



**1st Quarter Board of Directors Meeting
March 3, 2018 10:00 am – 4:00 pm
Marion County Extension Office
1320 Capitol Highway
Salem, Oregon**

Minutes Corrected and Approved June 2, 2018 (Corrections in Italics)

Attendance

Benton County: Richard Taylor
Central Gorge: Sandy Montag, President Elect Eric Bosler
Clackamas: Dick Nelson, Seamus Ramirez, Past President and Database Manager
Clatsop: Joanie Chapel
Columbia: Anne Korecky, Debbie Broberg, Treasurer Katherine Johnson
Coos: Terry Harris
Douglas: Nancy Fuller, Patricia Sipos
Jackson: Historian Barbara Davidson
Klamath: William Tamplen
Lane: Kate Kloos, Assistant Historian Julie Huynh,
Lincoln: Deanna Trail, 1st Vice President Ann Geyer
Linn: Janice Gregg
Marion: Bill Sitkus
Multnomah: Marilyn Frankel, Lorna Schilling
Polk: George Woodward
Tillamook: Linda Stephenson, Secretary Marcille Ansorge
Wasco: Louise Sargent
Washington: Jackie Lindquist
Yamhill: Nancy Woodworth, President Sue Nesbitt

Welcome – Bill Sutkan, Marion County Chapter President

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 am by President Sue Nesbitt. She introduced Bill Sutkan, President of host chapter Marion County. Bill welcomed those attending and spoke about Marion County's demonstration garden and greenhouse and encouraged members to visit it. The garden was begun in 1996 with the idea of "build it and they will come". He commented that the garden used up more than 50 percent of the budget and of the volunteers' hours of the chapter, but resulted in only about 2 percent of the contacts made by the chapter. He made the point that it is important to know that a demonstration garden takes time and money and that one should keep in mind the mission of the organization when taking on a project. The chapter is now looking at other ways to use the garden.

Meeting Board Members – Seamus Ramirez, Past President (Clackamas)

In order for members to meet each other, Seamus asked members to divide in groups of three to discuss a motto for living.

Additions to the Agenda – Sue Nesbitt, President

Barbara Davidson (Historian, Jackson) asked that an item be added for the historian to speak. Marcille Ansorge (Secretary, Tillamook) asked that an item be added regarding the conflict of Interest policy. Eric Bosler (Central Gorge) moved and Barbara Davidson seconded that the agenda be accepted with the additions. Motion passed by voice vote.

Election of President-Elect – Sue Nesbitt, OMGA President

Sue Nesbitt introduced Eric Bosler (Central Gorge), who has accepted the nomination for President-Elect. Sue asked if there were further nominations; there were none. Louise Sargent (Wasco) moved and Barbara Davidson (Jackson) seconded that we accept Eric as President-Elect. Sue asked for a voice vote to elect Eric as President-Elect. All were in favor with no opposing votes.

Announcements

PNW Handbooks – Sue Nesbitt, President

Sue had sent out a survey earlier in the year to all chapters asking whether they would prefer to receive a printed copy or an electronic version of the PNWs; OMGA buys and donates the printed versions to each chapter. She announced that there is not an electronic version available except through internet access; OMGA will continue to purchase the PNWs and give them to the chapters. Eric Bosler explained further that he has had a discussion with Jay Pscheidt who manages the PNWs; the issues are that the publications are too large to make into a downloadable form and a concern about keeping updates current.

Master Gardener Visors from IMGC – Sue Nesbitt, President

Sue Nesbitt reported that there were more than 300 visors left from the 2017 IMGC and that each chapter was welcome to take them and do with them as they liked. Members from chapters did so and they were quickly distributed.

Gardener's Pen – next edition topics and due dates – Marcia Sherry

Sue Nesbitt reported for Marcia Sherry (Yamhill) that the deadline for the April issue of Gardeners' Pen is March 23 and the theme is "Beauty of Spring." She asked for chapters to send in information about events, book reviews, and special topics of interest. She also said that if someone has a garden-related problem, let her know and she would find someone to write about the it.

The summer edition deadline is July 16th and the topic is "Growing Gardeners." The winter edition deadline is November 23rd and the theme is "Gardening Technology."

Reports

Approval of the OMGA Board of Directors Minutes for Nov. 4, 2017 – Marcille Ansorge (Tillamook), Secretary

Marcille Ansorge asked if there were any changes or corrections to the minutes. There were none. The minutes were approved as sent out.

OMGA Treasurer's Report – Katherine Johnson, Treasurer (Columbia)

Katherine Johnson, Treasurer, presented the financial report for the year 2017. At the end of the year, the net worth of OMGA was \$93,684.51 of which 7461.14 was in restricted funds, \$26,306.68 in cash reserves and 59,916.69 in Non-Restricted Funds. The report included snapshots of the checking account, the CD account, investment performance and income, Income/Expense by Category, and the 2017 budget with actual income and expenses. Katherine noted that income from dues was \$819.00 less than projected and that attorney fees and travel were over budget. Leadership Forum expenses were under budget. For the final budget, OMGA spent \$1599.32 less than budgeted. Eric Bosler (Central Gorge) noted that because of 2017 IMGC, this was done without having a Mini College, which is a source of income. A total of 2,875 members paid dues along with 631 trainees for a total of 3, 506 members for the year 2017.

Katherine also presented the financial report for 2018 as of February 26, 2018. The balance is \$92,254.52, including the E*TRADE investment Account which at that date was \$52,921.32. There has been little activity in the treasury. Dues have not been submitted from any chapters and are due the first of April. In reply to a question from the floor about dues, Katherine responded that they are \$7.00 per member and are used to run the business of OMGA.

In response to questions at the 4th Quarter 2017 Board of Directors meeting, Katherine reported on the E*TRADE investments which presently report a value of \$52,921.32 with a 13.84% gain during 2017. The funds were profit from the International Master Gardener Conference held in Portland in 1985 and were invested in E*TRADE in two Vanguard mutual funds accounts, each account receiving \$10,000.00.

One fund is Vanguard Total Bond Market Index Fund Investor Shares (VBMFX). On a scale of 1 to 5 with 1 being the lowest risk, it has a rating of 2, therefore low risk, less income. The other fund is Vanguard 500 Index Fund Investor Shares (VFINX) and has a risk rating of 4. The decision to invest in these funds was made by the Executive Committee at that time. At the present, the Executive Committee of OMGA would make any decision to change the investment and would consult a professional advisor before doing so.

Growing Gardeners (G2) (formerly Mini-College) – Ann Geyer, 1st Vice President (Lincoln)

Growing Gardeners (G2) (formerly Mini-College) – Jeanine Johnson, 2nd Vice President (Central Oregon)

Ann Geyer reported, for both herself and for Jeanine Johnson who was not able to attend because of weather conditions, on plans that they have made for the Conference. Since this is the first conference after the International Master Gardener Conference held in Portland last year, the Executive Committee felt that it was a good time to consider a name change from Mini College. It is now known as Growing Gardeners and may be referred to as G2. Ann presented the logo that has been designed for the Conference.

Ann also presented a postcard with the basic information including date (July 12 to 14, 2018), location (Linfield College, McMinnville), and online addresses; these cards are now available for chapters to take and pass out to their members. Keynote speakers will include Gail Langellotto on the future of Master Gardeners and a member of the OSU climatology department to speak on research related to climate in Oregon. Members attending the full session will have eight sessions they may attend from a total of forty offered. Also available are four workshops and four tours. Eighty percent of the offerings qualify for continuing education credit. A list of speakers so far confirmed and areas of interest is available in [Appendix A](#). She noted that not all slots are filled and if anyone has suggestions for additional speakers to let her know.

Ann emphasized that it is important for state representatives to OMGA to communicate to their chapters what is available at G2 and to encourage members to attend. She would like to see greater attendance than in the past, which has been around 300 members attending. She noted that attendance at IMGC from Oregon was 450 and that G2 should attract as many.

Registration is not yet open. Pricing for the sessions has not been determined. Possibilities are to have day rates or a bundle rate. Ann asked for input from members on how to handle the pricing. Janice Gregg (Linn County) encouraged chapters to provide scholarships for their members to attend. A question was asked if there would be a discount for volunteers; the answer was no. Janice Gregg said that all members should be encouraged to attend the total conference so that they have the opportunity to meet other gardeners from around the state.

Lodging is available on the Linfield College campus in apartments for 4 at the rate of \$55.00 per person and dorm rooms at the rate of \$35.00 per person. A block of rooms is reserved at the Red Lion Inn at the rate of \$130.00 per room. There are other motels in the McMinnville area where attendees may also stay.

Ann also presented a list for opportunities to volunteer for the Conference. These positions include Banquet Coordinator, Chapter Sales Coordinator, Conference Decorations Coordinator, Exhibitor Coordinator, First Night Reception Coordinator,

Hospitality Coordinator, Lodging Coordinators, Onsite Info Desk Coordinator, Photography, Registration Coordinator, Session Coordinator, Tour Coordinator, and Volunteer Coordinator. Contact Ann to help with this and for any questions you may have about G2.

Lunch Break

Under the leadership of Tobie Habeck, the Marion County chapter served a delicious lunch featuring minestrone soup, tomato basil soup, and salmon chowder along with many other choices. The chapter had also made available snacks throughout the day.

After the break, Nancy Fuller and Patricia Sipos from Douglas County invited members to attend the 2nd Quarter Leadership Forum and Meeting in Roseburg June 1st and 2nd. They passed out information to each chapter on one of the many sights to visit in the area, including their demonstration garden. There may be a surprise presentation by their extension agent on viticulture because of his passion for it.

Silent Auction – Jan Coleman (Yamhill) and Diane Lockwood (Yamhill), Chairs

Jan Coleman passed out information to solicit items and a donation form for the Silent Auction which will take place at Growing Gardeners. This is a fund-raiser for OMGA to support scholarships, recognition awards, and the PNW handbooks. Each chapter is encouraged to donate 10 items with a value of \$25.00 each or for a total of \$250.00 donation. She asked that chapters complete the donation form and email or send a copy to her by June 30. Suggested items include gift certificates, wine, vacation packages, gift baskets, garden tours, nature hikes, books, art, and anything for the garden. She included additional information about bringing items to the G2 and contact information for the members of the committee. If a chapter chooses to send a \$250.00 donation instead of donating items, it should send it to Katherine Johnson, Treasurer.

Leadership Forums – Eric Bosler, President-elect

Eric reported that the first Leadership Forum was held the previous day on the Junior Master Gardener Program and was led by Jim Liskey, Marion County Master Gardener and Kelly Noack, 4-H Program Coordinator for Marion County, who lead the program in Marion County. It was well-received by those attending.

The 2nd Quarter Leadership Forum will be held in Douglas County June 1st and will address the topic of outreach and community involvement and how to increase communication between OSU and OMGA chapters.

The 3rd Quarter Leadership Forum is scheduled for September 14 in Benton County and will focus on input from OSU and may be led by Gail Langellotto, State OMGA Coordinator, Sam Angina and Brooke Edmunds. A new dean of agriculture is being hired at OSU and he/she may be available for OMGA members to meet at that time.

The 4th Quarter Leadership Forum is scheduled for November 2 and will be held in Multnomah County. The topic is yet to be decided.

Grants:

Sue Nesbitt spoke about the grants that are made by OMGA. Information about all these grants is on the OMGA website and chapters should consider applying for them.

Karl Carlson Grant -- Barbara Casteel (Tillamook), Chair

The Karl Carlson Grant makes funds available to help OSU Master Gardener Chapters in the following ways: 1) in the establishment of new OSU Master Gardener Chapters; 2) to assist new or struggling OSU Master Gardener Chapters become better established; 3) in the implementation of new programs or projects related to community horticulture, when financial assistance is needed.

Search for Excellence – Chris Rusch (Douglas), Chair

The Search for Excellence (SFE) is the recognition program of Master Gardener volunteer work, both throughout the United States and Canada (at the International level), and across the State of Oregon within the OMGA. Submissions may be made in one of seven categories: Youth Programs, Demonstration Garden, Workshops, Community Service, Innovative Project, Special Audiences, or Research. Cash awards will be given to Chapters with the highest score in each category. The amount of the awards will depend on the number of categories with winning entries. The judging criteria are: simplicity, practicality, originality, consistency with MG mission, clarity and completeness, significant learning, and number of people impacted. Winning chapters are asked to make presentations at Growing Gardeners.

Extension Educator – Eric Bosler (Central Gorge), Chair

The OMGA Extension Education Grant Program has funds to help OSU Extension Community Horticulture Agents, Program Assistants, or designated OSU Extension Staff responsible for County Master Gardener programs enhance their ability to educate the public in home horticulture.

Eric reported that last year the Extension Educator Committee (EEC) received 11 applications that qualified for the grants and gave funds to each but less than asked for. OMGA increased the budget for the grants this year from \$3000.00 to \$4000.00. The committee has updated the guidelines as follows:

Evaluation of grant applications will utilize the following criteria in selecting recipients.

- 1) Demonstrates how the grant would further the educational goals of the program or project in ways that have been identified by the Master Gardeners who staff the project and the community members which are served.*
- 2. Where appropriate the grant would advance the development and/or use of innovative educational methods and delivery technology;*
- 3. Involvement of colleagues in planning, developing, or enhancing the program; (ensuring connection with Extension/University/subject matter experts).*

Subsequently grant recipients will be expected to document to the EEC in the form of a brief report (including if appropriate, a photograph representative of the implementation):

- 1) That the grant funds have been applied to the project or program, the achieved results and how they promote the educational outreach of the project.*
- 2) Inform the EEC of efforts to share these results with colleagues or other Master Gardeners.*

There were no negative comments on these new guidelines and Eric will present this to the Executive Committee for final review and approval.

Send-A-Friend

The Send-A-Friend Scholarship will be awarded to chapters with income from the previous year of \$25,000.00 or less for the purpose of helping members attend Growing Gardeners.

Awards: County Master Gardener and Behind the Scenes State Master Gardener and Behind the Scenes Longevity Awards – 20 years, 30 years and 40 years

Sue Nesbitt announced the awards that are given by OMGA and asked that chapters send in information about their Master Gardeners of the Year and Behind the Scenes awardees by May 15. She encouraged members to nominate members for the State Master Gardener of the Year and State Behind the Scenes awards. The deadline for this is May 15. She also noted that 20-year, 30-year, and 40-year members are awarded certificates and that chapters should let Marcia Sherry know if they have members that qualify for these.

OMGA Retreat – Sue Nesbitt, President

Sue reported that the OMGA retreat was held in December 2017 and many members were able to attend. A SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats) was done and projects were developed.

The first is to develop a mission statement for OMGA. Sue asked for volunteers to determine the objectives of OMGA and develop a short statement of the mission of OMGA.

A second project is to revise the OMGA Representatives handbook. This would include the documents which the Representatives should be familiar with, such as the by-laws, the policies and procedures. Much discussion followed regarding the format that this should be in. Some favored having the documents available on the website while others felt that printed copies should be available. A middle ground would be to have some printed documents as well as a printed list of useful documents and where these

could be located on the website. Sue took notes on this and will continue work on a revised form.

The third project is to create a Road Show in which a group would visit chapters and speak about how OMGA works. Sue would like volunteers for this and asked members to contact her to help.

Historian's Report: Barbara Davidson (Jackson)

Barbara Davidson, Historian, reported that Kathy Burdett (Yamhill) has written a history until early 2009. Barbara would like to continue the history with the help of Julie Huynh (Lane), assistant historian. Barbara reported the following facts:

In 1917 there were 14 Extension Agents in the State of Oregon.

In 1937, each county had one or more agents.

In 1976, Oregon State University began training volunteers to assist the Agents.

In 1982, 85 Master Gardeners attended a meeting hosted by OSU.

In 1983, by laws were drafted for Master Gardeners.

In 1988, each chapter received an ID Tax Number. There were 575 new MGs and 900 returned MGs.

Barbara and Julie plan to continue the history of OMGA and ask that chapters submit any information that will help compile the history; this information will be made available digitally.

Old Business

Approval of the MOA between OSU and OMG –Sue Nesbitt, President

Sue Nesbitt presented the Memorandum of Agreement between OMGA and OSU. Both organizations have worked on the document for nearly two years and both have now found it to be acceptable. Today the Board of Directors was asked to approve the document after which it would be sent to OSU for approval.

Questions followed and explanations were made by members of the Executive Committee. The document was researched by the Executive Committee and had it reviewed by an attorney. The document puts in writing the relationship between OMGA and OSU and outlines the duties of each in the relationship. It does not change the relationship between the two organizations but puts that relationship in writing. This is often done at the time when such a relationship is formed but was not done at the time OMGA was formed. It tracks the historical relationship between the organizations.

George Woodward (Polk) and Louise Sargent (Wasco) moved to vote to adopt the MOA. Sue asked for further discussion. There was none. Deanna Trail (Lincoln) thanked Sue for taking the time to explain the document. The motion passed.

OMGA Position Description revisions – Seamus Ramirez, Past President (Clackamas)

Seamus reported that he has completed most of the revisions and has some editing to do; he will have it done by the next Board of Directors meeting in June.

Mentorship Report – Jeanine Johnson, 2nd Vice President (Central Oregon)

There was no report.

New Business

Developing Projects Decided on at the OMGA Retreat

Vision Statement for OMGA

Updating the OMGA Representatives Handbook

Creation of an OMGA Road Show

These items were discussed under OMGA Retreat in reports.

Seamus Ramirez, Past President, (Clackamas) read a letter he received from Donna Davis, Past President of the Lincoln County Master Gardener Association. See [Appendix B](#).

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 pm.

Submitted by Marcille Ansoorge, OMGA Secretary

Appendix A Confirmed G2 Speakers!!

Track 1: Associations That Rock!

- Mutual Benefit: Joy Jones, Tillamook Ext
- Community Garden Development and Operations: Yamhill Co
- Break Free from PowerPoint: Rachel Suits, Hood River Ext
- Project Evaluation: Amy Jo Detweiler, Deschutes Ext
- TBD

Track 2: Growing MASTER Gardeners

- This topic may change or include a tour of the NWREC: Mike Bondi, Clackamas Ext
- Latest Research at OSU: Brooke Edmunds, Linn Ext
- Plant ID Using Dichotomous Keys: Linda McMahan, Yamhill Ext, Prof Emeritus
- The Oregon Bee Project: Rich Little, Retired Entomologist
- Gardening with Children: Kelly Noack, Marion Ext; Jim Liskey, MG (2 sessions)
- Garden Ecology Lab at OSU: Gail Langellotto, OSU
- Home Garden Soil Research: Mykl Nelson, OSU Graduate Student
8-10 TBD

Track 3: Garden Pizzazz

- Growing and Pruning Roses: Katherine Johnson, Portland Rose Society
- Backyard Wine Grapes: Steve Renquist, OSU
- Beginning Iris for the Garden: Chad Harris, Greater Portland Iris Society
- Native Plants of the PNW: Aaron Anderson, OSU & Willamette Valley Native Plant Society
5-8 TBD

Track 4: Garden Marauders

- The Latest on the Japanese Beetle and Other Issues: Clint Burfitt, ODA

- Exotic Insect Incursions in Oregon: James LaBonte, ODA
 - Weed Management and Control: Chip Bubl, Columbia Ext
 - Slugs: Rory McDonnell, OSU
- 5-6 TBD

Track 5: Eclectic Elements

- Oregon Citizen Scientist Program: Brooke Edmunds, Benton Extension
- Rain Gardens: Bruce Bennett (2 sessions)
- Is Your Garden Safe? Sara Runkel, Douglas Ext
- Don't Touch or Eat That Plant! Janet Weber, Clackamas MG
- Seed to Supper: Oregon Food Bank

Track 6: Oh, What Fun! Workshops with Take-Homes

- Nature Printing: Heather Fortner
- Succulent Box Garden: Marcia Sherry
- Build a Birdhouse: Seamus Ramirez, Clackamas
- Flower Arranging: Carole Schuldt

Appendix B Letter from Donna Davis, Past President Lincoln County Master Garden Association

Thank you for this information. We are one of the chapters that are losing our MG Program Coordinator (Liz Olsen). She will be continuing as the part time office manager for Lincoln County Extension Office. A replacement has not been found, at this time.

In 2017 we launched our own website and are transitioning our Chapter information away from the OSU Webpages. Thus we are trying to make information more user friendly to the local community. We continue to be secure in our finances 80% of our annual budget in reserves (CDs and Savings.)

We support 5 unique gardens in Lincoln County to better serve new MG students in completing their payback hours and meeting their personal needs. One of the Gardens is also a Community Garden available at a low cost annual fee (\$25) for people to grow their own food or flowers with advice available at that location.

In 2016 and 2017 we awarded a scholarship to local High School Students. Each one was for \$1,000 per year and renewable for 4 years to support a student for their entire college career. We have funds to do another in 2018.

All of this we have accomplished with a membership of around 100 active members. I am very proud of what we have accomplished in the last 8 years here in Lincoln County. I believe that OMGA has been a big part, helping us meet our goals each year with advice and financial support. Thank you for all you have done and please continue to challenge us to reach new heights.

Donna Davis, Past President,
Lincoln County Master Garden Association

<u>Executive Committee</u>	<u>Leadership Forum</u>	<u>Board of Directors</u>
February 2nd Linn County Extension Office	March 2nd Marion County	March 3rd Marion County
May 4th Linn County Extension Office	June 1st Douglas County	June 2nd Douglas County
August 3 Linn County Extension Office	September 14th Benton County	September 15th Benton County
October 6th Linn County Extension Office	November 2nd Multnomah County	November 3rd Multnomah County