tests are recommended, and more. 7:00-9:00 p.m. Cost: \$5/MG free
- Mon. October 8** *Seed Saving **Tal Blankenship, retired Master Gardener advisor & arborist**
The advantages of saving seeds from home gardens along with two techniques for doing so will be discussed and demonstrated. Heirloom seeds will be referenced. 7:00-9:00 p.m. Cost: \$5/MG free
- Wed. October 24** **Chinese Classical Gardens** **Myrl Bishop, Master Gardener**
The Chinese Classical Garden offers insight into 4000 years of Chinese culture. Come look more closely at the hidden depths of this type of garden, with the Portland Chinese Classical Garden used as a prime example. 7:00-9:00 p.m. Cost: \$5/MG free
- Wed. November 14** *Growing Bamboo for You **Thielsen Lebo, Lebeau Bamboo**
Get information on preparing, selecting and caring for bamboo as well as a general knowledge of its many uses around the garden and around the world. 7:00-9:00 p.m. Cost: \$5/MG free
- Thurs. December 6** **Tool Care for the Home Gardener** **Kraig Rucker, Grange Co-op**
This class will cover proper care and sharpening of garden tools to get the best use out of them. Proper storage and what to look for when buying tools will also be covered. 7:00-9:00 p.m. Cost: \$5/MG free



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