

December, 2016



THE MASTER GARDENER™



Josephine County OSU Master Gardener™ Association Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S NOTE

By Terry Ruiters, President



The rains have come, pretty much on schedule. After the last couple of years, that's a great relief. The lichen are plumping up and frilling out on their host branches. It's time to enjoy the fog. Winter is starting.

Josephine County Master Gardeners Association also goes into winter mode. The 2016 board is closing out its term in December and the 2017 board is getting ready to step in. Thank you to all of the board for the work they have done this year, especially those elected members who are stepping down: Jeffrey Bellamy, Diane Wickstrom, Pat Etchells, Linda Dean and Jim Porter. It's been a privilege to work with you and a joy to get to know you a little bit.....actually, it's been a kick!

The plant clinic continues to answer questions during winter hours. It will be staffed on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

The December general meeting will be at 9:30 on 6 December. In addition to discussion of the holiday party, the 2017 and demonstration garden budgets will be voted on...a good meeting to see what is happening in the organization.

The December meeting is also a good opportunity to pay dues for 2017. The dues will continue to be \$20 for the year. Otherwise, you can send a check made out to Josephine County MGA to John Etchells. As always, we appreciate your membership!

The demonstration garden is getting close to fruition. The plans are being finalized and the asphalt is coming up. The intent is to show urban gardeners several options for having gardens in the space they have, even if it is hot and cramped. (Continued on page 4)

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ANNUAL MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER FORMS

DUE BY FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30,2016

The annual two-sides mandatory **Conditions of Volunteer Service/Volunteer Assumption of Risk form** attached to the newsletter is due to the Extension Office by the end of the year. As discussed on the website (<http://horticulture.oregonstate.edu/content/master-gardener-program-forms>): "All (OSU) volunteers must complete this form to be a registered university volunteer. Doing so not only recognizes the volunteer as an official agent, it allows the university to extend coverage for tort liability (civil liability for injuries or damages to person or property of others)." (Continued on page 4)

Special points of interest:

- 2016 Elected Officers
- 2016 Appointed Coordinators
- Calendar
- Editor Notes
- Birthdays

2016 AT A GLANCE...

- 48 trainees from the Class of 2016 graduated or will soon graduate (a record number): 4 trainees earned Horticulture certificates.
- 52 Trainees volunteered over 4651 hours and 1630 of those hours were in a plant clinic setting.
- 89 veteran Master Gardeners qualify for recertification for 2017.
- Veteran MGs attended over 2280 hours of Continuing Education and volunteered over 9725 hours, including 2070 in a plant clinic setting.
- Over 750 people attended community education classes about gardening (Evening/Saturday classes & Seeds of Spring Conference).
- Master Gardeners reached approximately 1630 youth through school gardens and the Young Master Gardener program.
- The first group of 13 Insect Specialists earned their certification.
- A weekly KAJO radio talk show about gardening was conducted throughout the year.
- A demonstration garden in front of the auditorium is in the planning stages. The preliminary landscape plans are done and permission has been granted by the county to move the pavement. Look for more updates in 2017!

Thank you to all Josephine County Master Gardeners for a wonderful year!

STATEMENT OF POLICY

Information provided by the Josephine County Master Gardener Newsletter is accurate to the best of our knowledge. However, readers must assume all responsibility for their own actions based on information found in this publication. If, and when, a company or product is named in an article, it is not an endorsement from the Master Gardeners, Josephine County, or the OSU Extension Service. Alternate gardening methods are sometimes presented for your information and consideration, but they are not necessarily the only approach to gardening problems.

Oregon State University Extension Service offers educational programs, activities and materials without discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, age, marital status, disability and disabled veteran or Vietnam-era veteran status. Oregon State University Extension Service is an Equal Opportunity Employer. OSU Extension programs will provide reasonable accommodations to persons with physical or mental disabilities. If you need particular accommodations, please call our Extension Office at (541) 476-6613 at least 3 weeks prior to the event.

EDITOR NOTES

Please submit notices and articles to the editor, Ruth Reel.

You can always e-mail to the editor:

reelsox9@gmail.com

Or mail to: 3990 Galice Rd., Merlin, OR 97532.

Or call at: 541-479-7702

Please let the editor know if you have changed your address, phone # or e-mail address.

Jackie Stout: ijnstout1958@gmail.com (email change)

**Merry Christmas and
A Happy New Year!
From your Editor!**

TREASURER'S REPORT

By John Etchells, Treasurer

Cash and savings totals: As of 10/28/16

Checking: \$14,333.24

Savings: \$31,378.96

CD: \$3,617.80

Total Assets: \$49,330.00**

Total Income from October 1st through October 28th: \$126.
This comes from Donations (\$49), Perennial Sales (\$45), Tree Sales (\$289), Plant Clinic Garden Guide Sales (\$32).

Total Expenses from October 1st through October 28th: \$1,662. These expenses comes from Administrative Items (Banquet) (\$1,068), Gen Advertising (\$256), Seeds of Spring (\$171), Display Garden Planning (\$63), Social (\$47) Newsletter (\$43), Young Master Gardeners (\$12) and Perennials (\$2).

** These figures are based on reconciling checks and deposits

to the 09/30/16 bank statements.

***Reminder - 2017 dues are now due and payable. Membership remains \$20 per person. Dues can be paid at the December meeting or dropped off at the Extension Office.

***Reminder - While shopping at the Grange Co-Op and/or using the Fred Meyer Reward Program, don't forget to have them credit your purchases to Jo.Co. Master Gardeners.

*** Reminder - When you have bills for payment, please be sure to complete an Authorization for Payment/Reimbursement Form and have it signed by the committee head or officer responsible for the item. Failure to do so will delay payment of your expenses.



GARDEN PONDERINGS BY KAREN PLEASANT, MG COORDINATOR

Update on the Volunteer Recordkeeping System (VRS) for reporting year 2017 (Nov.1,2016 through Oct.31,2017)

If you've input your hours in the VRS lately you might have noticed that the categories of volunteer service now have a type (direct, indirect, or support) associated with them. A **new policy on recertification** has been adopted by the OSU Extension Master Gardener program that has a key requirement that **at least 50% of the twenty required volunteer service hours (or ten hours minimum) must go to direct or indirect education efforts.** The highest priority for Volunteer Service hours is for those efforts which support the mission of the OSU Extension, as well as the National Extension, Master Gardener programs, which focus on educating others about sustainable gardening practices. The information below briefly highlights the types of volunteer service hours (direct education, indirect education, and support). More detailed descriptions of the category

types can be found on the VRS website at

<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/vrs/>

Direct Education

To be eligible for direct educational hours a Master Gardener must be current on their certification, so if you didn't meet the recertification requirements for 2017 you can be working towards recertifying for 2018 during the reporting year 2017 (between Nov.1, 2016 and Oct. 31, 2017). **Direct education** activities are those that have the potential to directly increase knowledge, and change attitudes or behaviors in ways that promote sustainable gardening. Some qualifying direct educational volunteer service activities include: 1) Plant Clinic Volunteer working in any plant clinic venue, such as the office (walk-in, phone, or email), Ask-an-Expert, Grower's Market, and County Fair as well as other special events; 2) Instructor (at Seeds of Spring, for an Evening/Saturday community education class, during the MG training or Insect

Update on the Volunteer Recordkeeping System (VRS)

Specialist training, as part of a Speaker's Bureau, and includes research, preparation, and delivery for the presentation; 3) Educational Gardens (with focus on education not just garden labor), which includes instructing/mentoring in the Greenhouses and working with youth in School Gardens; 4) Writing an Educational Article, including the research (for newsletter, Daily Courier Home and Garden Section, and other approved publications) or preparing a radio talk show program about gardening; and 5) Other approved activities (including the Young Master Gardener program at the community library and includes research, preparation, and delivery of the programs). Here are some examples:

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2016 ELECTED OFFICERS

- President Terry Ruitter
- 1st Vice President Jeffery Bellamy
- 2nd Vice President.....Diane Wickstrom
- Secretary Pat Etchells
- OMGA State Rep..... Linda Dean
- OMGA Alt. State Rep..... Jim Porter
- Past President.....John Farias

APPOINTED COORDINATORS

- Treasurer.....John Etchells
- Green House ManagerPeter Pernarelli
- Plant Clinic Wilma Christian
- SOS Garden Seminar..... Terry Ruitter
- Communications Schallheim/Etchells
- Spring Garden Fair.....Sybil Longinotti
- Newsletter Editor.....Ruth Reel
- Hospitality Chairman.....Breezy/Mark
.....Schallheim
- Special Projects.....Sybil Longinotti
- Publicity.....Art Reel
- Historian.....Nancy Pyle/ Linda Price
- County Fair.....Charlie Newsom
- Growers Market.....Hank Smith
- K-12 Program.....Lilly Pattee
- Mentor Committee.....Joan Foley
- Volunteer Hours..... Karen Pleasant
- Computer Coordinator..... Steve Schoen
- Webmaster Pat Etchells/Darcy Heater
- PerennialsJean Kitchen/Joan Foley
- Young Master Gardeners.....Sayaka Lean/
.....Barry Burnsid
- Membership.....Ruth Reel
- Master Gardener Coord.....Karen Pleasant

Q: Why is Christmas like a day at the office?

A: Because you do all the work & the fat guy in the suit gets all the credit.

(Continued from page 1 President’s Note)

The holiday party is scheduled for 29 December at the Bear hotel. It is a very nice venue and all of the bears are there for their winter hibernation. It will be a great time to view them up close. It’s possible to walk among them and see some that have not been seen on the street for years. Jeffrey will have more information, but put the date in your calendars.

Registration is open for the International Master Gardeners Conference (IMGC) in Portland next 10-14 July. It should be a terrific opportunity to meet gardeners from around the country, perhaps the world, ogle (and buy?) the newest garden tools and gadgets, and hear talks on new and old gardening topics. The meeting will be at the Portland Convention Center, which is a transit hub for access to all parts of the city. Early registration for Master Gardeners is underway at \$300 through 13 January 2017. After that, registration for Master Gardeners goes to \$380. Registration for members of the general public is \$50 more in each time period. The classes look to be interesting and the tours will provide opportunities that are unlikely to be available any other time. The IMGC is not to be missed! Registration is online at blogs.oregonstate.edu/2017imgc/registration.

December is the time of year that garden catalogues arrive in earnest. Plans for next year’s garden have begun. All of the alluring new varieties, let alone all of the old ones you haven’t yet had a chance to grow, are calling. December is a great time to reflect on the year ending with its successes and not quite successes. Winter, in general, is the perfect time to be contemplative and make plans...for the garden, for travel, for family, for your house, for the garden...Enjoy the time, have the best of holidays and prepare for a great beginning for the new year.

(Continued from page 1 Annual Volunteer Forms)

All required forms must be completed and on file before Master Gardeners can continue their volunteer service after the current form expires on December 31.

The revised **Code of Conduct form** is still not available at this time and is currently being reviewed by the OSU Procurement and Contract (PACS) division. As soon as it is available it will be distributed to all Master Gardeners. In the meantime the current 2011 version needs to be on file in order for you to serve as a Master Gardener. If you have signed the 2011 Code of Conduct form in the past, you are okay until the new form is available. The **MG Position Description form** doesn’t need to be filed every year, but only if your assigned duties change,

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(Continued from page 1 Annual Volunteer Forms)

in particular if you begin directly working with youth in the school gardens or library Young Master Gardener program, when your previous position description did not have this as an assigned duty.

Recertification Stickers for 2017

As most of you know, the recertification swingers have been discontinued and a sticker has been adopted statewide for recertifying Master Gardeners to display on their orange badges. Upon completion and submission of the required volunteer forms those Master Gardeners qualifying for recertification for 2017 can pick up their sticker for their MG badge. Since the stickers are so small be sure and bring your badge with you so that you can put the sticker on right away once you receive it. Stickers will be available at the December 6th MG Meeting as well as from Sharon Evans in the Extension Office beginning on December 7th.

(Continued from page 3 Garden Ponderings)

1) If you teach a class at Seeds of Spring the hours you spend researching the topic and preparing for and giving the presentation will all count as direct education, and 2) if you are a greenhouse instructor/mentor (recertified already) your time spent working with trainees in the greenhouse will count as direct education and is recorded under Educational Garden Instructor. If you come to the greenhouse just to water and care for the plants, your hours go under the Educational Garden Maintenance (indirect education) category.

Indirect Education

Indirect educational activities are those that facilitate or support of those who are teaching and include the following activities: 1) Educational Event Planning (for Seeds of Spring, Evening/Saturday classes, MG training and other approved educational activities); 2) MG Training Class Mentor; 3) Educational garden upkeep activities if work in the garden or greenhouse supports an educational project or program); and 4) Other approved activities, such as working on the insect collection in the Plant Clinic or participating in an approved Citizen Science project related to gardening. Here are some examples: If you work on the planning committee for the Seeds of Spring conference or the Demonstration gardens your time is spent on indirect education pursuits.

Support Hours

This type of volunteer activity is not focused on educational outreach, but includes efforts that support the educational

mission of the OSU Extension Master Gardener program, such as 1) Fundraisers (Spring Garden Fair and perennial & tree plant sales); 2) Extension Office support (filing, database management); 3) MG Association (serving as an officer or Board member or attending Board Meetings; and 4) Other approved activities.

Please note: to qualify for annual recertification Master Gardeners still need to complete 10 hours of continuing education training with the 20 volunteer service hours highlighted above and the required OSU volunteer paperwork. I will be briefly discussing the new recertification policy at the December Board meeting, so plan to attend if you need more clarification on the category types. Revised copies of the Volunteer Recordkeeping form will also be available at the meeting as well as online at the Josephine County OSU Extension website <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/josephine/horticulture> and in the wall cubby in my office.

PERENNIAL MUSINGS

The perennial greenhouse is officially closed for the holidays and will re-open late January. I want to thank Jean Kitchen for mentoring me over the past 2 years as I begin my new assignment as Perennial Manager. Team J & J will be officially retired and I will sign off as just, Joan, but in my heart there will always be a team J & J. Thank you Jean, for all that you have done for this program.

Joan Foley



2017 MENTOR UPDATE

We had our first mentor orientation on Tuesday, November 15th, with 100% attendance from both new mentors and alternates. We are looking forward to a great year with anticipation and enthusiasm as we are ready to start the 2017 Class in January. I want to extend an invitation to the recent graduates to come and listen to your favorite lectures again, at no cost to you. You may attend all or just the ones you wish to hear. You can obtain education credits for your upcoming recertification and get an early start. Watch for the class schedule on the website and come and join us. Now that you are seniors you can now take the coveted seats in the back of the room. Come early, don't forget to sign in, and wear your badge. Happy holidays to each and every one of you.

Joan Foley, Mentor Coordinator

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to Marilyn Ormsby (2), Barbara Schwartz/David Coon (6), Dianne Cooper/Nancy Pyle (9), Karen Ramsey Katz (10), Kia McQueary (13), Stan Bryant (21), Linda Cochran (31).



WOMEN'S REVENGE

"Cash, check or charge?" I asked, after folding items the woman wished to purchase. As she fumbled for her wallet I noticed a remote control for a television in her purse.

"So, do you always carry your TV remote? I asked.

"No", she replied, "but my husband refused to come shopping with me, and I figured this was the most evil thing I could do to him legally."



OLDEST PROFESSIONS

A man walked into a roadside tavern and as he looked over the crowded tavern, he saw an empty bar stool at the far end of the bar. As he sat down on the bar stool, he noticed perched on a bar stool right next to him was a good looking, smartly dressed woman with beautiful red hair.

"Hi there good looking. How's it going?" he asked.

The woman turned her head to the right, and looked him straight in the eye, and without blinking one time she said, "Listen fellow. I'll screw anybody, anytime, your place, my place, it doesn't matter. I've been doing it ever since I got out of college, and I just love it!"

"No kidding?" said the man, "I'm a lawyer too! What firm are you with?"

WAYS TO MAINTAIN A HEALTHY LEVEL OF INSANITY

- Put decaf in the coffee maker for 3 weeks. Once everyone has gotten over their caffeine addictions, switch to espresso.
- In the Memo field of all your checks, write "For Sexual Favors".
- don't use any punctuation
- As often as possible, skip rather than walk.
- Specify that your drive-through order is "To go".
- When the money comes out the ATM, scream "I won!, I won!"
- Tell your children over dinner, "Due to the economy, we are going to have to let one of you go".
- Page yourself over the intercom. Don't disguise your voice.
- Put your garbage can on your desk and label it "In".
- At lunch time, sit in your parked car with sunglasses on and point a hair dryer at passing cars. See if they slow down.
- Put mosquito netting around your work area and play tropical sounds all day.

December 2016

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				1	2	3
4	5	6 <i>9:30, MG Meeting</i>	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	21 <i>Winter Begins</i>	22	23	24
25 <i>Christmas Day</i>	26	27	28	29 <i>Holiday Party</i>	30 	31 <i>New Year's Eve</i>

BEAN & BEEF SLOW-COOKED CHILI RECIPE

Submitted by Ruth Reel, Editor & Master Gardener

Ingredients

1 lb lean ground beef (90% lean)	2 cans (15 ounces each) pinto beans, rinsed & drained
1 large sweet onion, chopped	2 cans (15 ounces each) black beans, rinsed & drained
3 garlic cloves, minced	2 to 3 tablespoons chili powder
2 teaspoons ground cumin	1/2 teaspoon salt
2 cans (14½ ounces each) diced tomatoes with mild green chilies	
Optional toppings: sour cream, chopped red onion and minced fresh cilantro	

Directions

In a large skillet, cook beef, onion and garlic over medium heat 6-8 minutes or until beef is no longer pink, breaking up beef into crumbles; drain.

Transfer beef mixture to a 5-qt. slow cooker. Drain one can tomatoes, discarding liquid; add to slow cooker. Stir in beans, chili powder, cumin, salt and remaining tomatoes. Cook, covered, on low 6-8 hours to allow flavors to blend.

Serve with toppings as desired.

OSU Extension Service, Master Gardener™ Association - Josephine County, Oregon, 541-476-6613

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Our Web Site: <http://www.jocomastergardeners.com>

THE MASTER GARDENER



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