



2nd Quarter Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

June 2, 2018

10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Hosted by Douglas County Master Gardeners

Sutherlin Community Center

150 Willamette Street

Sutherlin, Oregon

(Corrected and Approved-Corrections in italics)

Attendance

Benton: David Mandel

Central Gorge: Sandy Montag, Eric Bosler (President Elect)

Central Oregon: Vickie Minor, Jeanine Johnson (2nd Vice President)

Clackamas: Seamus Ramirez (Past President and Database Manager)

Clatsop: Joanie Chapel

Columbia: Katherine Johnson (Treasurer)

Coos: Dottie Tucker

Douglas: Nancy Fuller, Chris Rusch, Diana Woodward, Elva Sellers, Sharon Bordeaux,
Denise Fennell, Kish Doyle, Anne Bacon

Jackson: Barbara Davidson(Historian)

Josephine: Candace Barstow

Lane: Kate Kloos

Lincoln: Deanna Trail, Julie Huynh (Assistant Historian)

Linn: Janice Gregg

Marion: Cyndy Shorter, Roberta Bigelow, Bonnie Seeman,

Multnomah: Marilyn Frankel, Lorna Schilling

Polk: George Woodward

Tillamook: Linda Stephenson, Marcille Ansorge (Secretary)

Yamhill: Tonia Beebe, *Nancy Woodworth*, Jan Coleman, Diane Lockwood,
Sue Nesbitt (President), Marcia Sherry (Newsletter Editor)

Welcome

The meeting was called to order by Sue Nesbitt, President, at 10:10 am. She welcomed members attending and introduced Nancy Fuller, Douglas County OMGA representative, who

gave information about the facility and then introduced Chris Rusch, Douglas County Master Gardener Association President, who welcomed members to Douglas County and thanked them for coming. She said that their chapter had about 250 members and that their focus was on the Discovery and Victory Gardens, which provides over 6000 pounds of food per year to the local Food Bank, and an outreach to the community through plant clinics. She thanked Kish Doyle and Nancy Fuller of her chapter for making the arrangements and Sharon Bordeaux, Denise Fennel, Barbara Robinson, Linda Thamel, Elva Sellers, and Anne Bacon for their work in the kitchen for providing snacks and lunch.

Additions to the Agenda

Sue Nesbitt asked for additions to the agenda. Barbara Davidson asked that an item be added for the historian to speak and Marcia Sherry asked that Send-a-Friend scholarship be added. Barbara Davidson (Jackson) moved and Deanna Trail (Lincoln) seconded that the agenda be accepted with these additions. Motion passed by voice vote.

Announcements

PNW Handbooks

Sue announced that the PNW handbooks had been sent out to all chapters and if any had not received them to check with Katherine Johnson, Treasurer. Sue noted that she had already received many thank yous from the chapters.

Gardeners' Pen—next edition topics and due dates

Marcia Sherry, Gardeners' Pen editor, announced that the next issue will be sent out in September. Due date for articles is August 23. Growing Gardeners is the theme with information about the July conference. Chapters are also to send in information about their activities, photos, and book reviews.

Fred Meyer Community Awards Program

Katherine Johnson created a flyer explaining the Fred Meyer Community Awards Program which designates donations to non-profits. An account is set up with OMGA and members may designate their rewards donations be directed to OMGA. Customers of Fred Meyer do need to renew this program every year.

Amazon Smile also has a program in which customers may direct that a donation from Amazon be made to OMGA. Seamus Ramirez, Database Manager, said that OMGA was not yet set up to receive donations but would be by the end of the week.

Historian announcement

Barbara Davidson, Historian, announced that she and Julie Huynh, assistant Historian, are continuing writing the history of OMGA from 2010 to 2016 and asked that anyone active in OMGA having documents related to OMGA during that time period send them to her or Julie or bring them to the next Executive Meeting.

Reports

Approval of the OMGA Board of Directors Minutes for March 3, 2018

Marcille Ansoorge, Secretary, noted that the correct spelling for the President of the Marion County Master Gardener Association is Bill Sutkus. She asked if there were additional corrections or any changes to be made. There were none offered. Seamus Ramirez (Clackamas) moved and Julie Huynh (Lincoln) seconded that we accept the minutes with the correction. Motion passed by voice vote.

OMGA Treasurer's Report

Katherine Johnson reviewed the treasurer's report. Restricted funds total \$6802.45, cash reserves \$23,889.91 and non-restricted funds \$75,670.32 for a total net worth of \$106,362.68 as of May 25, 2018. Dues received are under budget and she will continue to receive more but feels that the total will be under budget. At present 2,769 past members have paid along with 582 trainees for a total of 3,351 members.

In reviewing the current year budget, Katherine explained the Corporate Fee Expense of \$334.56. A 990 IRS tax form is required for the four counties, Clackamas, Multnomah, Polk and Jackson, that have income of over \$50,000 annually and a fee is charged for that. For chapters with less than \$50,000 annual income, a form 990N is filed. The counties do not reimburse OMGA for the fee. Katherine noted that the average annual return on the investments is presently 6.69%, down from 13.1% in 2017 but up from a negative 4% earlier in the year.

In reply to a question about the cost of the operation of the website, it was noted that a new website has been in operation the last few months because the previous one went out of business. OMGA pays the webmaster \$600.00 quarterly to maintain the website regardless of the amount of work done.

Growing Gardeners (G2) (formerly Mini-College)

Marcia Sherry, Growing Gardeners leader, reported on the plans for the conference July 12, 13, 14 at Linfield College in McMinnville. She hoped that all had seen that registration is open. She used a PowerPoint presentation to acquaint members with the facilities at Linfield College. First, she showed an invitation for the volunteer recognition social on Thursday evening, July 12, to be held on Walker Patio. Hors-d'oeuvres and beverages, including adult beverages, will be served. Marcia showed a map of Linfield College which indicated locations for the various events for G2 and photos of the sites. There will be a gardening bookstore with 20% off most titles. The dorm rooms available are close to the area where events take place. Wi-fi is available on the campus. Rates for the dorms and apartments include breakfast; the rooms are not air-conditioned and guests should bring fans. Lunch is included in the registration fee; the Friday night banquet is not.

The banquet will be held on the lawn with a social hour before. Entertainment will be provided by the Humlies, a local singing group who recently appeared on America's Got Talent. After the banquet, there will be a dorm party led by Seamus Ramirez (Clackamas).

A raffle for Send-a-Friend scholarships is being held and the item is a quilt made by President Sue Nesbitt.

Information about G2 was sent out this week and representatives are asked to send it to all members of all chapters. Registration is not as high at this point as it should be. There is not a deadline and walk-in registrations will be accepted.

Marcia will be sending out a mini version of Gardeners' Pen next week that will give information about the conference.

County and state award winners will be recognized at the banquet and OMGA would like to have all winners attend.

One does not have to be a Master Gardener to attend the conference.

Deanna Trail suggested that a press release be made available to send to local newspapers and Gail Langellotto, OMGA State Coordinator, and Marcia will work on that.

Growing Gardeners (G2) (formerly Mini-College) Speakers

Jeanine Johnson, 2nd Vice President, has made the arrangements for all presenters at G2. Friday keynote speaker is Dr. Philip Mote, director of the Oregon Climate Change Research Institute; he will speak on how climate change will affect gardening. Gail Langellotto will be the Saturday keynote speaker and will speak about the future of Master Gardeners.

There are 6 sessions during the two days of the conference with several classes and tours offered each session. Tours include the McMinnville Community Garden, North Willamette Research and Extension Center, Oregon Garden and the Monrovia nursery. Also available are several do-it-yourself workshops.

Most classes qualify for continuing education credit. Information about all classes is online at the Growing Gardeners website.

Silent Auction

Jan Coleman asked members to fill out the forms passed around by Diane Lockwood to indicate what items they will be donating to the Silent Auction. The due date for these is June 30. All sorts of items are requested, including slightly used. A few will be used for raffle items. It was noted that the income for OMGA is through dues and the Silent Auction. Most of this money is returned to chapters in the form of grants. Items of high value are not encouraged since most people are not willing to bid high and the person donating may be disappointed at the price it was sold. Deanna Trail suggested that a sign indicating what the money was used for be available and that OMGA also encourage contributions at the Conference.

Leadership Forums

Eric Bosler reported on the Leadership Forum held the previous day at the pavilion of the Douglas County Discovery Garden. 36 members were in attendance. At the forum Eric led the discussion by first indicating the results of a survey about demonstration gardens he had sent out, and then had a panel of garden leaders from Douglas and Jackson Counties talk about the challenges and solutions of having gardens and how to make education a component of the volunteer work. Eric will send out a summary of the discussion. The Forum ended with the Douglas County Extension Agent, Steve Renquist, speaking about viticulture in the area, how to taste wine and inviting those attending to taste several white and several red wines from area wineries.

Eric reported that the third quarter Leadership Forum would be hosted by the Benton County chapter and would be led by Gail Langellotto, State Coordinator, Brooke Edmunds and Sam Angima, who would address the state of Master Gardeners in Oregon. It may be that a new dean of agriculture from OSU will be introduced.

The 4th quarter Leadership Forum will be held in Multnomah County at the site of Oregon Food Bank projects, which has a community garden, a Community Supported Agriculture garden and a native American garden devoted to medicinal plants.

Sue Nesbitt, President encouraged everyone who had not attended the Leadership Forum the previous day to visit the Douglas County Discovery Garden and the Jackson County demonstration garden. The Jackson County garden is closed on weekends but one can enter a back way from the parking lot. Barbara Davidson (Jackson County) noted that it is located an hour and a half south of Sutherlin.

It was also announced that one of the Douglas County garden leaders works at Cooper Ridge winery near the Discovery Garden and had invited all Master Gardeners to have a free tasting this weekend.

Grants:

Karl Carlson. Linda Stephenson (Tillamook) reported for grant chair Barb Casteel (Tillamook). There were 2 requests for the grant and Barb and Linda will soon be making a decision on awards.

Search for Excellence. Chris Rusch, grant chair, said so far one application has been received. Chapters are encouraged to apply. Deadline is June 15.

Extension Educator

Eric reported that he received 7 applications. He reminded that successful recipients are to submit photos and a paragraph on how the grant helped with the education program of the chapter.

Awards:

County Master Gardener and Behind the Scenes

State Master Gardener and Behind the Scenes

Longevity Awards—20 years, 30 years, and 40 years.

It was noted that more chapters need to send in the names of members who are eligible for longevity awards.

Gail Langellotto was extremely pleased to report that all chapters had sent in the names of their awardees for the County Master Gardener of the Year and Behind the Scenes award by May 15 or let her know when they would be available.

Send-a-Friend

Marcia Sherry, chair, said she had received 3 applications for the scholarships but that there are funds available for ten. Chapters with less than \$25,000.00 in annual revenue are considered first and if not all scholarships are requested, all chapters may apply for one. She asked all chapters to let her know by June 15. She encouraged chapters to use the scholarship to send their County Master Gardener of the Year if the chapter itself does not provide funds to do so.

State Program Coordinator: Gail Langellotto

It was announced that Gail had just been promoted to full professor at OSU and congratulations were extended to her. At lunch, a cake, gift of OMGA, was served in honor of Gail's promotion. Gail Langellotto noted that last year at this time she was teaching two classes, leading 3 research projects and was the organizer of the 2017 International Master Gardener Conference held in Portland.

Gail announced that the new OSU Extension website was launched last Thursday, May 31. Master Gardener chapters that had been connected to the former site have been moved to another site. The site for reporting volunteer hours is not yet available as it is still being tested for security.

She also said that new badges will be designed because OSU has changed its logo. She passed around a mockup of the new badge. Members who have the old badges do not need to get new ones.

Gail announced that Lincoln, Josephine and Umatilla Counties had new extension coordinators and are bringing new energy to the Extension program. Eastern Oregon has lost its coordinator and is also without a regional administrator presently, which makes it difficult to hire a new coordinator.

She reported on the Community Horticulture Advisory Panel (CHAP). The focus for the year is to look at the training program. The Panel received over 800 responses to questions sent out earlier in the year. The recommendations are these:

1. Make the training more interactive, more hands-on and fewer 3 hour lectures.

2. Make the cost of training more accessible and have counties look for ways to do so, either to lower the cost or provide scholarships.
3. Look at the payback service hours required for trainees. Nationwide it is 40 hours. In Oregon it varies from 40 to 70 hours, with an average of 66 hours. The Panel is considering recommending 60 hours.

The panel will continue to discuss these recommendations further and have final recommendations at the end of the year. Gail noted that these will be recommendations only for counties and not regulations.

The next International Master Gardener Conference will be held in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, July 17 to July 21, 2019 and many of the classes will take place in the gardens of the area, which includes the Philadelphia region.

At this point in the meeting, Sue Nesbitt, President, gave a huge thank you to all the Douglas County members working in the kitchen to prepare lunch and thanked them for a great job.

Chapter Sales

Marcia Sherry asked if any chapters wanted to have sales at Growing Gardeners. If so, they are to let her know so she can prepare a table for them. Chapters are not to sell books since a vendor is doing so. She also asked that chapters which want to display projects or brochures let her know.

She also said there is a need for photographers for the event and to let her know of any available.

Old Business

Approval of the MOA between OSU and OMGA

Sue reported that the Memorandum of Agreement between OSU and OMGA has been signed by all parties.

Website update

Seamus Ramirez, Database Coordinator, reported that the OMGA website had crashed earlier in the year. A skeleton version has been set up and he and others are working to improve it. He would like a committee to improve the overall site.

OMGA Vision Statement Development

Sue reported that a committee has been formed consisting of Candace Barstow (Josephine), Louise Sargent (Wasco) and Sam Sadtler (Tillamook) and they will have a draft by the 3rd Quarter September meeting.

Updating the OMGA Representatives Handbook

Sue is looking for members to form a committee to update the handbook. Anyone interested should let her know.

New Business

Master Gardener Annual Conference for 2019

Sue Nesbitt said that the responsibility of organizing the annual conference is that of the 1st Vice President with the 2nd Vice President organizing the speakers. She noted that the job descriptions of these two was very long and many found the positions intimidating. She asked if there may be a better way to organize these conferences.

She offered three possibilities:

1. Continue as it has been done.
2. Hire a conference planner, which would increase the cost.
3. Divide the chapters into 5 areas; each area would be responsible for a conference every five years with the 1st Vice President as an advisor.

Sue indicated that she would like to have a discussion today and then have representatives return to their chapters and discuss it with all members of OMGA. A decision would need to be made by the September meeting so that a location could be determined for 2019.

The following comments were made.

Deanna Trail (Lincoln) asked how healthy Growing Gardeners is. Sue responded that they would not know until after G2. Its purpose is not to be a moneymaker but to provide education to members. The budget for 2018 is to break even.

Kish Doyle (Douglas) noted that the conference should not be just for OMGA members but open to all interested in learning more about gardening.

Tonia Beebe (Yamhill) said that the title of the conference is important so that it indicates it is open to all. She liked the idea of making it regional.

Barbara Davidson (Jackson) said that the regions are not yet divided and it would be necessary to know that there were facilities available in a region. If the classes are open to all gardeners, the speakers should be aware of that and not address topics to OMGA members only.

David Mandel (Benton) noted that it is difficult to move a conference; if moved to other regions, there may not be as many people attending. The conference needs to remain in a population area.

Sandy Montag (Central Gorge) noted that with the 1st Vice President as an advisor, it would make the organizing by regions workable.

Kish Doyle (Douglas) said that marketing should be used along with scholarships to get non-OMGA members and get community involvement.

Deanna Trail (Lincoln) suggested getting outside vendors and do some paid advertising.

Sue Nesbitt said that OMGA should also consider looking for sponsors.

Janice Gregg (Linn) said that she has been involved with an organization that did regional conference and it worked well. It makes regions aware of the resources they have.

Sue ended the discussion by asking members to continue thinking of ideas and make suggestions of how the future conferences can be organized.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 with Sandy Montag (Central Gorge) moving and Linda Stephenson(Tillamook) seconding that we do so. Motion passed.

Submitted by Marcille Ansorge, OMGA Secretary

<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 5th Linn County Extension Office	November 2nd Multnomah County	November 3rd Multnomah County