



Jackson County Master Gardeners Announcements

November 2022

Jackson County Master Gardener™ Association

Holiday Plant Sale

Date: Saturday, November 12, 2022

Time: 9:00 am—3:00 pm



Where: SOREC (OSU Extension) Parking Lot, 569 Hanley Rd in Central Point.

Find holiday season plant gifts and landscape plants from a selection of Master Gardener-grown native and ornamental plants. Shop for floral treasures, then explore items for sale during the Holiday Gala in the SOREC Auditorium. Garden for Life!

Pay with: Cash, check, or credit card.

For more information: Email Lynn Kunstman kunlynn52@gmail.com or call (541) 227-1358.





Jackson County Master Gardener™ Association
Holiday Gala

Date: Saturday, November 12, 2022

Time: 9:00 am—3:00 pm

Where: SOREC (OSU Extension) Auditorium, 569 Hanley Rd in Central Point.

Jackson County Master Gardeners host a merry holiday season celebration for the whole family. Shop for decorations, wreaths, ornaments, and snowmen and women. Find the perfect gift for each friend and family member. Come share the cheer of the season, then step into the Native Nursery area off the parking lot for live Master Gardener-grown native and ornamental plants.

Free Admission.

Pay with: Cash, check, or credit card.

For more information: Email jcmgaevents022@gmail.com or call (541) 227-1358.



If you know anyone who would be interested in becoming a **Master Gardener Volunteer**, registration for 2023 OSU Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Training in Jackson County will be open later this Fall! Please call the OSU Extension office at 541.776.7371 and leave your name, phone number, and email. We will contact you when registration is open.



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Winter Dreams Summer Gardens 2022 Off to a Great Start!

Thank you to all who attended our first two days of this exciting event on October 28 and 29.

Our committee has worked diligently to provide quality presentations/presenters on a wide range of gardening topics.

During the first two days, we have had presentations dealing with the Rogue Valley climate and the expected changes which will affect the way we garden; working with fruit trees; growing herbs; taking care of our soil; having biodiversity in our garden; and regenerative agriculture.

There is still time to register for this event and attend the last two days of presentations on November 4 and 5.

- Register by November 2 to attend the Zoom classes.
- Register by November 5 to only be able to view the recordings.
- A Mailchimp will be emailed to you with a Zoom link to the classes for the following day.
- A list of the 15 presentation recordings' URL links will be emailed to you the week of November 7th.

All but one of the entire 16 presentations will be recorded and available to view up to the end of December.

Participants will receive an Evaluation Survey through email on November 7th. We are asking you to take a few minutes to complete the survey. Your responses will help us to improve this event and get your input on what you would like to have included for next year's Winter Dreams Summer Gardens 2023. Your responses to our survey are very important to us.

Questions? Email: jcmgawdsg20@gmail.com



Our Unsung Hero

Doug Kirby, Keeper of the Sacred Grounds

By Marcie Katz

That title was bequeathed to him as an Award at the Annual JCMGA Picnic last August in recognition for all he does for the Demonstration Gardens and grounds. It was a small token of appreciation for someone who has such a huge sense of volunteerism.

Most people who come out to the Extension Gardens see Doug in his Perennial Garden, digging, or on his hands and knees hand-pulling weeds out of the pathway. If you stop to admire his beautiful garden, he will engage you in wonderful “garden talk,” telling you about the latest thing in bloom or how he is squirrel proofing his plants.

His amazing garden is accomplishment enough – he works out there almost daily – but Doug is also an integral part of JCMGA because he manages and maintains the grounds. Every place we plant requires irrigation and he is the behind-the-scenes person who monitors the well and repairs all the irrigation systems for all the gardens. He often takes on big projects that require physical hard work or refitting gardens with an improved system. In addition, he is the person responsible for all the compost and coir bins being full, as well as those with D/G and wood chips. All the gardeners depend on him; if you have a problem, he happily stops what he is doing and goes to check it out with you.



As if that isn't enough, Doug's future projects include completely emptying out the tool shed and re-organizing while putting tools back, replacing the irrigation controller, finish building a gate in the new wheelbarrow area and mounting shelves to the walls.

When there is an all hands workday, Doug is always there, no matter what the project, from sanding benches to blackberry removal, always willing to give to the group.

All of us should follow his example in volunteerism. One way to do that is to come down and help at the next workday when the wheelbarrow area will be completed. That will also help Doug out by making a locked storage area for supplies.

That is Doug Kirby, Jack-of-All-Trades, Gentleman Gardener, and all-around great guy who we are very lucky to know and call our friend!



2022 JCMGA Graduation

Jane Moyer

Beautiful decorations, delicious dinner, great company, badges and certificates, and fun, FUN, **FUN!**

The 2022 JCMGA Graduation was all the above and more!

President-elect Marcie Katz, assisted by Sandy Hammond, Barbara Low and Lucy Pyllki, decorated the OSU Auditorium with a fall theme and provided a delicious dinner of lasagna, salad, garlic bread and ice cream sundaes.

Out of the 25 students who started the Master Gardener Program in January 2022, 15 persevered through COVID restrictions, loss of MG Coordinator Erika Szonntag at the end of March with no replacement through the rest of their year, almost everything done online, no Practicum – and the list could go on. CONGRATULATIONS to those 15! Additionally, four students who were unable to finish this year will be continuing in the program and graduating in 2023.

The new graduates who received their bright orange, Oregon-shaped badges and Master Gardener certificates are Cindy Bottasso, Tucker Campagna, Frances Cano, Mary Mason, Gail Ropel, Daniel Devries, Trina Stout, Glenda Capsey, Tom Capsey, Cheryl Martin, Thomas Kvigne, Janet Langley, Tenasi Rama Lazar, Meg Quam, and Leif Quam.

We hope you all will be long-term Master Gardeners who return over and over to work in the gardens, greenhouses, or on a committee. Every time you participate is an opportunity to make new friends, learn something new about gardening, give back to the Rogue Valley community, and have even more fun, FUN, **FUN!**



“Take Two Aspirins and Call Me in the Morning”

Part of an IPM Program for your garden

by Seán Cawley

Immunity Enhancement for Tomatoes and other Night Shade Plants

If your tomato plant gets sick just give it an aspirin. The common aspirin tablet (uncoated, non-buffered) has been shown to create a systemic reaction in tomato plants that builds up the resistance to microbial disease. It is called an activator for local disease resistance mechanisms including systemic acquired resistance (SAR).

Common (uncoated) aspirin is acetylsalicylic acid. Dissolving one tablet (approx. 350 mg) in pure water and then applying it to the leaves of your tomato plants (as a foliar application) will trigger a systemic acquired resistance (SAR) which tells the tomato that something is attacking it and it needs to build its immune defenses. Since you are applying this to the plant before the microbes are attacking, the plants are ready to better defend themselves. Think of it as a vaccine for tomato plants.

This application seems to work best when applied approximately every two weeks.

This can also be applied to the roots of plants but double the quantity. “Take two aspirins and call me in the morning.”

References:

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/23653630/>

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/19400653/>

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32544865/>

<https://thescientificgardener.com/aspirin-tomato-plants>



ATTENTION PERENNIAL (i.e. VETERAN) MASTER GARDENERS

by Jane Moyer

Do you think it's not important to report your volunteer hours once you have graduated? Nothing could be further from the truth! Here's the scoop on why—

Extension funding comes from the federal government, the state government, Jackson County, and OSU. These governmental bodies want to see that the money spent on all the Extension programs is being increased in value by volunteer hours. (Remember, the Master Gardener Program is the largest of the programs.)

Every December, reports must be turned in showing what has been accomplished by each program during the year, including the number of volunteer hours donated. The amount of funding can be reduced if the powers that be decide the return on the funding is not sufficient. Right now, for example, the Oregon Legislature is contemplating reducing the funding to Extension programs.

So PLEASE take the time to go back through your 2022 calendar and figure out how many hours you have volunteered and, as close as possible, what you did. Enter that information into the Volunteer Recording System, <https://mgvrs.extension.oregonstate.edu>. If you are unfamiliar with the VRS, read the information on the homepage. (Even though, at first glance, the page is enough to make your eyes roll back in your head, take it in small pieces because it is well explained.) Call or email Jane Moyer if you need help. (541-890-8561 or janemoyer@connpoint.net)

Volunteer Hours are to be recorded from November 1 through October 31 each year.



The Plant Clinic

Southern Oregon Research and Extension Center (SOREC)
569 Hanley Rd
Central Point, OR 97502

Our Plant Clinic will only be open two days a week, Tuesday and Thursday, from November 1 - March 31. (The Extension is closed for all the Holidays.) Start time is **10am** (not 9am) - 2:15pm.



Our new telephone number is 541- 930-8420.

Our email address is sorec.plantclinic@oregonstate.edu



Community Outreach Working Group

by Ronnie Budge

The Community Outreach Working Group strives to promote a love of gardening and to educate gardeners about best practices via several initiatives. We give financial support to community gardens and to school gardens; have a weekly call-in show on Jefferson Public Radio; and offer a native plants garden tour on JCMGA's website, for example.

But it is mainly via the Speakers Bureau that we strive to reach out into the community with gardening education programs and it is the Speakers Bureau where we have the greatest need for volunteers.

Volunteer speakers may make presentations at garden clubs and other in-person locations; on the SOREC campus in the Demonstration Gardens; on Zoom via the public library; or through classes offered by SOU's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI).

Training is provided for new volunteers who have a chance to "shadow" experienced speakers until they feel comfortable making presentations on their own. Volunteers select the topics they wish to talk about and may choose to present in person, on Zoom or both.

If interested in volunteering for the Speakers Bureau, contact Colet Allen at coletallen1@gmail.com or phone 425-941-7637. For other information about the COWG, contact chair Ronnie Budge at rleebugde@gmail.com.



OSU Extension Staffing

by Heidi Gehman

Greetings, Master Gardeners! It has been a pleasure to get to know some of you over the last months and to support all your good work! I write to update you on the front office staffing changes and reorganization. You may have already met Sandy O'Neill, our new Administrative Program Assistant. She is not "the new Sheila," but rather is in a new position dedicated to marketing and program support, which involves creating flyers and other outreach materials; managing the SOREC Facebook, webpage, and other social media outlets; registering participants; answering program-related questions from the public; and providing support to program coordinators.

And now with Jackie's absence, we hope to post a position soon that will fulfill many of her duties, including front office administrative support such as assisting callers and walk-ins; scheduling rooms and events; ordering and managing supplies; business functions such as paying invoices, accepting payments, generating reports, contracts, and managing office records; and providing administrative support to the 4-H program.

As Administrative Office Manager, I am responsible for the overall fiscal and administrative functions of the Extension office, in collaboration with the SOREC Director, Rich Roseberg, as well as community engagement for the Extension office. I have learned so much in the last year, especially while covering many duties in the various open positions we have had, including the Master Gardener Program Coordinator position, which we hope to fill soon. It has been a wild ride, and I look forward to continuing to support our many fantastic programs! If you have questions about office procedures or whom to ask for what type of assistance, please don't hesitate to give me a call or stop by my office.



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Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Recertification (and Probably More)

Due to the pandemic in 2020 and 2021, all Master Gardeners were automatically recertified for the following year. Now that more people are protected from COVID-19, recertification is again being required for some Master Gardeners for 2023. And things have changed so please read this article carefully.

What is required to recertify?

To recertify, Master Gardeners must attend 10 or more hours of continuing education and contribute 20 or more hours of volunteer time. (See the changes below.)

Does every Master Gardener have to recertify?

Students who graduated in the preceding year are certified for the next year.

Perennial (veteran) Master Gardeners who MUST recertify are those who are teaching (Speakers Bureau speakers, Practicum mentors, Garden Education Mentors known as GEM'S, MG presenters at any class, etc.), those who give gardening advice to the public (Plant Clinic mentors).

How can I meet the requirement of 10 hours of continuing education?

Continuing Education requirements can be earned by attending gardening classes (Winter Dreams Summer Gardens, Level Up webinars that can be found at <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/growing-oregon-gardeners-level-series-2022>), reading gardening books or articles, listening to gardening radio programs, doing research, etc.

What has changed?

This is the BIGGIE! There are now two types of volunteer hours, Direct and Indirect. Direct volunteer hours involve giving direct education (Plant Clinic, teaching, mentoring in the gardens, writing an educational gardening article, or presenting in other instructional settings approved by the MG Coordinator). Ten or more direct hours are required for recertification.

Indirect volunteer hours involve activities that facilitate or support the efforts of those who are teaching (event planning, mentoring students in MG practices rather than gardening, maintaining the demonstration gardens, serving on the Board of Directors, or anything approved in advance by the MG Coordinator). Ten or more indirect hours are required for recertification.

See https://mgvrs.extension.oregonstate.edu/pdf/New_Categories_2016.pdf for a complete explanation.

What is the deadline for earning these hours?

To be recertified for 2023, these requirements must be met and reported by the end of 2022.

How do I show I've completed the requirements for recertification?

Enter your hours in the VRS (Volunteer Reporting System) at <https://mgvrs.extension.oregonstate.edu> by the end of 2022 to be recertified for 2023.

In January get a recertification sticker from the MG Coordinator and put it on your MG badge.

Submitted by Jane Moyer




Easy Fundraising for JCMGA

by Jane Moyer

In the past, Spring Garden Fair has been the main fundraiser for the Jackson County Master Gardener Association. Not being able to have a SGF since 2019 has put a major crimp in our ability to raise funds to support our many community efforts. There have been several smaller ongoing fundraising efforts developed over the years, though, that may have been forgotten. A series of articles are going to be written, one each month, to highlight these easy-to-do ways to raise funds for JCMGA.

Are you on Facebook? You can celebrate your big day by creating a fundraiser for your friends. Start about 2 weeks ahead by following these directions:

Create a nonprofit fundraiser

1. On your computer, login to [Facebook](#).
2. On the left, click  **Fundraisers**.
 - **Tip:** If you don't see **Fundraisers** on the left, then click **See more**.
3. On the left, click **Raise money**.
4. Click **Nonprofit**.
5. You can either:
 - Scroll to find the nonprofit you want to raise money for
 - Type into the search bar to find the nonprofit you want to raise money for
6. Select the nonprofit.
7. On the left, enter:
 - The goal amount of money you want to raise
 - The currency you want the funds to be in
8. Click **Create**.

You'll see a screen pop up where you can invite your friends to donate to your fundraiser, share your fundraiser in your feed, or donate to the fundraiser yourself.





Imitate the trees

Learn to lose

in order to recover.

And remember that nothing

stays the same for long.

May Sarton

Poem submitted by Sandy Hansen