Notes from the Editor: I heard that Gardeners in Scotland are constantly searching for loveliest garden and the best scone (or biscuit). Although I enjoy "practicing" the art of making scones, I believe Polk County Master Gardeners have already succeeded in finding the loveliest gardens right here in Polk County. Our members have not only put their heart and soul into providing the best quality plants at our annual sale and helping with the community gardens, but they truly show their love for permaculture in their own backyards. Now, how about scones? I am still working on that one. If you have a favorite scone recipe or gardening tip, please send your favorite to polkmgnews@gmail.com. I will add it to the next newsletter!

**CHECK OUT "SAVE THE DATE" ARTICLES #11 and #14! You have the opportunity to make fermented veggies and taste yummy apple cider.

**HAVE YOU EVER SEEN A LADYBUG LARVAE? See the Brunk House Photo at the end of the newsletter.
Photos from Bobbie Muncrief's beautiful gardens

Thank you for your encouragement and newsletter articles. Please know your comments, suggestions, and submissions are always welcome at polkmgnews@gmail.com.

Happy Gardening!
Lorena Elliott

---

**Calendar for August, September, October**

**August 2019**
01 - Board Meeting 10 am - 12 pm, @ Shelly's House,
   2590 Kings Valley Hwy, Dallas, Shelly Rushing 951-294-0079
03 - Ice Cream Social, PCMG 30 Year Anniversary, 11:30 to 2:00 pm at the Dallas City Park,
   Kelly Gabliks 503-831-0892
NO CHAPTER MEETING
08, 09, 10 - Clinic at Polk County Fair at the Polk County Fairgrounds, Rickreall, 10 am - 10 pm all days, Gayle Birch 503-831-0892
16 - Fermenting Veggies, Gathering Place at the Inspiration Garden, 1:00 pm,
   Laurie Delapp, 360-771-5423, delapp6@msn.com
17 - Leaf Casting Workshop, Gathering Place at the Inspiration Garden, 10-12 and 12-2 - class is full (questions: call Marsha Graciosa 503-999-6129)
24 - Mentor Barbbq, 3:00 pm, @ Sharon & Stuart McVey's House, 1472 W Ellendale Ave, Dallas,
   Sharon 503-930-1399
28 & 29 - Clinic at the Oregon State Fair at the State Fairgrounds, Salem, 10 am - 10 pm both days,
   Gayle Birch 503-831-0892

**September 2019**
CONGRATS POLK COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS!!

On July 17th, the Polk County Board of Commissioners issued Proclamation number 19-02, in which they acknowledged and saluted the accomplishments of the OSU Extension Polk County Master Gardeners in your 30th year of service to the community. The Proclamation outlines the various projects undertaken by all of you and some of the outcomes of those projects and concludes by commending all Polk County Master Gardeners for your hard work and service. I have to congratulate you all on this very flattering and well-deserved recognition! Way to go!
PROCLAMATION NO. 19-02

WHEREAS, July 2019 marks the 30th anniversary of the Master Gardener of Polk County; and

WHEREAS, the Master Gardener (MGA) program is a popular and successful statewide volunteer extension-service organization administered through Oregon State University Extension with the mission to train gardeners who are willing to share their knowledge with others in the community; and

WHEREAS, the Master Gardener of Polk County have developed and maintained numerous sites throughout the county which include, but are not limited to a demonstration garden in Philomath, yard and gardens at the Bent Pork and Delbert Hasty Farm, and run the Oregon Yard’s Garden and Fruit of Master Gardener programs; and

WHEREAS, the Master Gardeners provide educational and financial opportunities, demonstrations and a variety of sales at the fairgrounds throughout the year; and

WHEREAS, the Master Gardeners have provided numerous volunteer hours providing those previously mentioned services to and for the public; and

WHEREAS, in 2018 alone, the Polk County Master Gardeners’ donated over 3,000 pounds of vegetables to the local food bank, that were raised at the demonstration garden known as Inspiration Garden; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that we, the Polk County Board of Commissioners, hereby acknowledge the accomplishments of the Master Gardeners of Polk County, on this, the 30th Anniversary. We commend the trained and dedicated volunteers who have worked so hard to educate the public about all things related to horticulture in Polk County.

Dated this 17th day of July 2019, at Dallas, Oregon.

POLK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Craig Pope, Chair

Pat McDonald, Commissioner

Vince Nakano, Commissioner

LET'S GET READY TO PARTY!
It's almost here - the OSU Polk County Master Gardeners' Garden Party, Ice Cream Social and Tomato Pie contest is happening on Saturday, August 3rd at the Dallas City Park (the "old" side of the park). We will be celebrating our 30th Anniversary as an organization by sharing food, fun and memories of what we have been able to accomplish over the years. The event will be held from 11:30am to 2:00pm, and we'll probably start eating around noon.

And what will there be to eat you may be asking? The Association will be providing pulled pork sandwiches, roasted chicken, cake, ice cream, beverages, and paper goods. We will be looking to our members to share their own special creation for salads and side dishes. So just remember, Members with last names A-L - please bring a salad; Members with last names M-Z - please bring a side dish. Your other chance to be creative comes from the tomato pie contest - come on, I know there are a lot of great cooks in this organization, show us what you got!

We will have a small presentation as we look back over the years and learn about how PCMGs has grown from its humble beginning in 1989. We will also share the Proclamation issued by the Polk County Board of Commissioners recognizing our good work. We have the covered area in the park, so neither rain, nor sleet, nor hot weather will stop us from celebrating - see you there!

Submitted by your PCMG Board
Questions? Kelly Gabliks 503-831-0892, eriksjg1@gmail.com

---

Sightings at the Inspiration Garden

When Polk County Master Gardener Paul Sieber is busy as usual helping at Mt Fir Park, he isn't too busy to capture a photo of our "very special" visitors!
In case you didn't know - Concrete Leaf Casting Workshop is already booked.

(BOTH CLASSES ARE FULL AT THIS TIME - Please call Rachel Villwock 503-623-8395 or email Rachel.Villwock@oregonstate.edu to check on the status of the classes in case someone cancels.)

The PCMG Education and Community Outreach Committee is sponsoring a concrete leaf casting workshop August 17th at 10am and again at 12 noon at the Inspiration Garden, Mt Fir Park 790 F Street, Independence, Oregon.

Each class was limited to 12 people. All materials will be provided and are included in the cost of the workshop! The cost of this workshop is $10.00, payable to PCMG. If you are one of the lucky ones who signed up early, please bring payment to class.
Due to the messy nature of this project please dress accordingly.

---

**Presidents Corner**

I hope you are enjoying your summer. Berries are ripe, gardens are growing, vegetables are ready to start eating, and flowers are blooming!

I wanted to say a special thank you to Laurie DeLapp for setting up the open gardens we have had in June and July. To all who attended these open gardens thank you. It was fun and big thank you to Sharon and Stuart McVey, Kay Beatty, and Sharon Hill for sharing their beautiful gardens.

At our July Board meeting George Woodward shared his amazing experience and wonderful friendships he has experienced being our representative at the Oregon Master Gardener Association, OMGA. It was inspiring to listen to what he has learned and to hear his desire to want to learn more. Stay tuned, we wish to make this happen by a change in our bylaws. Go George!

We are looking forward to celebrating Polk County Master Gardeners 30th Anniversary. This should be a great day for celebrating, building relationships and adding new friends. Hope to see you there at the Dallas City Park on August 3rd.

Bobbie Muncief
Serving Our Community
- by promoting research-based sustainable gardening practices -
Our very own Luanne Whitaker was at the West Salem Farmer's Market Polk County Master Gardening Plant Clinic, July 18, 2019. Thank you Luanne!

Submitted by Gayle Birch

Notes from Neil Bell

Now that it is August, I thought I would recap the types of common plant problems that have been showing up, or may potentially show up, at the plant Clinic. As it always does, the summer drought brings to a halt the progression of most fungal disease problems that plague us during the spring. In addition, this year was a doozy for most of those spring disease problems, including those found on the “usual suspects”. Which includes, scab on apple and crabapple, leaf spot on Photinia, anthracnose on Red Maple and Ash, among others. The rain we experienced in April was evidently very conducive to development of these diseases, to judge by the number of enquiries and the appearance of plants in landscapes.

With the change to warmer, drier weather, these disease problems, which depend on prolonged leaf wetness to progress, typically disappear. Clients often notice the symptoms around this time of year, however, as they are outside in the yard more often. Many times we have been brought shoot sections or bundles of leaves with the symptoms on them and clients want to know what to spray for the problem. The answer, of course, is nothing, as the dry weather has solved the problem (temporarily), and no spray “cures” a plant disease problem: any spray is protective only and would need to be applied before infection in order to be effective. So, the time to use them would be from bud break through the early part of the growing
season, until the weather dries out.

One disease problem continues to be a problem throughout the summer, though, and that is powdery mildew. It is probably more accurate to say powdery *mildews*, as there are many species of them affecting a wide range of plants, on which they produce the characteristic white film on the upper or in some cases, lower leaf surface. The powdery mildews are different from the fungal diseases occurring in wet spring weather in that they can continue to grow and cause infection even when leaf surfaces are dry.

So, naturally, these disease problems have been coming to the Plant Clinic. One of those, which is depicted in the photos, is on grape, where the mildew (caused by *Erysiphe necator*), affects the foliage, but more importantly, the fruit, which are usually rendered unusable by the infection, in that they are covered by the fungus, then they split and rot.

Eastern Flowering Dogwood, which is widely planted, is also susceptible to powdery mildew, caused by *Erysiphe pulchra* and *Phyllactinia guttata*. I see many of these trees at this time of the year where the leaves seem to be distorted to some degree and affected leaves may exhibit sunburn, a reddish discoloration or drought stress symptoms, especially if they are not irrigated. It’s so ubiquitous on these trees (not on native dogwood or Kousa dogwoods as far as I can tell, BTW) that it might be deemed a physiological problem, but close inspection of the leaves often shows the hazy film of the white mycelium of the fungus.

Besides the occasional disease problem, there should be plenty of inquiries about sunburn and drought stress on foliage and fruits as it stays warm. Watch for this on shade-loving plants growing in afternoon sun (*Aucuba* and *Skimmia* are classic suspects) or yellow-foliaged plants, which often prefer some shade, also growing in afternoon sun.

Other than that, enjoy our sunny warm August!

---

*It was amazing! July Tour of "Gardens"*
We sure enjoyed the garden tours at the homes of Sharon Hill and her neighbor Dave, and Bobbie Muncrief. Thank you to all three gardeners for sharing your beautiful and inspiring gardens with us!

There are no open gardens scheduled for August, but if you'd like to share yours in either August or September, just let Laurie DeLapp know, and we'll put the word out!

Laurie DeLapp, 360-771-5423, delapp6@msn.com

Photos by Laurie DeLapp and Lorena Elliott

---

**WHAT IS THAT?**

One of our trainees, Susan Spohr, was trimming Roses at the Inspiration Garden and found a strange looking mossy ball on a rose bush. The **USO** (Unidentified Stationary Object) is a rose gall. It is caused by a wasp, specifically a hymenopteran gall wasp. According to research, it does not cause harm to the plant. The gall develops as a chemically induced distortion of an unopened leaf axillary or terminal bud, mostly on field roses.

Here is additional info: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Diplolepis_rosae](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Diplolepis_rosae)

So strange looking - eh? Good eye Susan!
SAVE THE DATE: Brunk House Cider Press

September 28, 2019, 10:00 - 3:00
Located at 5705 Dallas-Salem Highway 22
Event sponsored by: Polk County Cultural Coalition and Polk County Historical Society

- See cider made on a 100-year-old press -
  2 gallons per family limit for purchase
- Free tours of Brunk House built in 1861
- Stroll the gardens
- Fiddle music by Truman Price
- Free crafts and activities for children
- Delicious apple desserts for sale
- Polk County Master Gardeners Clinic 9:00 - noon

Questions: Marsha Graciosa 503-999-6129, mkgrac@yahoo.com
or Polk County Historical Society 503-623-6251
Before I talk about what’s going on at my house, I’d like to thank Sharon Hill and Bobbie Muncrief for opening their gardens to us. First off, I was a day late to Sharon’s garden and her wonderful husband was so gracious in welcoming us in and giving us (my mother-in-law, Fern and myself) our own private tour. Everything was so lovely. Beautiful hardscapes, lovely flowers and neat furniture.

At Bobbie’s we enjoyed all the various garden areas she’s created. My favorite was the shaded area with comfy seats and a view of the veggie garden. She has created gardens that rely on everything from full hot sun to almost complete shade. She was great talking about mistakes she’s made and solutions she’s learned. I was unable to attend June’s Open Gardens. I’m so disappointed!

My veggie garden is the only area in my yard that has received the attention it deserves this year. I managed to keep the number of tomato plants I have (all different) down to 20. Sounds like quite a lot, but a few years ago it was 34. They all look good. The Sun Gold variety is the only one that has fully ripened. After looking at the other varieties, I’ll be dealing with a bumper crop this year. I’ve been picking some bush beans, cucumbers and squash. Peppers (both hot and sweet) are looking good, as are the Mexican Gherkins, pole beans, cantaloupe plants, Swiss Chard and a big variety of summer and winter squash. My garlic is almost ready to harvest as well. I’m including several pictures and also one of an adorable frog sunning himself early one morning. Hope all of you have good looking gardens as well. Jean Nielsen
SAVE THE DATE:
Fermenting for Beginners Workshop @ Inspiration Garden

Friday, August 16, 1:00 pm at the Gathering Place

Email Laurie Delapp to sign up: delapp6@msn.com

Learn the basics of fermenting your own vegetables, the great health benefits of fermented foods, and how to make your first jar of pickles! Laurie DeLapp has been fermenting foods for about 4 years, and is excited to show you how easy fermenting vegetables is! You will enjoy tasting a variety of fermented foods, make your own jar of pickles, and see how easy it is to make a batch of Laurie’s favorite KimChi.
REMEMBER: Bring a clean quart jar with lid, and enough cucumbers to fill it. We will provide the brine and the dill.
Any questions, please contact Laurie at delapp6@msn.com or 360-771-5423.

DALLAS YOUTH GARDEN OPEN HOUSE JULY 23, 2019
OUR GARDENING YOUTH HAVE DONE A FANTASTIC JOB FOR THE FOOD BANK – THANK YOU!
They need your help Tuesday & Thursday, 4–5
Saturday, 9–11.
This will count toward your certification hours.
Harvesting will continue until early October. No need to call, just stop by. Located in the East field behind the Lutheran Church.

Questions? Eileen Shaffer, 503-480-9247, epshaffer@hotmail.com
Marsha Graciosa shared Brunk House treasures with me on a June morning. When you get a chance, stop in at the Brunk House on Tuesday or Thursday mornings. There is a beautiful memory bench you must see that was made for a past Polk County Master Gardener, LeeAnn Marsaglia. She was a "Dedicated Lasagna Gardener".

The Hops, *Humulus lupulus*, were full of ladybug larvae. The shape and color of the larvae are the coolest!

Thanks Marsha!
Important Things to Know

Mission: "To serve our community by promoting research-based, sustainable gardening practices." OSU
Polk County Master Gardeners
Neil Bell, OSU Ext. Horticulture Agent
Rachel Villwock, Program Assistant
Carla Cudmore, Program Assistant

Membership dues: $20/year
Please send inquiries, address changes, and membership renewals to:

Polk County Extension Office
289 E. Ellendale Ave, Ste 301
Dallas, Oregon 97338
Extension Office: 503-623-8395

Master Gardener Merchandise:
Jan Quintens - 503-623-9442 cell: 541-659-3012
Cuttings Through the Year $9
Mac's Field Guides (each): $6
   NW Trees
   NW Wildflowers
   NW Good/Bad Garden Bugs
   NW Park/Backyard Birds
Trees to Know in Oregon (2010) $14
Shrubs to Know in PNW Forests $9

Oregon State University Extension Service offers educational programs, activities, and materials without discrimination based on age, color, disability, familial or parental status, gender identity or expression, genetic information, marital status, national origin, political beliefs, race, religion, reprisal, sex, sexual
orientation, veteran's status, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. Oregon State University Extension Service is an AA/EOE/Veterans/Disabled.

Polk County Master Gardeners
Oregon Master Gardeners Association
The Polk Weed is the publication of the OSU PCMGs™, published monthly and mailed to members.
Editor: Lorena Elliott

To submit your article or photo, email: polkmgnews@gmail.com

Printing/snail mail dist: Nancy Sullivan

President: Bobbie Muncrief
Vice President: Kelly Gabliks
Vice President: Linda Vognild
Secretary: Judy Wardrum
Treasurer: Jim Ross
Member at Large: Marsha Graciosa
Member at Large: Shelly Rushing
OMGA Rep: George Woodward
Alternate OMGA Rep: Rachael Montesano
Past President: Bren Coop

Copyright © 2019 Polk County Master Gardeners, All rights reserved.

You are receiving the Polk County Master Gardener Newsletter.

Our mailing address is:
Polk County Master Gardeners
289 E. Ellendale
Suite 301
Dallas, Or 97338

Add us to your address book

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can update your preferences or unsubscribe from this list.