

GARDENING, OUR COMMON GROUND

Central Gorge and Wasco County Master Gardener™ Associations

Volume 9, Issue 12

November 2007

Quarterly Meeting of Oregon Master Gardener Association

Hood River Valley Christian Church, 975 Indian Creek Rd., Hood River

(same location as the Central Gorge Master Gardener classes)

Saturday, November 10, 2007

10:30 am—3:00 pm

Breakfast snacks will be provided by Wasco County Master Gardeners. Coffee, tea and juice will be available before the 10:30 meeting start. Lunch will be provided by Central Gorge Master Gardeners. The lunch will have a Mexican theme. Entree choices are chicken and pork tamales or vegetarian quesadillas.

If you are planning on attending please reply with your choice of entree to either Cindy Collins (541-354-6541) cindy@astrion.com or Dede Garcia (541-387-3691) nkg@gorge.net.

Master Gardeners, please come to the November 10th OMGA meeting in Hood River. It will give you an opportunity to meet the OMGA officers and to see how that board functions and to meet Gail Langelotto our brand new statewide director. Each chapter's OMGA representative gives a short report and this is a great time to hear what is happening in other chapters around the state. This is my favorite part of the meeting. And then there is always lunch. We will be serving a tamale lunch. Please come.

Cindy Collins, Central Gorge MGA OMGA representative

On Saturday, November 10, Wasco County Master Gardeners will have a rare opportunity to see their State Association in action when the Winter Quarter Meeting takes place in Hood River. We in The Dalles are far from the major population areas where most Quarterly Meetings take place, so we seldom have the chance to hear, first hand from the delegates, what is happening in other Chapters around Oregon. Come with your notepad and pen ready to jot down all the great ideas you'll hear, and to help us welcome our Oregon State Master Gardener Officers to the Columbia River Gorge. Let's show them a good turnout from "rural" Eastern Oregon! Hope to see you there!

Val Tenney, Wasco County MGA OMGA representative

What's Inside?

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | Central Gorge MGA News | 4 | SWCD 2008 Plant Sales |
| 3 | Wasco County MGA News | 5 | Creamy Apple Kuchen |
| 4 | How to Make Compost Workshop | 5 | Book Review of <u>Plenty</u> |
| 4 | 2008 Hood River County Master Gardener Training | 6 | Calendar of Master Gardener Events and Activities |

Officers

President - Dede Garcia
President Elect - Kathy
McGregor
Secretary – Audrey Schneider
Treasurer – Anne Saxby
State OMGA Representative –
Cindy Collins
State OMGA Representative,
Alternate – Glenda Ryan

OSU Extension Staff

Elizabeth Daniel, Hood River
County Program Coordinator

Find Us Online

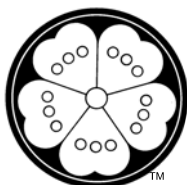
This newsletter is available
online in the Master Gardener
section at:

[http://
extension.oregonstate.edu/
hoodriver/](http://extension.oregonstate.edu/hoodriver/)

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 Dede Garcia

Fall is really here and sometimes it feels more like winter. Where did our beautiful sunny days go? The frenzy of summer has come to an end and the first year of the Central Gorge Master Gardener Association is also winding down. I think we've had a good first year.

Last winter's classes were well attended and a new group of Master Gardeners was welcomed. Since then they have all been busy continuing their training in plant clinics and other projects. Their payback hours should be complete and now it is time to recognize them and their first year in the Master Gardener program. Graduation will be held on October 30th. Congratulations to all of you!

Rita Saling has done an amazing job planning the Japanese Heritage Garden. What started as just an idea has become a project that has been embraced by the community and most especially by the Japanese members of the Hood River Valley. Groundbreaking was held on October 4th and followed by a wonderful reception. The Hood River News gave the event front page coverage!

Now we're looking forward to the OMGA quarterly meeting which will be held here on Saturday November 10th. We are excited to be hosting the meeting, and with the help of the Wasco County Master Gardeners, the food should be excellent as always. A Mexican menu is planned for lunch. Everyone is invited.

Highlights from September-October CGMGA Executive Committee Meetings

1. Total association assets as of September 12 were \$15,220.59. A quarterly audit was completed by Shirley Chrisman, Kathy McGregor, Dede Garcia, and Anne Saxby, audit committee. All checked out. There was no Treasurer's Report for October as Anne was out of town for the October 10th meeting.
2. Fall Quarterly Meeting and Graduation. A final date of October 30 has been established. Christine Lang, Kathy McGregor, and Elizabeth Daniel are serving as the graduation committee. The agenda includes potluck and social time, a brief business meeting with nominations for executive committee positions, and graduation celebration.
3. Sandy Rousseau, Kathy McGregor, Dede Garcia, Anne Saxby, and Elizabeth Daniel have been serving as the 2008 budget committee. The proposed budget will be presented at the October Quarterly meeting.
4. Reimbursement for OMGA travel and other approved MG business was addressed. CGMGA has had no policy for approved association travel expenses. OMGA reps, especially, do considerable driving to attend meetings. Kathy McGregor moved that mileage reimbursement be set at 25 cents/mile. Cindy Collins seconded, and the motion was approved.
5. Development of plans for hosting the OMGA Quarterly meeting have been an ongoing focus. Details for the lunch menu and morning and afternoon snacks, mailings, and welcome packets are shaping up.
6. Reports from projects indicate all is well and mostly in maintenance mode. A work party was required for the Learning Garden prior to the groundbreaking ceremony for the Japanese Heritage Garden. Gayle Dagan will head up the spring plant sale and will hold a planning meeting October 19th at Extension.

Thoughts From Your Presidents Cheri Austin, 2007 President

Where has the year gone? Have you heard the song "Don't Blink"? It's a reminder of how quickly time goes by and this year has been no exception. Writing this article has made me think of the different changes that have taken place since I became a Master Gardener 14 years ago. What comes to mind first is the number of times the Extension Office has moved and our plant clinic offices. When I joined, the Extension Office was in the Annex A building and the plant clinic was in a broom closet. A year later the Extension Office moved to Annex B. The Master Gardeners were given a little bigger room with a window. This was also the beginning of our plant clinic library with books other the PNW's and an old donated computer. After a few years in that location the Extension made its third move to our current home. Our plant clinic office is much bigger with 2 windows. Our library has grown and our computer is up-to-date. Our association has also grown over the years with many changes and different projects. More changes are in our future and I plan to be here to see them all. At least another 14 years.

This is my last article as president for the Wasco County Master Gardeners. Etta Myer will serve as your president. She has served in this position before and did such a great job we wanted to have her back. Please give her all the support you have given me. Best of luck Etta.

As this year winds down I am already looking forward to a new one. After graduation I will be stepping into the treasurer's position. This is one of those changes, and I have some big shoes to fill. I will also be planning and beginning a new landscape and garden at my new home. This is another big change with a higher elevation of 900 ft. and a top layer of clay soil and sandstone under that. Raised beds are definitely in the future.

I want to end my article with Congratulations to our new Master Gardeners and Thank you to everyone for your support and patience this last year. I am look forward to the future of Master Gardeners.

Etta Meyers, 2008 President

Congratulations to all the newly graduating Master Gardeners and to all the veterans as well for successfully completing another year of Master Gardener activities. As we rake the leaves and put our gardens to bed for another winter, it is time to think about planning for next year.

One of the most exciting things is planning for a new community garden. While still in the very early stages, the prospects are exciting and it looks like we will start by focusing on a children's garden. There will be lots of opportunities for new ideas and interesting payback hours.

We are also thinking about classes for next year. If you have ideas for specific topics or speakers, let Lynn Long or any of the board members know. We will pass on it along. We would also like to improve attendance at our quarterly meetings. What suggestions do you have to make them more interesting and exciting? Any and all comments welcome.

Officers

President - Cheri Austin
President-Elect - Etta Myers
Secretary – Ronnie Smith
Treasurer – Lee Bryant
Historian – Jackie Williams
State OMGA Representative – Val Tenney
State OMGA Representative, Alternate – Lana Tepfer
Program Chair - Marcia Strader

OSU Extension Staff

Lynn Long, Extension Agent

Find Us Online

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

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

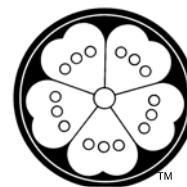
or

<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.



How to Make Compost Workshop

November 3
9:00 am until noon
OSU Extension Office – Hood River - in The Learning Garden

This is an opportunity to gain an understanding of making compost by joining OSU Master Gardener and Master Composter Scott Fitch in a hands on workshop mixing materials and constructing a compost pile. The workshop will be held outside in the compost demonstration area of the Learning Garden. Bring a pair of gloves.

Register with Hood River Community Education at 541-386-2055

2008 Hood River County Master Gardener Training By Elizabeth Daniel

At this time we are putting together the Master Gardener training schedule for 2008. We will begin recruiting new master gardeners into the program beginning November 5. OSU Master Gardener training is offered one time each year from early January to mid-March in Hood River County.

The cost of the 10-week Master Gardener training in Hood River County is \$100.00 and includes the Sustainable Gardening Reference Handbook (a 500-page resource manual) and all classroom materials. Classes are held at Hood River Valley Christian Church. on consecutive Wednesday evenings and every other Saturday beginning January 9 and ending on March 12, 2008. Evening classes are from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. Saturday classes begin at 8:30 a.m. and end at 3:30 p.m. with an hour lunch break.

Master Gardeners receive 60 hours of training and are expected to payback 55 hours of volunteer time working at approved Master Gardener projects.

If you know someone that would like to apply to take the OSU Master Gardener training program in Hood River County, they can receive an application by calling 541-386-3343 or by stopping by the OSU Extension Office at 2990 Experiment Station Road in Hood River. You can also download application forms at: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/hoodriver/MG/mastergardeners.php> Applications will be available November 5 to November 30, 2007.

For additional information, give me a call at 541-386-3343 or send an email to Elizabeth.Daniel@oregonstate.edu

Hood River SWCD 2008 Plant Sale Place Your Orders Now! By Jordan Kim

Every spring the Hood River Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) hosts a native tree and plant sale to promote the planting of native species and give local landowners a convenient and inexpensive way to obtain their favorite plants.

We offer a variety of native conifers, deciduous trees and shrubs. These bare-root seedlings are 1-2 years old and will be delivered to the SWCD in early March. Tree and shrub orders can be placed now by mail, e-mail or phone. The orders will be filled in the order in which they were received, so get your requests in early to ensure availability. Orders will be accepted until January 31, 2008. Purchases will be available for pick up on Friday and Saturday, March 14-15, 2008.

SWCD staff attend the sale and are available to answer your natural resource related questions regardless of whether you make a purchase or not. Check out the District's website at www.hoodriverswcd.org for more information on plant descriptions, suitability for various sites and wildlife usage. You can also download an order form online.

During the 2007 native plant sale, nearly 5,000 trees and shrubs were purchased by over 130 landowners. Over 400 trees and shrubs were donated to restore stream banks, prevent erosion and create wildlife habitat in the area. For 2008, we have some new species for you to try. Use the order form on the District's webpage or stop by the office to make sure you get your order in early!

Wasco Co. SWCD Tree and Shrub Sale By Tammy Tripp

Wasco County SWCD has a yearly Tree and Shrub sale. The list has been published and is available online at www.wasco.oacd.org. The deadline for submitting plant orders is January 30, 2008. Due to bundle sizes, we will have leftovers of some species so we will continue to take orders past the deadline. We just will not be able to guarantee that people will get everything on late orders. In which case, we'll refund amounts for what we were unable to supply. Payment must be made at the time of the order.

Typically, the trees begin arriving from the nurseries the first week in March. Orders are put together by the order in which they were received. People can expect to start getting calls to pick up their order by around the 7th of March 2008. If you have any questions or unable to access the internet for a tree and shrub sale list, call Tammy at 541-296-6178 ext 3.

Creamy Apple Kuchen From Melissa Bickle

This yummy German treat is perfect for autumn.

3 cups apples, peeled, cored and thinly sliced (I use
Granny Smith)
1 Tablespoon lemon juice
1/4 cup sugar (for the apples)
1 cup sugar (for the dough)
1 1/2 tsp cinnamon
1 cup melted butter
2 eggs beaten
2 tsp vanilla
1/4 teaspoon salt
1 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
2 cups flour
1 cup sour cream
1 egg



1. Heat oven to 350 degrees and spray a 9x13 pan with non-stick spray.
2. In a medium bowl, combine apples, lemon juice, 1/4 cup sugar and cinnamon and stir to mix.
3. In a large bowl, mix together the melted butter and 1 cup sugar. Add the two beaten eggs and vanilla. Stir in salt and baking powder then add flour.
4. Spread the batter in the pan (it will be thick) then top it with the apple mixture.
5. Combine the sour cream and remaining egg in a small bowl and pour over apples (it won't fully cover them)
6. Bake for 30 minutes or until the cake is lightly browned around edges and topping looks set.

I sprinkle a little extra cinnamon and sugar on the top. Store leftovers covered in the refrigerator. Serves 12.

Don't be in too much of a hurry to tidy up, or you risk depriving yourself of some of autumn's glory in the faded seedheads and foliage dotting the flower garden.



Ethne Clarke, [Autumn Gardens](#)

As the garden is readied for winter, it is a good time to reflect on the progress of your garden over the last year. Look over pictures taken at different seasons. Enjoy the images of your garden at its best moments. Review the plants and planting areas that have provided the best function and enjoyment with minimal care demands. Make plans to repeat these successes in other areas of the garden.

Mary Robson, [Month-by-Month Gardening in Washington and Oregon](#)

Book Review—Plenty by Alisa Smith and J. B. MacKinnon By Judy Davis

No eating could be more local than walking out in your own yard and eating a tomato or preparing a dish from foods you have grown and preserved. As gardeners we all know about that sort of local eating. But how far does the rest of our food travel? Who grew it, who processed it, and who transported it?

Alisa Smith and J. B. MacKinnon, seemingly on a whim, decided to eat only local food—food grown and processed within 100 miles of their Vancouver, BC apartment—for a year. They started with little forethought on the first day of spring. Consequently they ate a lot of root vegetables and hungered for greens until the farmer's market opened in May. They didn't find a local grower and grinder of wheat until well into the year. They found their apartment to be woefully lacking in space for storing food for winter.

But they loved their year of getting to know local farmers, bakers, and fishers. They tell an entertaining tale in this short book about eating seasonal food, "like your grandparents did," as people liked to tell them. They also encourage thinking about the food we eat.

- Where does it come from?
- Who grew it and how?
- What could you eat if you limited your consumption to foods grown within a 100 miles? (Or some other distance? Rick and I decided we would need 150 miles to include seafood if we tried this.)
- Would you need some "trade goods"—goods grown outside your local area? Trade goods include California and Mexican fruits and vegetables and basics like salt, tea, coffee, chocolate, rice, and olive oil.
- How dependent are you on "trade goods"?

I think it might be interesting to have a Master Gardener potluck where a major ingredient of every potluck item was locally grown and to hear the stories of these foods. What do you think?

Editor's Note:

Can you recommend some good books about food and gardening? What about gardening books that would make good holiday gifts? Please send in suggestions and/or reviews for the December newsletter.



**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

- | | | |
|---------------|----------|--|
| Nov. 10 (Sat) | 10:30 am | OMGA meeting in Hood River hosted by CGMGA. Valley Christian Church. All Master Gardeners welcome and encouraged to attend. See page 1. |
| Nov. 13 (Tue) | 3 pm | Wasco County MGA Executive Board Meeting. Wasco County Extension. |
| Nov. 14 (Wed) | 3:45 pm | Central Gorge MGA Executive Committee Meeting. Hood River Extension Office. All welcome. |
| Nov. 19 (Mon) | | <i>Deadline for the December newsletter.</i> |

