Notes from Neil

The forthcoming BEEvent Pollinator Conference, sponsored by Linn County Master Gardeners and held on Saturday, March 4th, got me thinking about those plants that bloom early in the year, before our earliest native plants bloom and which are readily visited by pollinators of various kinds. The earliest of our native woody plants to bloom is Oso Berry (*Oemleria cerasiformis*), which is a large, arching shrub with drooping clusters of white flowers, which typically appear in late March and into April. Oddly, this year, which has seemed endlessly cold and snowy, I observed developing clusters of flowers in late February, which seemed on track to bloom earlier than normal. But that may be wishful thinking as the weather for the next couple of weeks is expected to be cool and wet, which will undoubtedly slow things down. Oh well.

But well before I observed the Oso Berry eking out its blooms (on February 26th) I saw other plants in full bloom, despite the cool weather, and even better, in some cases with pollinators in action. The first of these was a heath (*Erica sp.*) I found in full bloom on a stroll through the Oregon Garden on February 14th. The cultivar was not identified, but it was a pink-blooming plant and working it that day was a single bumblebee, which from the photo I managed to get looks like a Yellow-faced Bumblebee (*Bombus vosnesenskii*). On a warmer day I think this hardy bumblebee would be joined by a number of mates. Along with Sweetbox (*Sarcococca spp.*), Heaths have to be one of the best known and widely-planted winter-blooming plants in western Oregon and there are many species, hybrids and cultivars to choose from.

Down the hill from this planting were several WitchHazel (*Hamamelis spp.*) which were also in full bloom. These are also popular for the late winter garden bloom, despite the cool weather, and even better, in some cases with pollinators in action. The first of these was a heath (*Erica sp.*) I found in full bloom on a stroll through the Oregon Garden on February 14th. The cultivar was not identified, but it was a pink-blooming plant and working it that day was a single bumblebee, which from the photo I managed to get looks like a Yellow-faced Bumblebee (*Bombus vosnesenskii*). On a warmer day I think this hardy bumblebee would be joined by a number of mates. Along with Sweetbox (*Sarcococca spp.*), Heaths have to be one of the best known and widely-planted winter-blooming plants in western Oregon and there are many species, hybrids and cultivars to choose from.

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Bug Group News

Marion County Bug Group met on February 15th. The following class members present: Beth Husseini, Teri Charest, Penny Esplin, Joanna Buckmaster, Bonnie Hooker and Selena Ronkin. We discussed the several ways that different insect types survive winter weather such as we have been experiencing. We know that they DO survive, because they always come back as the weather warms.

Different ways insects survive are as eggs in sheltered places, storing food to be eaten in winter, building up fat reserves in their bodies, replacing actual water in their bodies with self-manufactured alcohol called glycerol, which is made from sugars they digest, and the condition known as DIAPAUSE, which is similar to hibernation in warm-blooded animals. Since insects are cold-blooded, their body fluids become the same temperature as surrounding air. The glycerol, being alcohol, freezes at a much lower temperature than water. Activity levels are much lower or non-existent during cold weather. Ants and termites, however, descend to the lowest levels of their underground nests, and eat small amounts of the food they have stored. And, why do honeybees make honey? So they have something to eat in winter.

We had lively discussions about everything from slugs to ladybird beetles, and distinguishing the Asian species of Ladybugs from native species. This led to next month’s lesson on Beetles of many types. The class will be on March 15th in the Main Floor Conference Room near the help desk. 😊

By Carol Horning
Our March speaker is Richie Steffen, the interim director/curator of the Elisabeth C. Miller Botanical Garden in Seattle, Washington. He manages the Garden, rare plant collections, and heads acquisition of new plants. He also supervises Great Plant Picks, a program dedicated to acquiring outstanding and reliable plants for maritime Pacific Northwest Gardens.

His topic on Tuesday evening will be “Wild Plants for the Civilized Garden”, focusing on the not so common natives that can thrive in our gardens. Discover drought tolerant, easy to grow rarities that offer beautiful foliage and flowers to rival any exotic garden plant!

Join the Master Gardeners for another fun and educational evening. Refreshments and door prizes as usual. Free to all who are interested in gardening.
MCMGA Board Meeting Minutes

February 16, 2017
OSU Extension Office

The meeting was called to order by President, Bill Sutkus at 1:00.

Present: Bill Sutkus, Tobie Habeck, Farouk Husseini, Carol Sutkus, Madeline Osborne, Laveryne Gray, Roberta Bigelow, Janet Rogers. Guests: Neil Bell, Jim Liskey, Bonnie Greener

Today’s meeting agenda and minutes of the January 19, 2017 Board of Directors meeting were approved.

Roberta presented the January Treasurer’s Report, with income of $1,710.00 and expenses of $626.46. Our gas bill for heating the greenhouse was three times more than last January, from the cold weather, we expect. She will transfer $10,000 from the Money Market account to the checking account to cover plant sale expenses which will occur in March. The Report was approved.

Strategic Planning – to inform and to advance thinking

Bylaws/Standing Rules Committee interim report – Bill reiterated that these documents are being revised so that 1) all aspects of MCMGA are connected, and connected to the Board, and 2) the Board can focus on governance (strategic planning, policy-making, budgeting, oversight, and evaluation) and leave operations to the appropriate committees. New Board positions are proposed: Education, Communication and Treasurer-Elect, with a range of nine to twelve Board Members. Terms of office are to be two years, with a two-term limit. After one year off the Board, a member may be elected to any Board position. We discussed the difficulty of filling the Treasurer position. We have proposed that an experienced member advise, but not necessarily serve on, the Board. Detailed descriptions of duties will be in the Standing Rules. Bylaws issues will be addressed at the next committee meeting, with the goal of presenting changes at the March Board meeting.

Governance – for information and input

Communications Committee – Jim presented the Request for Approval of Workshops, Classes, and Open House Events for our review. The Request Form is part of the new Approval/Recording process which is being worked on. A formalized process is necessary to keep us organized as we enhance our educational outreach programs. The committee will ensure that accurate and consistent messages reach both MCMGA and the public. Laveryne announced that Marion Garden education will feature series on roses and herbs.

Education Committee – The committee includes all of our educating efforts from Help Desk to Garden workshops to work in the community like Junior Master Gardner and Seed to Supper. The committee’s representative to the Board is responsible for knowing what’s happening and for reporting to the Board as necessary, for example if decisions need to be made that affect more than one sub-committee. Generally, there is no reason for the committee itself to meet.

Awards – Tobie and Membership work together, using protocols established in 2016 that worked well. Jim told us that, as no mini-college will be held in 2017, OMGA is willing to come visit the individual associations to hand out awards.

Nominating for 2018 Board positions – The committee needs to be appointed in March.

Oversight of Operations – for information

Marion Garden – Madeline reported that the Wilco-donated credit card will be used soon. February 20 is the trainee garden orientation. Plot Managers have been told to get their budget items to Madeline in April. The Home Garden plot is being developed. The first Open Garden is being planned for May 20. Jim told us about recent garden maintenance issues that have come to light. Broken water pipes call for locking the main shut-off valve. Orchard and berry crops will be donated to the Alternative Program and, in exchange, they will do all necessary orchard spraying, providing the supplies and personnel. Carpeting mulch is being removed and hauled away. Carpet for mulch is NOT recommended. It is being requested that the Marion County Public Works provide us with compost and haul away our compostables.

Membership – Carol reported that 188 members have renewed their memberships, a record number. The 2017 trainee class now has 33 members. Carol asked what to do about associate members who used to provide plant
Board Minutes Continued from Page 4

information to the public, for example, at the plant sale. The answer is to refer to an active member. An information booth will be at the plant sale.

Plant Sale – No report

OMGA – Tobie told us that the OMGA quarterly meeting will be held in Salem March 3-4. She is working on the quarterly report for MCMGA.

Board Announcements –

• The Hardy Plant Society of Oregon Plant Nerd Night is scheduled for March 3 in Lake Oswego.
• Jim told us that OMGA might discontinue printing the membership cards. We need to inform members what they are and why they should get them. Membership is making an effort to distribute the cards this year.
• We agreed that Tobie can inform Chemeketa Community College that we will fund two scholarships for horticulture students this year, at $1200 each.
• Jim told us that he has a Junior Master Gardener program under way at Hammond School, with a total of 95 students. This program gets consistent good reviews. The Oregon Garden is supporting the program with classrooms, raised beds, cold frames, volunteers, and training. More volunteers are needed.
• Mill City has an active, community-supported, Junior Master Gardener program.
• It is being proposed by the Mill City Clinic that they use a Veggie Rx approach for some of its patients. This is a preventative program that prescribes farmers market vouchers or CSA shares for patients who might see significant benefit from improved diet.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30.

Respectfully submitted by Janet Rogers

Plot Managers – The Heart of the Marion County Master Garden

By Linda Benjamin

Over the next few months I will be writing about our Plot Managers and the plots they manage in the garden. The MCMGA garden is designed to educate and demonstrate new ideas and the tried and true methods of gardening to the newbie gardener as well as the more experienced gardener.

This month’s featured plot is the Home Garden. This is a very unique plot in that it includes different areas of gardening, and allows Junior Master Gardeners to have their own plot where they can work and experiment with new methods of gardening. The Home Garden plot is a team effort of Bill and Carol Sutkus, Madeline Osborne, Hank Burroughs and Tom Martin. The team members lead and develop the mini-plots within the Home Garden. Carol Stukus and Madeline Osborne also serve as co-plot managers of the Home Garden:

• dry-land gardening
• waterless gardening using 10 inches of mowed grass
• twenty-eight inch raised cedar beds using no dirt
• container gardening
• square-foot gardening
• free-form raised beds, which includes a key-hole garden
• Junior Master Gardener plot

The garden showcases many different ideas for the home gardener. Many people would love to grow their own vegetables or flowers, but do not have the space, worry

Continued on Page 7
PERENNIAL MUSINGS—
Plant Now; Enjoy Later
By Carol Ann Armstrong

According to my internal “Willamette Valley Gardeners Calendar,” it is now time to begin the spring planting season. By planting in March or even early April, newly planted perennial plants will have time to get root in comfortably before the summer heat arrives. However, as we have all noticed, this has been an unusual winter season with very cool and soggy conditions. So, it’s wise to keep that in mind when planning to plant anything. But...let’s be ready for planting, just in case things improve!

Nurseries, general and specialty, are open by March. There are also plenty of catalogues from which to order, although, I have to admit I like to be able to “finger” the merchandise before I buy. As a confirmed plantaholic, I find it rather amazing that the vast majority of gardening shoppers only buy plants during the 2-month window of April and May. They buy whatever is in bloom at that time and totally miss out on the tremendous variety of lovely blooms and plant forms to be found at other times of the year. That enticing “spring” garden can look a bit worn during the long summer and fall.

So, what would I recommend for planting right now? How about those wonderful summer blooming perennials? If they go into the garden right away, they will have plenty of time to become established and will be ready to provide maximum interest in your garden for a long time. The following list is one I developed a few years ago as a list of suggestions for the Perennials Plot in Marion Garden. My idea was to suggest a well-rounded variety of bloom times, forms and textures, including ground-cover plants. These recommended plants are hardy, fairly easy to find and not too expensive. Here is the list, in alphabetical order, with brief notes.

**Summer Interest for Sun/Part Sun:**

- *Acanthus spinose* – sculptural quality.
- *Acorus* (Flag) – various kinds; they make nice, grass-like fillers.
- *Allium giganteum* – “jewels” in a sea of plants; interesting seed heads.
- *Campanula carpatica* ‘Blue Clips’ – well-behaved groundcover; shear back to renew.

- *Chelone* ‘Hot Lips’ (Turtlehead) – marvelous pink blooms in late summer.
- *Cosmos atrosanguineus* (Chocolate Cosmos) – smells and looks like chocolate—yum!
- *Dierama* (Angel’s Fishing Pole) – a drama queen focal point.
- *Eupatorium* ‘Chocolate’ (Joe Pye Weed) – white blooms in late summer but leaf color is the most important element.
- *Helianthemum* (Rock Rose) – the Wisley series is my favorite; early summer bloom; ground-hugging.
- *Hebe* ‘Sunset Boulevard’ – purple-tinged leaves through the winter; small shrub.
- *Kniphofia uvaria* ‘Bees Lemon’ – lemon-yellow bloom spikes; pairs nicely with *Eupatorium* ‘Chocolate’ listed above.
- *Liatris spicata* ‘Kobold’ (Gayfeather) – spiky, light-purple statement.
- *Lilium* – I cannot imagine having a garden without these jewels, both Asiatic and Oriental.
- *Monarda* (Bee Balm) – hummingbirds like these, too. Look for a mildew-resistant variety.
- *Ophiogogan* ‘Nigrescens’ (Black Mondo Grass) – filler and contrast.
- *Origanum* ‘Kent Beauty’ – mounding form; light green with pink-purple contrasts.

Continued on Page 7
Educating Garden

As we move to make our work in the Marion Garden align more with our mission to educate and serve the community, we might want to start thinking a little differently about what we are doing in the Garden. We have tended to focus on the plot that needs to be taken care of and the weeding that needs to be done. That’s how we recruit trainees to work in the Garden. But it might be better to think in terms of the educational work we can do with the various plots, to think in terms of programs. The Sustainable Landscape program in Eugene and the Backyard Habitat project in Portland are examples of such programs and of where our thinking might go.

The Lane County Master Gardeners conduct the Sustainable Landscape program in Eugene. Participants attend a two-day workshop at which they end up evaluating the sustainability status of their own property. If they need assistance in this evaluation, the MGs might actually go to the property to help with the assessment. Once a yard meets the sustainability standards, the participant receives a sign to that effect to be posted on the property.

In Portland, the Audubon Society and the Columbia Land Trust are partnering on the Backyard Habitat project. A technician does a site visit to the property and helps the participant work out a plan to have the property achieve various levels of compliance with backyard habitat standards. Again there is a sign to be posted in the yard once the standards are met.

In Marion County, the Soil and Water Conservation District has talked about doing a program here similar to those in Eugene and Portland. That planning has just started but it is of much interest.

If such a program were in place and we were part of it, then many of the plots in the Garden could become educational tools for the program - the Beneficials, Natives, and Drought-Tolerant Plots most obviously. But almost every plot in the Garden would have something to offer.

The point is that thinking in terms of program might be a better way to go. Rather than asking a trainee what plot s/he wants to work in, ask what education program s/he might want to be involved in.

There are at least four program areas that come immediately to mind in thinking about the Garden:

- Sustainable landscape/backyard habitat.
- Fruit orchard, berries, and grapes.
- Vegetable gardening.
- Adaptive gardening.

Thinking in terms of programs rather than plots brings up some important questions. What education programs does the community want? What programs does the community need? What is the cutting edge for garden education in our community?

Plot Managers Continued from Page 5

about the cost of water, or feel they are unable to work in their garden due to a disability. This plot is being designed to allow all gardeners to find a gardening idea that will allow them to enjoy gardening.

One of the new ideas is the dry land gardening plot. Dry land gardening is designed to use no water beyond the water the weather provides. In our area, with minimal rain in the summer, dry farming strategies work to conserve soil moisture during the dry period by utilizing a combination of management strategies that include drought resistant varieties of plants, timing of planting, tillage, surface protection and Keyline design.

To learn more about Dry Farming read *One farmer's approach to building soil, conserving water and producing, great tasting tomatoes*, by Amy Garrett, Small Farms Program, OSU, Summer 2013, Vol VIII, No. 3.

Perennials Continued from Page 6

*Phlox paniculata* ‘David’ – fragrant white flowers stand tall on this mildew-resistant plant.

*Platycodon grandifloras* (Balloon Flower) – a show-stopper when in bloom; mounding.

*Salvia guaranitica* ‘Black and Blue’ – gorgeous blue; a large salvia. Or, just choose any salvia and you will be happy!

*Schizostylils* (Kaffir Lily) – late bloomer in salmon, red and white.

*Sedum* (Stonecrop) - Autumn Joy (one of my favorite “old reliables”), or any other hybrid with interesting leaves; seed-heads look nice into early winter.

*Zauschneria septentrionalis* ‘Wayne’s Silver’ (California Fuchsia) – this low-growing varietal looks fantastic all summer.
PLANT SALE
FRIDAY MAY 5TH  10-7
SATURDAY MAY 6TH -  9-5
GARDENING TIPS & DEMOS

Oregon State Fairgrounds
Columbia Hall - Red Gate Entrance
FREE Parking and Admittance
FRIDAY MAY 5TH      10-7
SATURDAY MAY 6TH -  9-5
GARDENING TIPS & DEMOS

More than
10,000 Plants

Annuals • Perennials •
Natives • Vegetables •
Beneficials • Herbs • Shrubs •
Trees • Yard Sale Items

Cash • Check •
Credit/Debit

NEW LOCATION!!

Oregon State University Extension Service prohibits discrimination in all its programs, services, activities, and materials on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, familial/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, genetic information, veteran’s status, reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.)
PRUNING FRUIT TREES BY THE NUMBERS

By Michael Johnson

Pruning a fruit tree is a 1–2–3–4 process.

Pruning 1: Dormant season pruning. Master Gardeners have just completed fruit tree pruning workshops, eight in all with 140 attendees. Pruning 1 teaches dormant season basics: sharp and sanitized tools, what & how to prune, how to perform a cut, and how not to leave disease entry points, especially “stubs”.

Pruning 2: Fruit Thinning. Fruit thinning occurs in mid-May. Thinning reduces fruit over-production to a number the tree can handle. Three Workshops will be offered in mid-May.

Pruning 3: Summer Pruning. Summer pruning occurs the end of June and reduces any explosive growth. Watch the newsletter and calendar for more information.

Pruning 4: AKA Harvest. Harvest pruning has a procedure that preserves fruit spur. Look for harvest instructions in the July newsletter.

Still have questions?
Call the Help Desk at 503-373-3770.

SHOULD I RESTORE MY OVERGROWN TREE?

By Michael Johnson

At every pruning workshop in Jan & Feb, someone asked about pruning the 20’ tall monster tree hiding in their garden.

The question is always HOW DO I?

The real question is SHOULD I?

Steve Renquist, instructor at a 2017 Master Gardener Class session in February, has a posting that helps to answer both questions. Renquist asks six (6) questions to answer the “Should I?”

If the answer to all six is YES, then that big monster tree is a candidate for restoration. Curious? Read his six questions (PS, he gives a How-To also)

DONATIONS OF PERENNIALS ACCEPTED UNTIL APRIL 3

The Plant Sale will be upon us in just 2 months. Volunteers are already working hard to care for the herbaceous sun and shade perennials, grasses, ferns, vines and groundcovers that we received in the fall. We would love to receive more plant donations from Master Gardeners if you can bring them in by the Monday, April 3 deadline. This deadline for acceptance helps to ensure that the donated plants will look vigorous and ready for sale by the first weekend in May.

Donated plants should be identified by botanical name (look it up, if you aren’t sure!), be disease-free and be of interest to the buying public. Soil, pots and labels are available at Marion Garden on Tuesdays (the Garden work day during M.G. Training classes). Please contact Carol Ann Armstrong about any Perennials donation at (503) 931-3725 or carmstro@willamette.edu. If you wish to donate trees or shrubs, contact Sherry Hari at (503) 508-3908 or s.hari6070@gmail.com. Please put donated Perennials next to the cyclone fence gate that is closest to the big Green Shed (you will see a sign). This will save us some confusion about which plants are donations.

Thank you for supporting the Plant Sale!

NEW FORM TO REQUEST APPROVAL TO SPONSOR A WORKSHOP, CLASS OR OPEN HOUSE

If you want to sponsor a workshop, class or open house in the Marion Demonstration Garden or offsite, be sure to complete the short fillable form titled MCMGA Request for Approval to Sponsor Workshop, Class or Open House.

Completing the form provides: 1) an easy way to request approval for your workshop, class or open house, 2) the information MCMGA needs to publicize your event, and 3) the records MCMGA needs to track education activities and contacts in the garden and offsite.

The form is available online on the MCMGA documents page at http://extension.oregonstate.edu/marion/mcmga-documents
~NOW ACCEPTING DONATIONS~
for the Marion County Master Gardener’s

YARD SALE 2017!

O.S.U. Extension Service

Do you have any surplus yard and/or garden items that are still useful you want to unload? Why not donate them to a really good cause!

Birdhouses ~ Plant Stands ~ Garden Art ~ Decorative Pots & Vases
Wind Chimes ~ Benches ~ Ladders ~ Carts ~ Old Buckets ~ Tools ~ Trellises
Plant Hangers ~ Shelves ~ Headboards/Footboards ~ Fencing
Surplus Camping/Fishing Gear ~ Books ~ Plus?????

Weekday mornings are best if you want to drop off anything. Please leave items by concrete picnic table under eaves of the Education Building (entrance to Marion Garden), then give me a call (or text) ASAP & inform me so I can safely store it!

Or, will gladly come and pick up your donations. To schedule a time for pick up, please call:
~Penny Esplin 503-508-6582~

Tax deductible receipt provided

Come to our Annual Master Gardener’s

* Plant & Yard Sale! *

This year will be held at the State Fairgrounds
Friday May 5th and Saturday May 6th

All proceeds directly fund the Marion County Master Gardener Program.
Pruning Blueberries
Saturday, March 4. 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
This workshop will teach how to properly prune and care for your blueberries. You will also learn how to prepare a planting bed for blueberries regardless of your soil type. Fertilizing, including how much and when to apply, depending on the age of your plants will also be covered. Selection of blueberry varieties will also be discussed. If you would like to do a little pruning bring your own pruners and gloves.

Good reference publications are *Growing Blueberries in Your Home Garden* (available at https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/ec1303) and *Blueberries and Blueberry Cultivars for the Pacific Northwest* (available at https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/pnw656) by Bernadine Stik.

Plants for Sale: The plants listed below will be available for purchase at the Pruning Blueberries workshop or reserve them now by contacting Michael Johnson, m.john1052@gmail.com. Payment is check or cash only. Make checks payable to Marion County Master Gardeners Association (MCMGA).

15 High-bush blueberries (cultivars and varieties are not known) currently growing in large pots are available @ $15 each. These plants were acquired in 2014 from a Salem blueberry farm and are ready to be planted. 🌿

Pruning Hybrid Tea and Shrub Roses
Saturday, March 11. 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.
This workshop will be a repeat of the February 25th rose pruning workshop. If you missed the February workshop or would like more practice in pruning roses this workshop will provide you the opportunity.

Spring pruning improves the health of roses and increases bloom during the summer. Opening up the center of the bush will provide better air circulation and help prevent most of the common diseases of roses. The instructors will be OSU Master Gardeners. Attendees will receive instruction in the care and pruning of roses and will have the opportunity to practice pruning on the roses in the Rose Garden.

Pruning tools will be provided but if you wish to prune bring heavy gloves and wear a coat to prevent injury from rose thorns. 🌿

Continued on Page 12
— Upcoming Workshops in the Marion Demonstration Garden —

Dividing Hostas
Saturday, March 18. 10:00 a.m. - Noon

This workshop will be held in the Shade Garden. OSU Master Gardeners Penny Esplin and Terrie Fox will teach how to dig and divide hostas using the essential garden tools needed to do the job. The hostas in this garden have been in the ground since 2007 so they have developed some rather tight, tough clumps. If not divided every few years they expand their bounds and engulf many other perennials planted near them. Dividing them will enhance the beauty of their growth and keep them from encroaching on themselves as well as the rest of the garden.

Fruit Tree Grafting and Scion Exchange
Saturday, March 25. 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

OSU Master Gardeners will teach you the tips and techniques to successfully graft a shoot (scion) onto a rootstock. Make your own disease resistant apple tree. There will be G11 (semidwarving) root stock for sale @$5/each. Choose from many kinds of apple scion wood. Tools and supplies will be provided, but you may bring your own pocket knife if you wish.

Drip Irrigation Workshop
Saturday, April 15. 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon

OSU Master Gardeners will discuss and demonstrate the ease and efficiency of drip system irrigation. Save water and time by learning how you can implement the drip system into your home gardening. Whether you intend to start from the ground up or prefer to begin small and go from there, we can help you get started on your way to more efficient watering with our combined and very varied range of time-tested experience.

Support the Jr. Master Gardener Program
Our highly successful JMG program is seeking volunteers and accepting donations! If you have a heart for students and outdoor garden education, contact Jim Liskey for more information.
**MCMGA Announcements**

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**MCMGA — Monthly Meetings**

**PLOT MANAGERS**
Tuesday, March 7th, 12 Noon @ Health Services Building

**BUG GROUP**
Wednesday, March 15th, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**BOARD**
Thursday, March 16th, 1:00 p.m.

**MONTHLY MEETING**
Tuesday, March 28th, 7:00 p.m. Salem Library

**KBZY**
Tune-In Every Thursday 8:40 am, on 1490 AM

**MARION GARDEN WORK DAY**
Every Tuesday, Rain or Shine 9 am — 12 noon

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**The Garden Gate Newsletter for the Marion County Master Gardener™ Association**

The Garden Gate Newsletter is produced in cooperation with the OSU Extension Service, and is published and distributed monthly to all of the MCMGA members.

**Guidelines for Submission:**
- Submissions are encouraged from MCMGA members.
- Horticultural-related articles must be thoroughly researched to be sure that the information is accurate and consistent with OSU published information and standards.
- Please attach pictures with all submissions whenever possible.
- Send submissions, pictures, feedback, and comments to: gardengatenews@gmail.com

April Newsletter submission is March 25

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**Help Wanted —**

**Time to Groom Perennials for the Plant Sale**

The Perennials Committee is looking for help to groom perennials.

Work sessions are scheduled for the following dates in the greenhouse.

Contact Carol Ann Armstrong (503) 931-3725 or carmstro@willamette.edu if you have questions.

**Wednesday, March 8**
9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

**Wednesday, March 15**
9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

**Wednesday, April 19**
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

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**Reminder ....**

send your recipe that uses fruit harvested at thinning to gardengatenews@gmail.com by March 15. Here’s your opportunity to become a Marion County Master Gardener Thin-Fruit Chef. Look in the April Garden Gate for the best of the best recipes. You’ll be famous. Not Beat Bobby Flay famous, but MCMGA “Foodie” outstanding.

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**Like and Follow**

the MCMGA Facebook Page

@ https://www.facebook.com/Marion-County-Master-Gardeners-Association-1862283030720633.

Be sure to visit the page, and click “like” and “follow.”
MCMGA

Dormant Sale

Apple Trees - Blueberry Plants
& Apple Root Stock (for Grafting)

Yes! Apple Trees, Blueberries and Root Stock are On Sale NOW

Make checks payable to: Marion County Master Gardeners Association.

Date
Available: Trees & Blueberries: Mar 4, 1:00pm, at Demonstration Garden
Root Stock: Mar 25, 9:00am, at Demonstration Garden

Contact Michael Johnson:
Email:m.john1052@gmail.com; Call or text: 503-508-3346

$10 ea - Bare Root Apple Trees

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<td>Red Delicious</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>MR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Scarlet Sentinel</td>
<td>Greenish yellow w/red blush</td>
<td>R</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Spartan</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Yellow Delicious</td>
<td>Yellow</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Disease resistant Codes: R=resistant VR=very  MR=moderately  S=somewhat

$5 ea - Semi-Dwarf Root Stock (Disease Resistant)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qty</th>
<th>Cultivar</th>
<th>Fruit Color</th>
<th>Scab</th>
<th>Powdery Mildew</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Chehalis</td>
<td>Green w/ red blush</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Honey Crisp</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>No data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Liberty</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>R</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Scarlet Sentinel</td>
<td>Greenish yellow w/red blush</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>No data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Spartan</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Disease resistant Codes: R=resistant VR=very  MR=moderately  S=somewhat

$15 ea - Blueberry Plants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qty</th>
<th>Cultivar</th>
<th>Color</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>(no name) Highbush</td>
<td>Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DATE</td>
<td>EVENT</td>
<td>LOCATION</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, March 1</td>
<td>Maintenance Day</td>
<td>Demonstration Garden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 2</td>
<td>Radio Segment</td>
<td>KBZY 1490 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, March 4</td>
<td>Pruning Blueberries</td>
<td>Demonstration Garden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, March 6</td>
<td>MG Class</td>
<td>Public Works Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, March 7</td>
<td>Garden Work Day</td>
<td>Demonstration Garden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, March 7</td>
<td>Plot Managers</td>
<td>Health Services Bldg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, March 8</td>
<td>Maintenance Day</td>
<td>Demonstration Garden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, March 11</td>
<td>Pruning Hybrid Tea &amp; Shrub Roses</td>
<td>Demonstration Garden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, March 13</td>
<td>MG Class</td>
<td>Public Works Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, March 14</td>
<td>Garden Work Day</td>
<td>Demonstration Garden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, March 15</td>
<td>Maintenance Day</td>
<td>Demonstration Garden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, March 15</td>
<td>Bug Group</td>
<td>OSU Extension Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 16</td>
<td>Radio Segment</td>
<td>KBZY 1490 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 16</td>
<td>Board of Directors Meeting</td>
<td>OSU Extension Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, March 18</td>
<td>Dividing Hostas</td>
<td>Demonstration Garden</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, March 20</td>
<td>MG Class</td>
<td>Public Works Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, March 21</td>
<td>Garden Work Day</td>
<td>Demonstration Garden</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, March 22</td>
<td>Maintenance Day</td>
<td>Demonstration Garden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 23</td>
<td>Radio Segment</td>
<td>KBZY 1490 AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, March 25</td>
<td>Fruit Tree Grafting &amp; Scion Exchange</td>
<td>Demonstration Garden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, March 27</td>
<td>MG Class</td>
<td>Public Works Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, March 28</td>
<td>Garden Work Day</td>
<td>Demonstration Garden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, March 28</td>
<td>Fern Tables &amp; A Tiny Shade Garden</td>
<td>Salem Public Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, March 28</td>
<td>by Richard Steffin &amp; Monthly Meeting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, March 29</td>
<td>Maintenance Day</td>
<td>Demonstration Garden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 30</td>
<td>Radio Segment</td>
<td>KBZY 1490 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, April 15</td>
<td>Drip Irrigation Workshop</td>
<td>Demonstration Garden</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Thanks to our Garden Gate sponsor!
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Keizer, OR 97303

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