

FROM THE GROUND UP

A NEWS LETTER FOR COMMON GROUND MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

DECEMBER 2015

STEERING COMMITTEE

President – Tim Braith; Vice-President/SAA – Nick Latimer; Secretary/Treasurer – Tracy Patterson ; Marketing Coordinator – Morgan Zandonella

WHAT'S HAPPENING

“Though it's been said many time and many ways – MERRY CHRISTMAS” We are looking forward to glad times. No better time to begin planning your crops in your plot(s). Keep in mind that we are expecting the El Nino beginning in January. This may have an effect if you are going to plant seeds but not so much if seedlings are your beginning.

LEARN MORE AND MEET NEW FRIENDS

The fourth of December the Independent Master Gardeners are having their meeting at our garden . One of the topics of the meeting will be to sponsor our garden with participation and involvement in the garden. A source to answer questions. More next month.

THOUGHTS

Being on the Steering Committee of Common Ground is a true honor. We do need your help! In order to make this a family experience we want your input as to what you, the gardeners, want. We sent missives to the members but do not get responses, it's frustrating. Success of the garden is dependent on YOU.

COMPOST AND SOIL

Compost is a great addition to your plot any time. Loam, what is loam? It is. a great growing medium but usually is used in the same

sentence as top soil, but it's not. Loam has to contain organic matter (clippings, decaying root fibers, worm castings, etc.) Loam should be a ratio of: 40% sand; 40% silt (organic); and 20% clay. Let it lie fallow for a couple of weeks and there is a great seed bed. Remember to rotate your crops, don't plant the same thing in the same location.

WHAT DO WE GROW NOW?

What to plant? Cool season edibles include Lettuce, onions, leeks, carrots, beets, peas and chard. For color try pansies, sweet peas, snapdragons, and stock.

WE NEED HELP MOVING THE PILES OF MULCH ! DO YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO CAN HELP? IF YOU WANT SOME FOR YOUR HOME OR NEIGHBORS GARDEN, LOAD UP.

REMEMBER THAT THIS IS YOUR GARDEN AND WE WANT TO KNOW WHAT YOU WANT AND NEED. ANY STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBER WILL LISTEN TO YOU AND PASS ON ANY REQUESTS OR COMMENTS.

Editor: Nick Latimer