

GARDENING, OUR COMMON GROUND

Central Gorge and Wasco County Master Gardener™ Associations

Volume 10, Issue 6

June-July 2008

Summer (Surely it Will Come!) Picnics

**Central Gorge Master Gardener Association
Anne Saxby's Home and Garden, Hood River
Tuesday, July 8, 6 pm**

(See President's Column on page 2 for more information)

**Wasco County Master Gardener Association
Jack Archer's and Anna Nolen's Home and Garden, Wamic
Saturday, July 12, 1 pm**

(See page 3 for more information)



Garden Tour Report By Val Tenney



"Sun-Splashed and Wind-Washed" was joined by a brief morning period of "Rain-Drenched" that was incapable of dousing the high spirits at our Garden Tour, Saturday, May 31, in The Dalles. Likewise, \$4.25 per gallon gasoline(!) failed to discourage 160 visitors who traveled approximately 10 miles around The Dalles to view five unique gardens, three educational spots, a tree and plant sale, and a garden art sale.

For most of a year in advance, plans and preparations were laid, gardens were chosen (including gardens belonging to three of our own Master Gardeners), advertising was developed, posters and brochures were designed and produced. On Tour Day, Master Gardeners from Wasco County and Central Gorge set out and picked up signs, directed traffic, took tickets, welcomed visitors, shared information, sold plants, and served refreshments. So many people volunteered so very many hours. Thank you to everyone who supported the Garden Tour.

Get ready, Hood River, Tour 2009 is coming your way!

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2007 Officers

President - Kathy McGregor
President Elect - Margo Dameier
Secretary – Audrey Schneider
Treasurer – Anne Saxby
State OMGA Representative – Cindy Collins
State OMGA Representative, Alternate – Cathy Fouch

OSU Extension Staff

Elizabeth Daniel, Hood River County Program Coordinator

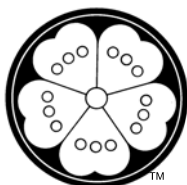
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This newsletter is available online in the Master Gardener section at:

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or
[http://
extension.oregonstate.edu/
wasco/](http://extension.oregonstate.edu/wasco/)

Our Mission

- Increase our knowledge in home horticultural practices.
- Educate home gardeners.
- Promote sustainable gardening techniques.
- Create an atmosphere of enjoyment.



Thoughts From Your President Kathy McGregor

The Central Gorge Master Gardeners have been busy. The May Plant Sale more than doubled the income of last year's sale. Much of the hardscaping is complete in the Japanese Heritage Garden. The Plant Clinic office is getting busier every week. The Gorge Grown Market will open for the season on Thursday, June 19, and beginning that week a Master Gardener will be there to answer questions and to do a short gardening presentation. Other plant clinics are happening in Washington, as well as at Saturday Market and Good News Gardening.

On Tuesday, July 8, Anne Saxby will host the annual Summer Picnic and Association Meeting. Anne's gardens and organic orchard, with Mt. Adams in the distance, will be an inspiring place to share what is going on in the organization. Since this is a potluck picnic, partners are invited, and we will get a chance to socialize and enjoy the summer weather. I hope you all will make it!

CGMGA Master Gardeners of the Year

Anne Saxby and Rita Saling have been chosen as Master Gardeners of the year.

Anne Saxby joined the Master Gardener Program in 2005. She has always been involved with Plant Clinics and Saturday Markets. She spoke on the radio about water conservation and the Master Gardener program. Anne was an integral member of the organizational group working to establish the Central Gorge Master Gardener Association when it separated from Wasco County Master Gardener Association.

Anne has served as the treasurer for CGMGA since the Fall of 2006 and has developed the financial process and budget for CGMGA for 2007 and 2008. Anne was on the Learning Garden steering committee and was project leader for the Native Plant Garden. She was co leader for the Bioswale Project. Anne has also served as treasurer for the Learning Garden and has done extensive work in grant writing for numerous Learning Garden projects. She is currently working on grant writing for the Japanese Heritage Garden.

Rita Saling became an OSU Master Gardener in 2003. She became active in Plant Clinics, the annual Garden Tour, the Hood River County Fair, the Hood River Care Center garden and the mentor program. She was in charge of the local Master Gardener Plant Sale in 2005 and represented the Master Gardeners at the Skamania County Fair. Rita has been involved from the beginning with the Learning Garden at the Hood River County Extension Office.

In 2006 Rita introduced the idea for developing a garden within the Learning Garden's landscape to commemorate the Japanese families from the Hood River Valley that were interned during World War II. It was her vision and persistence that has made the creation of the Japanese Heritage Garden a reality. With the backing of the entire community, numerous grants and generous donations from individuals as well as business owners throughout the Gorge, this garden, now under construction, is becoming an integral part of the Learning Garden at the Extension Office.

Congratulations to these Master Gardeners.

Thoughts From Your President Etta Myers

Thank you to Val Tenney and her garden tour committee and to all the workers, cookie bakers, and behind the scenes helpers who put on such a marvelous garden tour. The weather was mostly good. A shower just before the start of the tour caused a bit of a scramble for some, and some sprinkles in the afternoon brought out a few raincoats and umbrellas, but otherwise it was a nice day. The last two years have seen a significant drop in attendance caused most likely by the high cost of gasoline. Nevertheless, I heard many good comments about the quality and variety of the gardens.

We will soon be appointing a nominating committee for next year's officers. Would you be willing to serve? There are always openings either on the executive board or heading one of the many committees that serve so well. Your expertise and talents are needed; so let us know where your interests are and what you would like to do.

Wasco County Plant Clinics By Cheri Austin

The Wasco County plant clinic has been busy. There are many openings for July. If you can help to fill those spots call me. If you are unable to keep your scheduled clinic time, please remember it is your responsibility to find a replacement.

The plant clinic now has DVD copies of the OPB special *The Silent Invasion*. This is a great program about invasive species. If you missed it the first time, just call me to check out a copy.

A REMINDER: your first payback log sheet is due June 30th. If you misplaced yours, extra copies are available in the Master Gardener office. Please get them in on time. Hand deliver, Fax 541-298-3574, or mail them to:

Wasco County Extension
400 E. Scenic Dr. Suite 2.278
The Dalles, OR 97058
Attn: Cheri Austin

If you have questions regarding your hours, call me or Lynn Long.

WCMGA Summer Picnic

Jack Archer and Anna Nolen, 34 North Frontage Road in Wamic, will be hosting The Wasco County MGA annual picnic this year. They have a lovely organic garden and orchard. The picnic will be held on Saturday, July 12th, at 1 pm. Jack and Anna warn us to be aware of deer when traveling on the back roads of Wamic, especially towards dusk.

Everyone is asked to bring a lawn chair and silverware along with a dessert, main dish or salad for eight. Water and lemonade will be provided along with paperware. Spouses and other family members are welcome.

A map and directions are included as a separate page of this newsletter.

2008 Officers

President - Etta Myers
President-Elect - Lee Bryant
Secretary – Ronnie Smith
Treasurer – Cheri Austin
Historian – Sheila Tegan
State OMGA Representative –
Val Tenney
State OMGA Representative,
Alternate – Lana Tepfer

OSU Extension Staff

Lynn Long, Extension Agent

Find Us Online

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<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/hoodriver/>

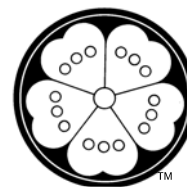
or

<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/wasco/>

Our Common Ground Joint Newsletter of Central Gorge and Wasco County Master Gardener Associations

Judy Davis, editor
rjdavis1@mac.com
541-478-0133

Deadline: The second-to-last Monday of the month.



Hood River Soil and Water Conservation District Offers Workshops

Landscaping with Less: Strategies for Conservation

Saturday, June 21, 2008

10am to noon

Cost \$5.00

OSU Extension Office

Want a great lawn that stays green without constant watering? Looking for attractive landscape plants that need minimal inputs and attract wildlife? Ready to disconnect the downspout and create a "rain garden"? Spend an educational Saturday morning at the OSU Master Gardener Learning Garden with experts from Oregon State University Extension Service, Master Gardeners, and the Hood River Soil & Water Conservation District.

Topics will include ecolawns, native and xeriscape plants, bioswales ("rain gardens") and mulches. To register, please contact Hood River Community Education at 541-386-2055. For more information about this event contact the Hood River Soil & Water Conservation District at 541-386-4588 or hrrswcd@gorge.net.

Pondering a Pond?

Pond Development, Alternatives and Permitting

Saturday, July 12, 2008

10:00am – noon

Cost: \$5.00

OSU Extension Office, Hood River

Are you considering installing a pond? Who wouldn't want a backyard pond for sparkling water, dockside fishing or enhanced property values? But before you start moving in the heavy machinery you might want to attend this workshop. Local Watermaster Bob Wood will help you understand what is involved in constructing a pond from permits that might be required to understanding your water rights. A professional from Aquascape, Inc., the nation's largest supplier and innovator of water feature products will share their expertise on options and alternatives for low maintenance water features and present ideas to bring the water gardening lifestyle into your own backyard for the entire family to enjoy. This could be the class that saves you from digging a very expensive, dry hole in your yard! To register, please contact Hood River Community Education at 541-386-2055. For more information about this event contact the Hood River Soil & Water Conservation District at 541-386-4588 or hrrswcd@gorge.net.



*Do not be afraid to go out on a limb ... That's where the fruit is.
Anonymous*



Newsletter Changes Coming By Judy Davis, editor

Elizabeth Daniel started this "Common Ground" newsletter in 1998. I took over the job of editor in 2004, right after the last presidential election. I have editing the newsletter and writing articles, but I think it is time for new leadership to bring fresh approaches.

During my tenure as editor much has changed. When I started, everyone received a paper copy of the newsletter in the mail. Now many get an email message. When I started there was one association and classes were only offered in The Dalles. Now there are two associations that do some activities, like the garden tour, together and many activities separately. Classes are offered in both Hood River and The Dalles.

I informed the boards of both associations several months ago that I was ready to hand off the job. They have been discussing next steps. Is it time for each association to produce its own newsletter? How should the newsletter be produced in this age of email? Already Elizabeth is experimenting with a weekly email newsletter for Central Gorge MGA to consolidate all the notices about work parties and other needs.

If you have ideas about the future of the newsletter or would like to be involved in editing one, please speak to your MGA president or other board members. I would be happy to discuss the job with you as well.



Austree Starts (Australian Willows are a cross between the Hankow willow (*Salix matsudana*) and white willow (*Salix alba*). Because these trees are fast growing and possess an extensive root system, they can be used as windbreaks and for stabilizing slopes. If you would like starts to root, call Margaret Haupt at 541-478-3895 or e-mail prairiestar@gorge.net

Mini-College at OSU

By Etta Myers and Cindy Collins

Register Now

It is too late to be an early bird, but it is not too late to sign up to attend Mini-College at the OSU campus in Corvallis, July 23-26. This is the 25th anniversary of Mini-College and the theme is "Going Green on Our Silver." All of the details are in the June issue of OMGA's The Gardener's Pen, including lists of classes, social activities, and feature events. You can also find information at <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/mini-college> Registration deadline is July 7. If you have never been, it is truly interesting and fun.

OMGA Silent Auction

For the last five years Mini-College has included a silent auction. It has proved to be an excellent fundraiser for

OMGA. Master Gardeners and businesses throughout the state donate the items. OMGA has asked each chapter to obtain 10 items.

Please help make the auction a success. Look around your house for items you may not be using that another gardener might like. We are looking for items with a minimum value of \$25, garden-related or not. The value of your donation is tax-deductible.

Val Tenney is coordinating silent auction items for Wasco County MGA and Cindy Collins is coordinating for Central Gorge MGA. Please let them know what you can donate by June 25.

Remember Mini-College is open to all gardeners, not just Master Gardeners.



Japanese Heritage Garden Update

By Rita Saling

We have made great progress in the Japanese Heritage Garden. The wall is built, the large stone placed, irrigation ready to be placed, paving almost completed – all due to the heroic efforts of many of you. I say "THANK YOU" loud and clear!!

So I am now going to ask even more of you. Below is a plant list of plant materials we want to start planting soon (*) or in the fall (**). If there is something on the list you would like to donate, please contact me so that we can cross it off our list. A few plants have already been donated either by a Master Gardener or some other source. Please note that the plants listed are very specific varieties; I have included the recommended size as well as the quantity needed.

Trees

2 Acer palmatum, Japanese Maple (green) 2" cal.

Shrubs

22 Azalea 'Hino Crimson**', Hino Crimson Azalea, 2 gal
23 Callicarpa dichotoma*, Purple Beautybush, 3 gal.
6 Camellia sasanqua**, Sasanqua Camelia, 3 gal
11 Camellia sinensis, Tea, any size available
3 Corylopsis pauciflora**, Buttercut Winter Hazel, 3 gal
2 Peaonia suffruticosa**, Tree Peony, 2 gal
1 Pieris japonica**, Japanese Andromeda, 5-7 gal

1 Taxus cuspidata **, Japanese Yew, 5 gal

Groundcover and perennial plants (all fall or spring planting)

5 Aquilegia oxypetala, Buerger's Columbine, 1 gal
5 Equisetum hyemale. Japanese Horsetail, 1 gal
5 Liriodendron muscar, Lily Turf, 1 gal
30 Lycoris radiata, Red Spider Lily, bulbs
10 Ophiopogon japonicas, Mondo Grass, 1 gal
50 Pachysandra terminalis, Common Pachysandra ,4" pot
2 Physalis alkekengi, Chinese Lantern, 1 gal
10 Platycodon grandiflorus, Balloon Flower, 1 gal

There are a few plants that we need in such quantity that we will need to buy from wholesale outlets.

The schedule of activities during the coming summer include clearing and preparing the bed in front of the building for Camellia sasanqua, and Stewartia tree; trimming the Norway spruce; completing the irrigation (installing drip emitters as we plant), planting service berries; removing rose bushes in order to plant prunus mume; removing curbing at entry from parking lot and building screens. The Hellstrip will be the last area to prepare and plant next spring.

**Central Gorge and Wasco County
Master Gardener™ Associations**
 Judy Davis, Newsletter Editor
 6840 Oakbrook Lane
 The Dalles, OR 97058

Calendar of Master Gardener Events and Activities

June 17 (Tue)	3 pm	Wasco County MGA Executive Board Meeting. Wasco County Extension Office. All members welcome.
July 7 (Mon)	9 am	Central Gorge MGA Executive Committee Meeting at Hood River County Extension Office. All members welcome.
July 8 (Tue)	6 pm	Central Gorge MGA Quarterly Association Meeting and Summer Picnic/Potluck. It will begin at 6:00 at Anne Saxby's house, 4169 Barrett Drive, Hood River.
July 12 (Sat)		Wasco County MGA Summer Picnic at Jack Archer's and Mary Nolen's in Wamic. See page 3 for more information.
July 23-26		25th Annual Gardener's Mini-College. See page 5
Sept 13 (Sat)	5:30-8:30	Rising Moon Festival. Learning Garden, Hood River Extension.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Days in June

Safely dispose of old garden chemicals and other hazardous wastes. For information on what to bring call the Tri-

County Hazardous Waste Program at 541-506-2636 or check: http://www.wshd.org/wshd/waste_household.htm

June 14	Tygh Valley	9-2
June 28	Hood River	9-2

No collection days in July or August.