

COME TO THE BOARD MEETING

It is important that you come to the YCMGA board meeting on Wednesday, March 09. Besides getting an excellent and complete picture of the activities of YCMGA, we need your input!



To be prepared, please bring a copy of the YCMGA Financial Policies, found either in your Resource Manual, or online at the YCMGA website.

An important decision regarding budgeting and planning for the next three years will be made then, and you will want to be a part of it.

Editor

PLANT SALE PREP.

Help is regularly needed from now until the plant sale in April. Every Tuesday the propagation crew can use your help in the greenhouse, from 9 until noon.

All levels of skills are needed to organize, pot, clean, sort, label, and do other preparations for the sale. To volunteer, or find out more, contact any Yamhill County Master Gardener.

Mentees, this is an excellent way to learn about plants, the organization, and the plant sale.

"SPRING INTO GARDENING" COMING THIS MONTH

Here's another opportunity to get involved! Setup for the "Spring Into Gardening" event will take place on Friday evening, March 11, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Help will also be needed to disassemble everything at the Community Center after the event on Saturday, April 12.

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NEW "ETERNAL" GRAPEVINE DEADLINE

Starting this month, the deadline for submissions will always be the 22nd of every month.

Battling the Invasives!

Scotch Broom

Introduction: Scotch broom is one of Western Oregon's most widespread and costliest weeds. Scotch broom was widely planted in Western Oregon for dune stabilization and as an ornamental along highway corridors. It is now the most extensive forest weed species and a significant source of pollen affecting allergy sufferers.

Distribution in Oregon:

Scotch broom is endemic throughout Western Oregon

“Scotch Broom seeds remain viable for 50+years...”

with the occasional isolated population appearing in the pine forests of eastern Oregon.

Description: Scotch broom is an attractive evergreen shrub with many slender,

erect, dark-green branches. It can grow up to 20 feet tall. In May it is adorned with a profusion of yellow flowers maturing to flattened pods with up to a dozen seeds each. Mature dried pods will crackle and pop in mid-summer

ejecting the seeds a short distance. It can be confused with the less common Spanish broom, but Spanish broom has fewer round stems, very few leaves, and larger yellow flowers.

Impacts: Scotch broom is a pioneer species known to displace native plants and smother tree transplants, increasing tree death or slowing growth in the early years. It readily invades disturbed sites, natural areas, dunes, and forestlands. Broom control costs on right-of-ways, public facilities, parkland and private property are in the millions of dollars each year due to its rapid growth and persistent nature.



Scotch broom is a prolific seed producer of long-lived (50 years plus) seeds. Broom stands establish persistent soil-seed banks requiring long-term commitment to exhaust. The costs attributed to Scotch broom come from labor and chemical inputs needed to control infestations (\$47 million annually) in timberlands and from lost productivity. Pollen production during bloom time also can be quite an allergen source for allergy sufferers.

Biological controls: Three biological control agents, a beetle, a seed weevil and a twig miner are approved for release and have been established in Oregon:



Ignore Scotch Broom, and you'll need friends like these.

Invasives! (continued)

Bruchidius villosus, *Exapion fuscirostre*, *Leucoptera spartifoliella*. They can significantly reduce seed production and can shorten a broom's life span.

Physical & Chemical controls: when the plants are small (up to about 18" tall) and the soil is wet, they can be pulled out by hand, exposing a magnificent taproot. That root readily explains their hardiness. When large, they are often removed with excavators or bulldozed. Cutting them down is pointless: it just makes them happier and they come back with a vengeance.

Since physical removal is very expensive either by hand or machine, it is best to annihilate them in the beginning of their lives, rather than at maturity. They are often sprayed with herbicide when a forest has been clear-cut and is replanted, but without constant attention and herbicide application, they will cover the land (and young trees) within a year.

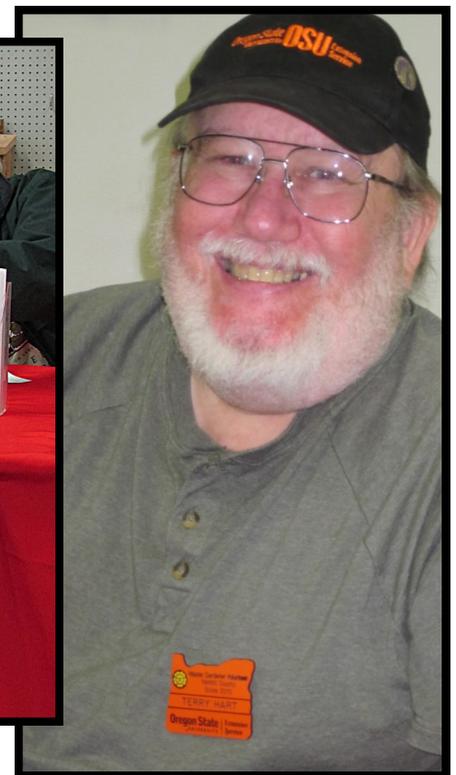
There is one benefit to Scotch Broom: they fix nitrogen, so if they are just cut down, not removed, and receive a basal treatment to the stump, they actually provide quantities of stored nitrogen for other plants.

Also keep in mind that these plants contain oils which make them highly flammable, even when green.

For information on removal:

<http://pnwhandbooks.org/weed/>

Donn Callahan



Happy MG's!

"SEED-TO-SUPPER" Program

The Seed to Supper program is jointly sponsored by the Oregon Food Bank and OSU Extension. The program was started about 8 years ago and has rapidly expanded to most counties in Western and Southern Oregon. The objective of the Seed to Supper program is to provide a comprehensive beginning gardening course series that gives novice, adult gardeners the tools they need to successfully grow a portion of their own food on a limited budget. A prepared Power Point presentation and course manuals in both English and Spanish are provided.

The YCMGA is participating in the first Yamhill County Seed to Supper program. Yamhill County Action Program (YCAP) is the food bank-related agency for the County. The Yamhill County Head Start program is the host agency responsible for the specific classes held at the Newberg Head Start. The role of the Master Gardeners is to provide the instructors for the 6 week course. The classes started on **February 12th**. There are 24 enrolled for the class (which makes for a full class). Six members are primarily Spanish-only speakers.

The Newberg Head Start has a Family and Children garden adjacent to the school with several raised beds and some berries. The garden is being utilized during the course for enhancement of the demonstration/ hands-on activities. Some members of the class will be working these beds as part of a community garden.

There are 6 YCMGA members involved with the instruction. These include Katrina McConaughy, Sandra Curry, Jolaine Natale, Kathy Hinsz, Tonia Beebe and Gene Nesbitt. There was an all-day training session for the instructors prior to the start of classes. We have tapped into the Spanish skills of Katrina and Tonia. They will be teaching the didactic part of the course in Spanish while the group activities will include all class members. Head Start, as the host agency, is providing child care for the class participants.

There are 25 children, most between the ages of 3 and 6. Ashley, a 2016 MG Trainee, is coordinating gardening related activities for the children. Ashley's generous commitment of time, energy and knowledge is a great asset to our first Seed to Supper program.



The YCMGA has been asked to consider working with other Head Start groups as well as the Marion-Polk Food Share program for the Grande Ronde Reservation. More information for these potential opportunities will be forthcoming. In the interim, if any YCMGA veteran or trainee has interest in becoming involved with the Seed to Supper program, please contact Gene Nesbitt.



Gene Nesbitt

COMMUNITY GARDENS

This is an update of the Community Garden for new MG trainees as well as a reminder to others that we need both gardeners and volunteers.

The garden has been in operation for several years but relocated in 2014 from the 2nd Street site to the present site at 325 NE Burnett Rd. The garden provides an opportunity for individuals that would like to grow their own food organically and with protection from the invasion of deer.



Funding for the gardens activities comes from garden rental, donations from individuals, businesses and community service organizations. The land is provided without cost by McMinnville Coop Ministries, and the gardens are a joint venture of YCAP, the Yamhill County Master Gardeners and the McMinnville Coop Ministries but is open to the public at all times.

The garden is located at Parkview and is adjacent to the labyrinth which may also be visited while at the gardens.

The individual gardens are raised beds and include 16 children's gardens. The raised beds vary in size from 3' X 4' to 4' X 24'. Presently there are about 70 raised beds and it is planned that this will double by the end of 2018. Accessible raised beds are planned for construction in 2016 as well as 36 additional raised beds.

Businesses that provide funding for the garden include: **Incahoots, Wilco, Lowes, Recology and Bailey Nurseries, Inc.**

Community organizations that provide funding include: **Yamhill County Master Gardeners, McMinnville Area Community Foundation, Kiwanis and YCAP**



Alan Wenner



NEW OSU WILDFLOWER APP

Information about the Pacific Northwest's wide array of wildflowers is just a swipe away with a new mobile app designed in part by botanists at Oregon State University.

Available for download on [iOS](#) and [Android](#) devices, the Oregon Wildflowers app provides multimedia and information on nearly 1,000 wildflowers, shrubs and vines common in Oregon and adjacent areas in Idaho, Washington and California. For each plant, the app offers photographs, natural history, range maps and more. It works without an Internet connection once downloaded.

"You can use the app no matter how remote your wanderings may take you," said Linda Hardison, the director of the Oregon Flora Project, an OSU effort to develop resources, like the new app, to help people learn about plants in Oregon.

"It's designed for both budding wildflower enthusiasts and experienced botanists to learn about plant communities and ecology throughout the Pacific Northwest," added Hardison, a botanist in OSU's College of Agricultural Sciences.

The majority of species featured in the app are native to the region, with some introduced species that have become established. Plants

are organized by common name, scientific name or family, which app users can identify by browsing through high-resolution photographs.

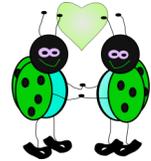
To identify an unknown plant, users can select from 12 illustrated categories, which include geographic region, type of plant, flower features (color, number of petals), leaf features (type and shape), plant size and habitat.

The app is available at Amazon, Apple and Google app stores for \$7.99 and is compatible with all Android devices.



NEW UNIFORM DEADLINE FOR THE MASTER GARDENER “GRAPEVINE” THE 22ND OF EVERY MONTH!

BUGGY BITS



It's that time of year again! Calls will be coming into the MG office with clients wondering what to do about boxelder bugs covering their house or getting inside.

My advice of "leave them alone and they will soon go home, or vacuum them up if they are inside" seems to satisfy most of the callers.

"Just leave them alone, and they'll go home."

The bugs are

simply getting ready to mate, lay eggs and then seemingly disappear from the landscape for the summer.

Many callers are also concerned about the lady-bird beetles that swarm about this time of the year. Same advice! Actually, the lady-birds are simply coming out of hibernation "en masse" and are looking for suitable places to lay eggs and perpetuate the species. Since both the boxelders and the ladybirds are distasteful to predators, they can go about their March madness relatively undisturbed.

The slugs that have been hibernating all winter also begin to appear. Perhaps you have seen a pair mating in a slimy mass in your gardens or under logs and rocks. The slugs are hermaphroditic, which means they have both male and female parts. Therefore, a pair can lay twice as many eggs than if they were simply a male or female.

You probably have seen the eggs under wood or rocks in your garden. They look like tiny translucent pearls and are about the size of BB's. They are laid in masses of about one hundred and hatch in a short time as miniature ravenous eating machines.

On warm days you may see tiny black spiders running to and fro in your yard. These are a species of wolf spider that does not spin a web, but rather searches for and runs down its prey.

As the days get longer and warmer, you might see some of the spiders with little white egg sacs. The females carry these egg sacs with their spinnerets until the eggs hatch. The hatchlings climb on the mother and are literally "taken for a

ride" until they are big enough to be able to survive on their own.

Carpenter ants are now sending out scouts looking for food or suitable places to begin satellite colonies. Soon the winged reproductives will be swarming out of their nests to mate and find available wood to start new colonies. Termites are also beginning to swarm, and as they do so, the birds are ready and waiting for some winged protein to add to their meager wintertime diets.

Moles, voles and mice are becoming active, and are eagerly awaiting the surge of a fresh food supply. March madness is catching on with all the creatures in our area.



The innocuous box elder beetle

The bustling activities of summer are beginning anew, creating new challenges for us as Master Gardeners. Both pests and beneficials give us purpose for tending to our

MARCH MADNESS!

gardening pleasures in spring. The March madness is simply a prelude to the renewal of the natural world around us in summer in our great Northwest.



Lady-bird beetle iterations

Bob Grossman



Master Gardener Student learns about making cuttings during recent Thursday class demo.



HEATHER'S HIGHLIGHTS

March is almost here - it's amazing how quickly the winter went by. I am back from leave, but will still be working part-time for the next month or so. Thank you very much to the Master Gardeners and office staff who have stepped up to assist when I was out. I really appreciate your support of the program. Now that I am back, I am looking forward to being at the trainings on Thursdays and getting to know our new trainees.

I am also really looking forward to the annual Spring into Gardening Seminars. This year's theme is "Home Landscaping.. Small Changes - Big Impact" and will occur on March 12th. This is an exciting opportunity to hear speakers talk about new landscaping topics such as hardscaping and designing an irrigation system. For Master Gardener trainees this is a good opportunity to volunteer and meet some of our veteran Master Gardeners as well as learn a few new gardening techniques. Hope to see you there!



Every Tuesday Propagation Crew, greenhouse 9 to noon.

Every Thursday, Insect Committee, M.G. office, 10:00 a.m. to noon

Every 1st and 3rd Tuesday, Herbarium Committee, M.G. office, 1 pm. To 3 pm.

Every Saturday, KLYC Radio Show: "To the Root of It": 9 am to 10 am.

Yamhill county Master Gardener calendar

March 2016

- 1** **Greenhouse & Demo. Garden**, cleanup day, 9 to noon
Herbarium Committee, M.G. office, 1 to 3 p.m.
"Spring Into Gardening" Committee, 2 p.m., MG office (for one hour)
- 2** **Insect Committee**, begins 2016 meetings on April 21
Propagation Crew, 9:00 to noon, County Fairgrounds greenhouse
- 3** **Plant Diseases** (Cindy Ocamb). P.W. auditorium, 9:00 a.m. to noon
Plant Problem Diagnosis (Cindy Ocamb), auditorium, 1 to 4 p.m.
- 9** **Propagation Crew**, 9:00 to noon, County Fairgrounds greenhouse
Plant Sale Committee Meeting, 9:00 to noon, Public Works auditorium
YCMGA Board Meeting, 10:00 to noon, Public Works auditorium
- 10** **Weeds** (Chip Bubi, OSU Extension) P.W. auditorium, 9:00 a.m. to noon
Pesticides & Pesticide Safety (Chip Bubi) P.W. auditorium, 1:00 to 4:00
- 11** **"Spring Into Gardening"** P.W. auditorium, 2 p.m. (1 hour)
"Spring Into Gardening" set-up at Community Center, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
- 12** **"Spring Into Gardening", Community Center, 8:30 to 4:00 p.m.**
- 15** **Propagation Crew**, 9:00 to noon, County Fairgrounds greenhouse
- 17** **Online training Module (then Potluck Lunch**, 9:00 to 12:00,
Learning Exam/Desk Training (Heather Stoven), 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
- 22** **Propagation Crew**, 9:00 to noon, County Fairgrounds greenhouse
- 29** **Propagation Crew**, 9:00 to noon, County Fairgrounds greenhouse

And remember the Plant Sale coming in April!

PESKY PROFILES

Household pests are a common issue homeowners see and ask questions about this time of year. One of the most common in the boxelder bug. These insects feed mostly on the seeds of maples and boxelder trees (although they can occasionally feed on the seeds or fruits of other plants) and search for a protected area to spend the winter. Unfortunately, these protected areas are often in our homes, which is where the question arises "How do I get rid of these things?". Most people likely are familiar with boxelder bugs, as the red and black insects are pretty distinctive. They are true bugs in the order Hemiptera and can occasionally be confused with other true bugs (stink bugs are another common true bug found in the home this time of year). If these bugs are identified trying to keep them out is the best solution. Look for openings or cracks around windows and doors and caulk openings or fix screen tears or gaps. Fortunately boxelder bugs do not breed indoors or injure people or pets. Once indoors, they can however, spot curtains or furnishings and give off an offensive odor if crushed. The best option for removing those that get indoors is by sucking them up with the vacuum. If boxelder bugs are found on exterior walls they can be hosed off with a stream of water. Insecticide treatment is rarely recommended for either indoor or outdoor boxelder infestations.

For more information:

http://entomology.oregonstate.edu/system/files/u1473/Box_Elder_Bug.pdf

<http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES/pn7411>

Heather Stoven



Tree-related classes can be found at

pwilliams@pnwisa.org, where Patty Williams serves as the executive director of the Pacific Northwest Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture.

The organization encourages this year's attendees - new and veterans - to visit the PNW-ISA website [www.pnwisa.org] for Classes & Events. While we serve four states and one Canadian province, we are continually looking to provide continuing education opportunities for ISA Certified Arborists all over. Typically, classes are not restricted to arborists. Master gardeners may just find something of interest and value! (Think tree care, pruning, planting, diseases, injuries, etc.)



**Arboriculture
Interest
You?**

**If so, check
out this site.**

Come to the Yamhill County Master Gardeners

Annual Plant Sale

Saturday, April 30th

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Sunday, May 1st

11:00 AM - 2:00 PM



- **FREE Soil pH testing**
- **Plant Help Clinic**
- **Plant Selection Assistance**
- **Plant information**
- **20+ Specialty Vendor Booths**
- **Garden Art**

at the

Yamhill County Fairgrounds

2070 NE Lafayette Avenue, McMinnville



Thousands of ornamental and vegetable plants to choose from including perennials home grown by Yamhill County Master Gardeners

For more information call 503-434-7517 or visit

<https://ycmg.org/events/2016springplantsale/>

Proceeds support YCMGA Educational Horticultural Programs in Yamhill



Prettier In Pink



Audrey's Shower

Photos by Mary Murphy



Heather's Baby Shower Bingo

Burp Cloth			Hooded Towel	
	Baby Book			
Baby Shirt		Free Space		Story Book
	Wash Cloths			Baby Socks
Onsies	Teether			



PLANT SALE ALMOST HERE



The Plant Sale is on April 30th in the Leslie Lewis Pavilion at the Yamhill County Fairgrounds from 9 am until 3 pm and also on the following day at the Wiser Pavilion from 11:00 am until 2:00 pm and to say the least **we need your Help!**

The Sign-up book is in the MG office and you have plenty of opportunities to volunteer from now until the plant sale. I know it must be daunting at first, but there should be an index. I suggest you look at the index first and see if anything strikes your interest, then go to the appropriate tab and sign up. **Please use pencil!** I know we all mean well but these are the minimum number of positions that need to be filled for the plant sale and if you use ink and change your mind then I have to use white-out! The shifts normally run for two hours and I would recommend you spend at least one of them at the plant tables, whether it would be annuals, vegetables, and/or perennials. Do not worry there will be Table Captains available to explain what needs to be done and answer your questions. We will need lots of help so please consider volunteering.

The MG greenhouse is active seeding annuals and vegetables in preparation for the sale and could use your help. We meet every Tuesday between now and the sale from 9 am until we are done, normally by 11 am, at the YCMGA Greenhouse located at the Yamhill County Fairgrounds. Also the propagation committee is also meeting on Tuesday's at the YCMGA Greenhouse grooming perennials for our sale and sticking tags once we get into early April. If you are interested in joining the propagation group please contact Patti Gregory at agregory43@outlook.com.

If you have plants in your yard that are non-invasive and would like to donate them to the plant sale we would love to have them. If you need some pots please contact me and we can see what is available at the greenhouse. Once you have your pots planted and watered in you will need to take care of them at home until the week of the sale. The plants should do well outside as they will need little to no watering, unless the weather turns cold again. Your plants should be labeled; if you have more than 10 plants of the same type please contact Alan Wenner :

awenner@hotmail.com for preprinted plant labels:

- Name of Plant, Genus, species and cultivar (Note: Many plants do not have a cultivar as they may be generic or the parent of cultivars) . Genus and species are the first and last name of the plant. . (Source Alan Wenner)

- Color of the Flower
- Height of the plant
- Spacing or spread of the plant
- Sun or shade requirement
- Any other information that would help sell the plant.

Finally we would love to have a mentee or MG Veteran join us to learn the ropes of putting on the plant sale. If you are interested please contact Sylvia Connor or myself. Alan is giving up the printing of plant sale tags after this year, the person would need basic plant knowledge plus some computer experience. If you are interested in this please contact me.

If you have any questions please ask your mentor and if you still have questions please feel free to contact me directly:

lindadcoakley@comcast.net

Linda Coakley
Plant Sale Co-chair



Master Gardener students potting free plants at recent Thursday class.



Soil School

Saturday, April 16, 2016 8:00am - 3:30pm

PCC Rock Creek Event Center

17705 NW Springville Road, Portland

For those tending gardens and small farms!

Learn about soil structure/composition/test analysis, irrigation, slugs & snails, cover crops, organic weed control, stormwater management, planting for pollinators, composting, invasive weeds, vermiculture, native plants, and lawn conversion.

Featuring: James "Dr. Soil" Cassidy, OSU Soil Instructor

Weston Miller, OSU Extension Horticulturist

Kim Galland and Dean Moberg, NRCS

Mary Logalbo and Kammy Kern-Korot, West Multnomah SWCD

Clair Klock, Clackamas SWCD

Claudia Groth, OSU Master Gardener

Register: <https://wmswcd.org/soil-school-2016-registration/>

Cost: \$30 single/\$50 double



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



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THE GRAPEVINE

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(503) 434-7517. For free subscription by email, send request to:

yamhillmg@oregonstate.edu

General meetings of the Yamhill County Master Gardeners™ Association are announced in the newsletter and are open to the public.

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Rita Canales

Heather Stoven, Yamhill County Extension Faculty for Community Horticulture

