



# Master Gardeners

Volume IV, Issue 11

December 2008

## Monthly Meeting

- ▶ December 9, 2008  
10 a.m.
- ▶ Cosmopolis Lions Club



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## Hello Master Gardeners!

A huge **Thank You!** to everyone who helped to make our Annual Recognition Potluck such an enjoyable occasion. The table decorations were gorgeous, the program was excellent and everyone will agree that the food was a feast for royalty. How privileged we were to have Helen Peters, a pioneer Master Gardener, share her memories of the Master Gardener program as it existed 35 years ago. Isn't it great that we no longer have to have a final exam administered by the State Department of Agriculture to have you all become licensed pest control consultants!

Mary Shane inspired us with her involvement in the Master Gardener program since 1998 leading up to her election as President of the Washington State Master Gardener Foundation in 2008. Mary also extended a special invitation to each of us to attend the WSMG Foundations' next Annual Training Conference scheduled for September 24-26 on the WSU campus at Pullman.

Commissioner Beerbower, upon receiving recognition as an honorary Master Gardener, once again validated the important role you play in making our communities better and more beautiful places to live through sharing your gardening expertise. Four other individuals received the title of Honorary Master Gardener including: Kim and Blaine Roberts, for their continued financial support from the Westport Winery; Leon Lead, Education Director at Grays Harbor College's Riverside campus, for his extraordinary support of the Master Gardener program in Pacific County, and Mark Cox, with Grays Harbor County Solid Waste, for his enthusiastic support of our compost education program and Compost Demonstration Garden.

I hope that each of you will take time during this holiday season to reflect on all of your accomplishments this year as a Master Gardener volunteer and how valued you are for your enthusiasm and expertise in helping others. All of us here at WSU Extension wish you and your families a joyful holiday season with Best Wishes for the New Year!

Don





# President's Corner continued

## BOARD MEETING DECEMBER 9, 2008

- I. Committee Chair Approval  
.....Rick Haunreiter
- II. NB Plant Sale Approval . .  
.....Charlene Magneson

- III. Pacific Co. Projector  
and Laptop . . . . .  
.....Mary Jean Grimes
- IV. Emerita Status . . . . .  
..... Rick Haunreiter  
..... Mary Shane

- V. Committee Budget Ap-  
proval . . . . . Ann Combes
- Anyone wanting to add items  
please email  
Rick at [rjhaunreiter@msn.com](mailto:rjhaunreiter@msn.com)

# December Master Gardener's Meeting

Our program for December 9<sup>th</sup> will be devoted to restructuring our organization. We are trying to streamline the committees and the officer's duties, especially that of the president. If you are interested in how we hope to make

these jobs easier and more appealing please come be a part of the process.

If we have time we will also make available the committee sign-up sheets, so think about what you hope to accomplish as a Master Gardener; what is

it you can give back to your community. You will be amazed at how much we can accomplish, and how appreciative our neighbors are of your help. Come join us at 10 a.m.



Dianna Moore

# Plant Clinic Committee

The Plant Clinic Committee had its first meeting of the year on Thursday, November 18, 2008. In addition to our war-weary vets, we also had interns Jo Vanucie and Gary Hamper, who joined in the discussions and gave us some great new ideas! The Plant clinic in December will be geared especially for interns: we will be discussing the work of the committee, as told by veterans who have been on the front lines! This is your chance to find out what being a member of the plant clinic is like. Veterans, we are counting on you to be there and to describe the roles you have had in the committee,

not least of which is 'working' a clinic...one of the most important jobs (and fun-est!) in Master Gardeners.

There will be a change in the meeting place in a effort to be more central in terms of geographic distribution of the members. We will meet at the Hoquiam Library, at the corner of 7th and K Streets, at 1 – 3 p.m., in the lower level meeting room. There is plenty of parking under the library (enter from 7th St), at the back of the library, and street parking along 7<sup>th</sup> and K streets. I will open the room a little after noon and make some coffee! Come early if you want to chat awhile!

Bark and Garden in Olympia is selling a plastic Mason bee house that can be taken apart when the bees leave and then cleaned for the next season or replaced immediately. Also, I would encourage those who are buying the tubes to purchase the empty ones as well. This way when the bees leave the old tubes they can be destroyed and new ones put in their place, as it is not advisable to re-use the old tubes due to disease and viruses.



**Jude**  
**612-0437**

[www.ruhlbeesupply.com/](http://www.ruhlbeesupply.com/)

## Pacific County News

WSU Module Training-5 Pacific County interns received 6 days of their training in Raymond. Ask them how they liked having some presentations on-line. Also ask them about the "extra assignments" they had to do!

Pacific County interns "graduated" Tuesday, had a work session meeting on Wednesday, and the presentation on Thursday! Busy week for them. They must not have been ready for class to be over!

Outreach Presentations- Thank you Dianna Moore, Linda Lee, Earl Miller, and Bonnie Komar for giving gardening presentations at the Raymond Library. Two new interns, Cathy Brown & Patricia Wilson, gave a presentation on "Gifts from the Garden" with support from the other three interns.

Partnership with Grays Harbor College-

We are using our monthly Wed. meetings to design

PowerPoint presentations for the GH College night class and for Don's idea of a MG "Grab & Go" presentation library. A student at Riverview Site in Raymond scanned a number of Don's slides and will be working on the videos. If you would like to work on PowerPoints, let me know. There is plenty to do.

The greenhouse- the plan is to have it ready for use in March. Don suggested ¼ of the area be available as a classroom. With heat, lights, and water, it could be used all year long for day and evening classes. Does anyone have a good floor plan for a 48' x 30' greenhouse?

Horticulture course- Leon has approached senior administrators about offering a horticulture certificate program with the second year being the rest of an AA program. He has been instructed to continue researching the need for graduates in this field and the prospect for their employment. Several steps

will need to be taken before seeking permission from the State Board for Community and Technical colleges to offer such a course and the economy may ultimately affect the funding of the program. Keep your fingers crossed that all goes well.

GHC Evening classes-Kevin McMurry facilitates the evening Sustainable Gardening classes. Last spring was Organic Gardening and the fall Introduction to Sustainable Gardening class just wrapped up. Kevin said the class likes guest speakers. If you would like to be a guest speaker, let me know. The class is interesting. Eight to fifteen people who do a lot of sharing about how to garden better.

Website- Three of the interns are taking on the GH-PC MG website. Mike Spencer will be training them. If you would like to help, let Cathy Brown know (360) 875-0023.

Please join us for any of the activities in Pacific County.

### Greenhouse Committee

It is a great privilege for me to turn over the greenhouse to Don Schmidt for the up-coming year. Don and Peggy have been a great asset to the Master Gardener organization and we all can look forward to wonderful plants for our gardens in 2009.

Thank you, Don and Peggy!

-Ron Scholzen

### North Beach Committee

A request for all members to plant a pot or two for our first plant sale on Memorial Day (Saturday) 2009. We are going into partnership with Friends of the Library on a plant sale and splitting the money from the sale. Our share will go into the Grays Harbor & Pacific County Master Gardener program and theirs in the Ocean Shores Library.

If each member would plant a few pots of plants (flowers) for the sale we would have a good number for sale. More later on delivery and pickup in May prior to Memorial Day weekend.

Bob Paulsen



## Something New is Happening in the New Year

We will have an evening study group! This is a trial meeting! If enough of the members want to have a study group at such a time, I am willing. I know some people have other obligations on

Thursdays that keep them from the group. This is your chance!

We will meet at 6 p.m. (come earlier if you want and help set up) at the Aberdeen Library upstairs meeting room on Tues-

day, January 20, 2009. We have to clean out the room and exit by 8:30 p.m., the closing time for the library. Please contact Jude Armstrong if you are planning on coming, I would really appreciate it!

## Master Gardeners Volunteer Time Sheets

Beginning immediately, your quarterly time sheets must be mailed to Barb Sughrue - not Betty Burnham as noted on the lower right hand corner of your time sheets. The forms you print off our website will be updated shortly. At this time, I am not able to receive

the forms electronically so you will need to mail your completed forms and, as a reminder, make a copy before you mail it!!

Do not hesitate to ask if you have questions.

Master Composters -- *do not* mail your quarterly time sheets to Betty Burnham.

Thank you,

Barb Sughrue  
113 Canal Dr. NE  
Ocean Shores, WA 98569



## Mason Bees

Ron is in Wisconsin, but he tells me that if you want to buy Mason bees for the spring, you should do it now! Ron says: "If you want your study group to be in time for the Mason bees then February or early March would be the time to get people started on bees and houses. Ruhl Bee Supply in Oregon sells Mason bees which can be purchased right now. They come in tubes and can be safely kept in the frig until blossom time. They are quite reasonable to purchase, but they do sell out so when they are gone they are gone till the next year. I had great success with using the tubes and would encourage people to use them, especially if they have few pollinators in their area."

They are taking order (reserves) now, are advertising in December for orders, so try to get in under the wire. So, all of you who were so impressed with Ron's study group on bees last year, act now! Ron will be giving us another study group on bees in February (TBA), so all you interns will get a chance to learn about the (Mason) bees then. (We may later have a study of birds, as well!) If you are already sure you want to have bees in your garden, check out the supplier below, or you can find several others online. Ruhl Bee Supply

We have a new stock of locally bred mason bees coming in the first week of December 2008. At this time we will also

have empty tubes available. You can order the bees directly from our [online store](http://www.ruhlbeesupply.com), or call us at 503 657 5399 or email us at [staff@ruhlbeesupply.com](mailto:staff@ruhlbeesupply.com) Questions?: Please call us at 503 657 5399 or email us at [staff@ruhlbeesupply.com](mailto:staff@ruhlbeesupply.com)



# Notice of Proposed By-laws Changes!

At the retreat of the Board on November 3, 2008, a new structure of organization was adopted by the board. That new structure requires that the by-laws be changed in a few simple ways. Red type is for portions to be omitted and blue type denotes portions to be added. The changes in the structure and the bylaws will be discussed at the December General Meeting on December 9. Voting on the proposed by-law changes will be held at the January General Meeting on January 13, 2009, in accordance with Section XIII of the By-law of the Grays Harbor-Pacific Counties Master Gardener Foundation.

## SECTION VIII. COMMITTEES

*The officers of the Foundation shall determine such necessary standing and ad-hoc committees as are necessary to conduct business, but which shall include an Audit Committee. The officers shall appoint the committee chairs, and assign committees to appropriate directorships.*

## SECTION V. OFFICERS

The elected officers of the Foundation shall be the President, President-Elect, Vice President, Grays Harbor County, Vice President, Pacific County, Secretary,

Treasurer, Vice President North Beach, the Directors of Public Outreach, Program Support, Education, Public Events, and Compost Directors and the Representative to the Master Gardener Foundation of Washington State. The duties of the President, President-Elect, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer shall be such as are usually imposed upon such officials and as are required by law and such as maybe assigned to them respectively by the members. The duties of the directors are to assist the President in overseeing the work of committees and any other oversight as directed by the President. The State Foundation Representative shall provide liaison between the Grays Harbor - Pacific Counties Master Gardener Foundation and the Master Gardener Foundation of Washington State.

## SECTION VI. EXECUTIVE BOARD

A. The elected officers and the Directors of the Foundation (omit: the chairs of the Foundation's standing committees) shall constitute the Executive Board. The Immediate Past President, and County Extension Agent shall be ex-officio, non-voting members of the Executive Board. The Executive Board of the

Grays Harbor-Pacific County Foundation shall have all the powers and duties necessary, incident to or appropriate for the management and administration of the affairs of the Foundation.

B. At the October members' meeting, the members shall meet, organize for business, and elect from their members a President, Vice President, Grays Harbor County, a Secretary, a Treasurer, the Directors of Public Outreach, Program Support, Education, Public Events, and Compost, and a State Foundation Representative. The Vice President for Pacific County shall be as selected by Pacific County Master Gardeners. The Vice President for North Beach shall be as selected by North Beach Master Gardeners.



## Pest Corner

What about a literary "Gardening Holiday Stocking". Here, in this last article for 2008, are inspired "pearls of wisdom" that may help us transition from winter to next year's spring season. Most of these knowledge bites are adapted from seasonal articles published by our Grays Harbor County Extension Agent, Don Tapio.

**Lichens:** These structures consist of a fungus and an algae association. The crusty and colorful formations grow on trees, rocks, and shrubs during the cool and wet winter weather. Lichens thrive under extreme environmental conditions. Like algae, lichens manufacture their own food. They take varied shapes, often looking as crusty gray, green, yellow and white growths. Some are leaf-like; others resemble a tuft of horse hair hanging from the branches.

If control is desired, prune infested trees and shrubs to allow better air circulation and light penetration. A dormant spray of lime sulfur applied in January will control lichens on deciduous plants when used according to labeled directions. **Do not apply lime sulfur on evergreen plants such as rhododendrons and conifers as it will damage the leaves.**

**Norfolk Island pine** (a popular Christmas gift in a pot) is losing its needles:

It's not unusual for a few, on the lowest branches, to turn brown and drop. If this happens slowly over time, it may be due to normal aging. Also address

watering and temperature needs. Do not plant outside, as it is tender for our winters. Maintain indoors in temperatures of 60-70 degrees F (a bit cooler at night). It needs a couple of hours of daily direct sunlight. Rotate the plant weekly so it grows straight.

Norfolk Island pines thrive at 50 % relative humidity. This is a challenge as indoor humidity often drops to 15% during the winter heating season. Water the potted plant when the top inch of the soil feels dry. Use enough water to allow a little excess to escape through the bottom drainage holes. When the plant is actively growing, feed it with a fertilizer suitable for indoor plants. Norfolk Island pine often enters a period of rest during the winter months, at which time it does not need fertilizer.

**Holly** does not have berries: It might be a male holly; or it could be a female too far from a male to be pollinated. The plant could also be too young. Usually a holly plant blooms when it is from five to ten years old. One male holly is usually sufficient to supply the pollen for 15 to 18 female plants. To obtain a good set of berries, the male plants should not be more than 900 feet from the females. The pollen is carried from the male flower to the female flower by flies, honeybees and other types of flying insects. If you do not have a male holly, place a few small branches from a male holly in a pail of water near the female plant. The cuttings should be placed in the sunlight so there is

more of a chance of attracting insects. **Both male and female flowers should be in full bloom** when this is done. Male flower buds will continue to open after the branches have been cut!

**Plant Collapse from Wet Soils:** Avoid planting sensitive plants in landscape areas prone to annual flooding, or where the soil is poorly drained. Research the cultural needs of the plants you have in the garden and observe them through the seasons. There's no question that excess water can be a serious problem for many woody ornamentals. Roots in flooded or water-logged soils are damaged and die from oxygen deficiency. **Flooding is also associated with fungal root rot diseases from *Phytophthora* and *Pythium* spp.**

However, some landscape plants, like red osier dogwood, mugho pines, and crabapples thrive with wet soil conditions. Astilbe, Daylilies, Hosta, and Monkshood are just a few of a long list of herbaceous garden plants that will tolerate wet soils.

**Gardening and holiday shopping:** WSU publications make great holiday presents to yourself or others. You may dial the WSU publications office at: **1-800-723-1763** and ask for a copy of the Educational Materials catalog for 2008. For those who prefer to shop online visit: <http://pubs.wsu.edu>

Retail sales tax and shipping costs are added when orders are placed.

# Master Gardener Calendar Events

Dec. 9 10 a.m.	Grays Harbor/Pacific Counties Master Gardeners Meeting.
Dec. 16 1-3 p.m.	Plant Clinic Committee, Hoquiam Library.
Dec. 18 1-3 p.m.	Study Group, Aberdeen Library.
Jan. 13 10 a.m.	Grays Harbor/Pacific Counties Master Gardeners Meeting.
Jan.20	Plant Clinic, TBA.
Jan. 20 6-8:30 p.m.	Evening Study Group, Aberdeen Library.
Jan. 22 1-3 p.m.	Study Group, Aberdeen Library.



## WSU Master Gardeners GH/Pacific Counties Executive Board

*President—Rick Haunreiter*  
*Vice President—Dianna Moore*  
*Pac. Co. Rep/VP—Mary Jean Grimes*  
*Treasurer—Barb Sughrue*  
*Secretary—Ann Combes*  
*WSMG Foundation Rep.—Mary Shane*  
*County Extension Agent —Don Tapio*

## Committee Chairs

*NW Flower & Garden Show—Gloria Womer*  
*GH Annual Garden Tour—Charlene Magneson*  
*Plant Clinics—Jude Armstrong &  
 Claudia Matthew*  
*Permanent Demo Garden—Bonnie Komar*  
*Greenhouse Demo Garden—Ron Scholzen*  
*Raised Beds Demo Garden—E. Co. Committee*  
*GH Home & Garden Show—Rick Haunreiter &  
 Marcy Peterson*  
*Design, New Demo Garden—Sylva Jurasin*  
*Newsletter—Vicki Dotson & Committee*  
*North Beach Committee—Bob Paulsen*  
*Youth Activities—Judy Cherry*  
*Historian—Barbara Howard*  
*East County Coordinator—Gail Rolfe*  
*Fair Flower Show—Donna Leopard & Linda Lee*  
*Fair Garden Exhibits—Gail Rolfe &  
 Mitch Schilling*  
*Composting—Gail Rolfe*  
*Publicity Committee—Anne Radford*  
*Hospitality—Dolores Rockafield & Carol Burich*  
*Sunshine Committee—Betty Burnham*  
*Master Gardener Fall Training—Jo Beard*

## **January Newsletter Deadline**

Dec. 19 — Non-electronic articles due to  
Helen Hepp.  
 Dec. 26 — Electronic articles due to  
Vicki Dotson.  
 Dec. 29 — Newsletter preparation.  
 Jan. 6 — Newsletter mailing at the  
WSU Extension Office at 10 a.m.



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Washington State University Extension helps people develop leadership skills and use research-based knowledge to improve their economic status and quality of life.

*Donald D. Pappis*

Area Extension Agent