

THE DIRT SHEET

A Publication of the Wasco County Master Gardener™ Association

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Spring Fair May 9th!

Spring Fair Committee Report

The Spring Fair Committee is making huge progress on the first annual Spring Fair at City Park. Northern Wasco County Park & Recreation District graciously made a compromise on park usage for us this year, thus allowing us to follow through on some of our plans on inviting other participants to become involved.

The plants at the NORCOR greenhouse are looking great. The involvement with NORCOR's Kids for Klimate has been beneficial to both WCMG and their facility. Cheri Austin has been working diligently getting volunteers down to help and seeing that the plants are getting the very best care. Thank you to all the volunteers that have helped.

We still want lots of Master Gardener donated plants to sell, as they have always been our mainstay fundraiser. You may take them to Sharon Paz's home at 1904 Quinton St in The Dalles the week prior to May 9. Please call to confirm that she will be home. (541-298-1577).

Check out Janet Probstfield's news article (page 4) to see just how many items and activities we will have. It should be a lot of fun so mark your calendar and come down to participate in the fun and be lured into buying some spectacular plants, such as the Sedum baskets shown.

Spring Fair Team Leader
Peggy Peterson



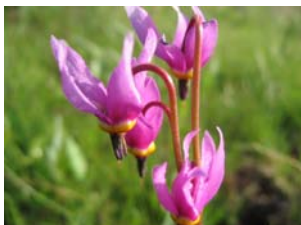
fringed tulip



Anemone sylvestris



balsamroot



desert shooting stars



Between the Rows – Lee Bryant

I saw this name of a column in an old newsletter and loved it. Most of the time we know what's growing in the rows as we planted them. It's what's between the rows that are almost always a surprise.

Here we are in May already. Our first payback log is due on June 30, 2009. This is very important to the Master Gardener program. Are you worried that you may not get all of your hours in by graduation in Oct.? I think it's good for all Master Gardeners to look at the payback log and see all of the projects that we can be involved in. If you like planning parties, we are in need of someone to coordinate the Summer Picnic. We are also still looking for someone to head up the community booth for Wasco County Fair. This is a fun project and a good way to let the whole county know about Master Gardeners. Another project that will be coming up in the fall will be a fall bulb sale and Mini Garden tour.

WHAT KIND OF MEMBER ARE YOU?

Some members are like wheelbarrows – not good unless pushed.

Some are like trailers – not good unless pulled.

Some are like kites – if you don't keep a string on them, they fly away.

Some are like kittens – they are more content when petted.

Some are like footballs, you can't tell which way they are going to bounce.

Some are like balloons – full of wind and likely to blow up unless handled carefully.

Some are 100 percent members in regular attendance and very cooperative.

Which are you?

Anonymous

Did you know that Master Gardeners are on the radio? In Hood River at KIHR we share the radio spot with Master Gardeners at CGMG. You can tune in on the last Friday of each month at 8:00 AM. In The Dalles we share that spot with Wasco County Extension at KODL coffee break show on first Tuesday of the month at 10:00. That's a fun time to tune in and call in questions.

If you have the time here are some great web sites that I have just come across in the past week or so.

www.squarefootgardening.com/

frugaldad.com/2008/03/03/how-to-build-a-square-foot-garden/

www.localharvest.org/member/M13748

I am looking for to seeing all of you at our Spring Fair. If you are not working the fair, I should see you anyway when you come to buy.

BAKLAVA

1 lb. filo dough

1 lb. melted butter (or 1/2 butter and 1/2 butter)

2 cups finely chopped nuts

1 c. sugar

1/2 tsp. cinnamon

1 tsp. lemon juice

1 c. honey

Use a 12 x 15 inch pan. Set out filo dough, which is found in the freezer section. Let it come to room temperature. Separate dough and brush on melted butter between every 2 layers of sheets. Be sure to keep unused dough covered with a damp cloth so that it does not dry out as you put it together. In baking dish, layer 6-8 sheets of dough, brushing butter between each layer. Mix nuts with sugar and cinnamon and sprinkle 1/2 of this mixture over dough. Top with 6-8 more sheets of dough, brushing with butter. Top with remaining nut mixture. Finish buttering and layering the remaining dough.

Slice dough into diamond shapes with sharp knife 1/4 inch down. Bake 25 minutes at 350 degrees or until golden brown. Remove from oven and pour warm honey and lemon juice (which have been mixed together) into the cuts. Allow to cool; serve.

Lee brought this to the Quarterly Meeting

The Dalles Imagination Garden Charlotte Link

Thank you to everyone involved with The Dalles Imagination Garden Dedication event. Not only was Mother Nature at her best providing a beautiful sunny day (without wind, I might add) which, combined with the Master Gardeners' delicious cookies, made the event a success. Did you all notice how quiet the asphalt plant was during the event?

A very special thank you to Adam and Randy at Munsen Paving, and to Meredith Martin for granting us permission to park on her property. Thank you to Mayor Nikki Lesich, Senator Ted Ferriolli, and Ken Patchett for not making me cry, although it was a close call a few times.

Jamie Crouse, The DIG event co-coordinator as well as Marcia Strader went above and beyond to make the event a very special day. I can't thank everyone enough for your support of The Dalles Imagination Garden project. I feel humble and grateful for your support.

A special thank you to all the students from The Dalles Wahtonka High School as well as their teachers, Peny Wallace, Mark McCavic, Lynn Helyer, and Mr. Wilson. Without their dedication to the project, the beautiful mosaic tile mural panels would not be gracing the interlocking barrier block at The DIG. And the tool shed is almost finished. After a rough patch securing the building permit for the shed, (remember, it's a learning garden) I am hopeful the tool shed will be finished before the end of May.



And to the ladies of the Extension Office, Kim, Susan and Mary Ellen, thank you, thank you, thank you. Thank you to Lynn Long and Candy Armstrong for your kind words during the Dedication and your support of the project. I hope you all will continue to support The DIG and visit the garden often.

Thank you, too, to everyone who turned out for the work party April 4th and helped construct and fill the eight raised beds, put up a fence in the corner, weed beds, and establish where the path will be. Everything was accomplished

Save the Date! The next event at The DIG will be the "Take Care of Oregon Days" on Saturday, May 16, 2009 from 10-12 pm. The American Center for Sustainability plant plugs will arrive on Friday, May 15th. Various fruit, vegetable and flower plugs will be available to plant in the Farm area at The DIG. We will also put in the composting area. For more information or to volunteer for the event, please email Charlotte at terralink@gorge.net or call her 541.298.5045. I hope to see you all at The DIG!



More about the Spring Fair

The OSU Wasco County Master Gardener's are presenting a Spring Fair on Saturday, May 9th from 9am to 3pm at the City Park on Union Street in The Dalles.

This fair will feature for sale pre-planted pots, hanging baskets as well as individual plants of vegetables, herbs, sedums and other annuals. The Juvenile residents of NORCOR, KIDZ for Klimate, were instrumental in starting from seed, with the assistance of Master Gardeners, plants in their green-house. These vegetables and ornamental plant varieties were especially selected for our own soil and weather conditions.

The fair will also feature a Master Gardener Plant Clinic, educational booths on 'Gardening for Wildlife' and Herb Gardening, and a children's booth with hands-on making of Pinecone Bird Feeders. In addition there will be old wood orchard ladders that can be transformed into trellises, arbors, bean supports and planters for in our gardens.

Sawyers True Value Hardware will have a pond display available for viewing.

Bryant Pipe & Supply, an irrigation display set up, Humbleroots Nursery, Mosier, OR will be selling native plants and Charlene Fort's Morning Sun Studio will have glass art for sale along with annuals started and raised by KIDZ for Klimate, NORCOR.

There will be a raffle of lawn furniture made from the orchard ladders and stained glass by a local artist as well as music and refreshments for your enjoyment.

Pease join us on Saturday, May 9th at the Fair!

Janet Probstfield

"The true meaning of life is to plant trees under whose shade you do not expect to sit."
Nelson Henderson, sent in by Lana Tepfer

CGMGA Spring Plant Sale

The Central Gorge Master Gardener's Spring Plant Sale runs from 9am to 3pm on May 9th, in The Learning Garden at the OSU Extension grounds, 2990 Experiment Station Drive, Hood River, OR. We will have a good variety of heirloom vegetables, annual and perennial flowers, trees and shrubs. Come early for the best selection!

Margo Dameier, CGMG

Master Gardener Field Trip Wednesday May 13, 2009

J & K GROWERS -- Dallesport, WA and
AZURE FARM -- Dufur, Oregon

8:30 a.m. Depart: The Dalles Marina (I-84 exit 85)
8:45 a.m. Arrive: J&K Growers,
Dallesport 10:00 a.m. Depart: J&K Growers
10:15 a.m. Arrive: Dufur City Park- Rest Stop
10:45 a.m. Depart: Dufur
11:00 a.m. Arrive: Azure Farm
12:30 p.m. Depart: Azure Farm
12:45 p.m. Lunch in Dufur (optional)

Call Garry Peterson if you have questions or need transportation at 541 296 5941.

Spring Fair – Plant Donations

If you are donating plants for our plant sale, keep in mind you are representing master gardeners. When potting up plants make sure pots are clean and tidy. Use good soil, label plants with name, color, height, shade or sun, and any other information necessary. Plants may be delivered to the home of MG Sharon Paz after May 4th. Call her before you deliver your plants. Your donations are appreciated. Everyone's help is needed to make this a successful event. Thank you for your donations.

Cheri Austin

News From South County – Anna Nolen

Lauretta Piatt presented an impressive and interactive plant problem diagnosis clinic in Maupin. She helped the group identify more than one problem on the plant, and to understand what is normal for that specimen. The group then developed solutions to correct the problems and a care management plan.

Lauretta also led the rose pruning workshops at Maupin's City Hall, at City Garden at Henry's and at the Community Church. Emilou Ely, Lois Nelson, Corrine & Lee Clark, and Jack Archer & I worked hard to complete all the pruning. Some of the roses, especially the ones at City Hall, need more than just pruning, but that may be another project for another time.

O.S.U. MASTER GARDENERS ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN SOUTH WASCO COUNTY!!

Lee & Corrine Clark opened their lovely home, right on the edge of the rimrock with a spectacular river view, for our test review. There were lots of treats and Emilou's secret recipe – blue ribbon fudge to enjoy while we each took turns discussing test answers around the table.

Lauretta led a planning session with the group to present Seeds and Soils at Maupin School. She has done a great job with this project for the last four years ~ ever since she has been a Master Gardener!

A Farmer's Market, to be held Sunday afternoons, is looking for (more) Master Gardeners to staff plant clinics at the events. For any of you who may need to fill your plant clinic pay back hours be thinking about taking a gorgeous ride and spending a couple of fun hours in beautiful Maupin at the Farmer's Market.

Jack Archer led a pruning clinic in Maupin. He described the two types of cuts and how to employ them, focusing on techniques for correcting and rehabilitating fruit trees. Many people had individually asked for this information so the class provided answers to their many questions. Lois Nelson provided her wonderful pecan cookies as treats for this event.

Emilou Ely has worked hard to create a wonderful Garden Journal. The journal is full of finger tip accessible information and has lots of room for your own entries. Get your journal early, and an extra one for a friend, by contacting her by phone at 541-328-6219 or by email elyws@yahoo.com. The Garden Journal will be available at the Spring Fair.

Jack & I led a Greenwood/Twig furniture workshop on April 14th. For years we have been asked to provide this class. The class was a big success and people made trellises and chairs and we all learned a lot! These fun projects are a great way to make good use of pruning debris. Jack's brother Bill helped with this fun day.

Our 1 5 0 design planted in daffodils at City Garden at Henry's last fall are a couple of inches out of the ground. We are all looking forward to seeing a golden tribute in full bloom honoring Oregon's Sesquicentennial at the garden. (editor's note: please share a photo with us!)

Plant Clinics will begin June 10th and will continue each second and fourth Wednesday through August. There are plant clinic opportunities for any of you who may be interested, and a chance to enjoy the events of Rendezvous Days of Labor Day weekend, Riverfest of September 12th, and the Christmas Bazaar. Mark these dates in your new Garden Journal and plan on coming out for fun and for the adventure.

It continues to snow here almost every day ~ UGH! (Anna wrote this in early April) even so laundry hung out on the clothesline gets dry! Our yard and gardens are slowly waking up. The first blooms have welcomed early returning hummingbirds.

ROLL ON SPRING!!!



The Dirt Sheet

Newsletter of the Wasco County
Master Gardener™ Association

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Treasurer – Cheri Austin
Historian – Ronnie Smith
OMGA Rep – Lana Tepfer
Alternate OMGA Rep –
Lauretta Piatt

OSU Extension Staff

Lynn Long

Find Us Online

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

Calendar

May 9	9-3	Spring Fair & Plant Sale, City Park, TD*
May 9	9-3	Central Gorge MG's Spring Plant Sale, HR
May 9		Hazardous Waste Collection, Hood River
May 12	2pm	Executive Board Meeting, all MGs welcome
May 13	8:30am	Field Trip: J&K Growers, Azure Farm
May 16	10-12noon	SOLV's Take Care of Oregon Day, The DIG*
May 16		Hazardous Waste Collection, Moro
May 23		Hazardous Waste Collection, Dufur
May 29		Articles due for June newsletter*
June 13		Garden Tour, Central Gorge MGs*
August 5-8		Mini-College 2009, Corvallis

*Activities or projects offering payback hour opportunities

Radio Time! Cheri Austin

We are all familiar with the voice of Janet Probstfield doing 1 minute garden spots 2 to 3 times daily. She gives a lot of information in a very short time and it is very useful to all. Recently it has come to my attention that most of you are unaware of the other voice heard monthly on the KODL Coffeebreak. You guessed it, it is mine. I have been doing the coffee break since 2002 with OSU Ext. agent Brian Tuck. Brian and I air the first Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. representing the extension service talking on coming events, programs and gardening. The program is live and there is an open line to call in with questions. Lee Bryant and I can also be heard on the fourth Friday at 8:00 a.m. on KIHR/KACI. We always need someone to fill in. If you are interested call or email me. Brian goes AWOL sometimes.

Plant Clinic reminder - Cheri Austin

If you are scheduled to work a clinic please be on time. If you are unable to keep your scheduled time, it is your responsibility to find your own replacement. If you are still having trouble finding a replacement call or email me, not Kim, at ladybug98617@embarqmail.com, 541-993-6251.

"I have found, through years of practice, that people garden in order to make something grow; to interact with nature; to share, or find sanctuary, to heal, to honor the Earth, to leave a mark. Through gardening, we feel whole as we make our personal work of art upon the land." Julie Moir Messervy, sent in by Charlotte Link