



## OMGA 2019 3rd Quarter Chapter Reports

### BENTON COUNTY

#### Benton County Master Gardener's Association 3rd Quarter 2019 Report

Submitted by Richard Taylor

##### Membership Meetings

**June - Garden Tours** - Vice President Debbie Lauer organized and led tours of the home gardens of three master gardeners, including her own. A stifling heat wave in mid-June did not deter a dedicated group from visiting these three beautiful properties.



**July** – We held July's tour in late June in order to take advantage of an invitation we received from Dr. Melanie Link-Perez to visit the **OSU Herbarium**. When Dr. Link-Perez talked to our May association she invited us to tour the herbarium after giving us a sneak peek as part of her slide show. The Oregon State University Herbarium houses approximately 550,000 vascular plant, bryophyte, algal, and fungal

specimens. The collections are worldwide in scope, with a focus on the state of Oregon and the Pacific Northwest.



**August** - On August 27, the tour was held at the OSU Entomology Museum with an emphasis on bees. The Oregon State Arthropod Collection is the largest entomological research collection in the Pacific Northwest with a history extending back into the early years of the Oregon State College (1860's/1870's). Today, they have a research collection of nearly 3 million specimens representing insects and other arthropod species from around the world.

**Greenhouse Committee Update** -- Jennifer Klammer, committee chair, reported on the committee's work and plans to increase the useable space at the Philomath High School (PHS) Greenhouse facility, currently being used by the plant sale for vegetable/herb propagation. The expansion would allow consolidation of plant storage which is currently at several master gardener properties around the county. The Board of Directors voted to approve funding to support the expansion.

**Evenings in the Garden** – Evenings in the Garden at the Benton County Fairgrounds Demonstration Gardens were organized for July 17, August 21 and September 18 from 6-7:00 PM. OSU Master Gardeners were on hand to answer questions on the edible and ornamental plants growing in the gardens. OSU Master Food Preservers shared demonstrations and answered questions on preserving the harvest. A Pop-Up Plant Clinic was available for Master Gardener volunteers to inspect plant samples and answer questions. Families were welcome and encouraged to bring their kids to participate in the botanical scavenger hunt!

**Tool Lending Library** – The Tool Lending Library was dissolved due to lack of use. The tools were donated to the Demonstration garden, Central Park Committee and the Seed to Supper committee.

CENTRAL GORGE

## CENTRAL OREGON



### Third Quarter Report to OMGA Board of Directors Summer 2019

**The 2019 Plant Sale** was held outside of the OSU Extension Service Office in Redmond on June 1, from 9:00 - 12:00 and 568 customers attended. 1376 plants were available and some varieties sold out within 20 minutes. At the end of the day, there were no unsold leftover plants. There were 10 vendors in the parking lot and most of them did extremely well with their sales. There was also a mobile plant clinic, a used book sale and the master food preservers had a booth. The total gross income was \$4,684, and net income after expenses was \$3,558. It helped to have the conference room available the two days before the sale, to do the book setup and to stage things for Saturday morning. It was helpful having someone available until the end to explain about transplanting tomatoes. The Redmond Garden Club also had a tomato planting station. – Vicky Kemp

It's a beautiful time in the **Water-wise Education Garden**. Flowers are blooming, and it's a perfect time to be part of the upcoming Open Garden event on August 17 from 10-2. The team of volunteers will be in the Water-wise garden answering questions and being available to the public. From 11 – 12, Patricia Moreland will be teaching "Attracting Pollinators" and a walk-through and discussion of the pollinator plants in the garden will be included. The water-wise team has been busy, and we have assigned volunteer teams to specific areas in the garden. This has allowed real ownership of the care of the plants in that area and is working well. There are certain "problem plants" that we have identified and are working on developing plant care plans for those. There is relatively little maintenance, as the mulch and careful irrigation has kept the weeds down. That has given us the opportunity to delve deeper into knowing the plants, and developing plant profiles and assessments that we will use in the future for community education. -- Chris Miao and Pat Kolling

**The Northwest Crossing Community Garden** in Bend continues to have "good to excellent" conditions. First and foremost, almost all garden beds are being well tended. Common setbacks like late frosts haven't deterred any enthusiasm, and it helps that pest invasions have been held to a minimum. Rodents, I'm happy to report, are hardly seen which has helped all garden beds. Since there isn't an unprotected garden to compare to, it's difficult to estimate how much of the lack of critters is due to gardener's efforts keeping them out of their beds via bed improvements, but everyone would like to think that those efforts are paying off. Mentors are keeping track of weed issues in their sections to get them pulled before going to seed, or

spreading via underground roots. So far the most common aggressor is what appears to be Hairy Nightshade. It fools people into thinking it is a pretty volunteer flower and even one gardener thought it was a volunteer potato plant. Sneaky. Maintenance needs are minimal and consist of routine garden inspections to monitor gates, trash barrels, weed control in the beds, and the functioning of the irrigation system. Mentors have been offering specific gardening advice based on observations made during routine walk arounds. Most gardeners seem to appreciate the interaction. The NWXCG Open Garden event was held on Saturday August 3 at 09:30. There was good representation of gardeners and friends alike, who shared success stories, advice on veggies and varieties that are working, and had a chance to peer in each other's raised beds and ask questions. – Gary Weber

**The Hollinshead Community Vegetable Garden** is finally beginning to show some major growth of flowers and veggies. After a cool Spring, lettuces, peas, carrots and chard, zucchinis and even a few tomatoes are now being harvested by the plot renters. We have had a number of popular Community Classes in the Garden this summer, including a very successful "Kids in the Garden" class and we're looking forward to a class in September, "Get Ready for Fall". The Open Garden event had opportunities for the public to meet and talk with a few of the 90 Community Gardeners, learn how to preserve their harvest (thanks to the OSU Master Food Preservers), examine an extensive insect display, learn about pollinators in the Garden and see a demonstration on tool maintenance. The Food Bank Donation volunteers continue to collect the extra produce donated by the community gardeners, replacing the ice in the coolers daily and offering to harvest for vacationing gardeners. It takes a team to keep Hollinshead Community Garden as beautiful as it is and we're grateful for our wonderful Master Gardener volunteers for their time, effort and dedication. – Nancy Glick

**Community Education Committee** has provided 15 classes to date for the tri-county area since March, 2019. We have more classes scheduled for September, followed by the closing of our 2 Community Gardens that COMGA manages. (this is where we hold at least 1 class per month, during gardening season). On a scale of 1 to 5, 5 being excellent, our average scoring for classes that turned in evaluation forms was 4.85. The number of community members who attended classes, including the community garden's Open Garden is approximately 250. – JoAnne Abbott

This year's **High Desert Garden Tour** was one of the best enjoyed garden tours we have done. The goal was to sell 200 ticket books for the tour, which was surpassed by the 252 ticket books actually sold. Having a shuttle bus option was well received and many people commented on the opportunities to see agriculture in a different part of Central Oregon. [This year's tour was located in Culver/Madras]. – Toni Stephan

**The Extension Office** new addition, located in Redmond, is expected to be completed by the end of August.

Report submitted by, Gary Weber, COMGA State Representative

## **CLATSOP COUNTY**

### **CLATSOP COUNTY THIRD QUARTER REPORT 2019**

It has been a busy summer for our chapter.

Our Learning Garden, now in its second summer, has been a real source of pride. With the knowledge gained from last summer's challenges at hand, we have had better production. We have contributed over 250 pounds of produce to our local food pantry so far, and some things are just beginning to ripen. Our pumpkins will be sold at our fall seminar. We held an open house in the Learning Garden and featured our own dahlia expert, Joanie Chapel, as speaker. Following her talk there was a garden tour. We have newly installed "real estate flier" boxes throughout the garden containing OSU handouts pertaining to what is growing in the vicinity of the box. These handouts are available for visitors to read there or take copies home.

Planning for our annual fall event, "Winterizing Your Garden" is well underway. We will have several info kiosks this year. We have found that some attendees prefer to ask questions on a one on one basis better than listening, in a large group, to a speaker. So, this fall we will have opportunities for both. Our featured speaker is Rosemary Nichols McGee.

We are continuing to have monthly speaker presentations. This month's topic is on bees.

Our chapter has set some goals for the coming year that will help address some of the challenges we have faced the last few years. Staffing for our plant clinics has been difficult and public outreach could be improved. Some of the suggested solutions are; refine the training for the plant clinics to make them less intimidating, shorter shifts for large public events, mini workshops for public demonstrations, and holding some events during the day and some in the evening to accommodate those who work and those who are retired.

We will be rounding out our summer with a fun field trip to two premier nurseries in the Portland area for tours and talks on gardening subjects.

Linda Holmes  
State Rep.

## **CLACKAMAS COUNTY**

## **COLUMBIA COUNTY**

## COOS COUNTY

### 2019 OMGA QTR. REPORT

By Terry Harris

Things are cooking along (some days literally) here in Coos County. This summer's heat has made this a great year for tomatoes, it's usually fairly hard to get nice tomatoes here without viruses, blight, etc. because of rain, cold weather and fog. I personally have a bumper crop, just waiting for them to ripen so the canning can begin. Our tomato-officiantatos will be bringing samples of their precious bounty to our monthly meetings so that we will be able to sample the different types of tomatoes so we can see what different types are out there, how they taste and maybe new ones we would like to try growing in our own gardens.

Our chapter received an Extension Educator Grant this year and we will be using the money to help build a raised bed education plot at our extension office. It will be built this fall and ready to plant next spring.

Community gardens are in full swing, most of the plots were sold out. They are also producing a ton of vegetables for local food banks, some are being sold to make money to keep their gardens going for next year. In June one of the gardens invited 4 kindergarten classes to their gardens to identify different kinds of vegetables and bugs. The kids had a great time and got a lot of questions answered. Another garden hosted a "Critters in the Garden" class for kids in June. Hopefully we are creating future gardeners and healthier people.

Our county fair booth had a lot of traffic, several people signing up for the upcoming Master Gardener training course and picking up information flyers they can use in their gardens. We continue to get the word out about our group, helping people with problems and questions about their home gardens, orchards, etc.

The Farmer's Market booths in Bandon and Coos Bay are really busy this year, answering a lot of questions and giving out publications to people who are new to gardening and old-hands alike. In July there were over 100 booths at the Coos Bay market so we are getting a lot of foot traffic by the booth.

Due to the fact that our extension office, where our meetings are held, is 26 miles one way from where a lot of our members live, alternating meeting sites are being looked into to make it easier for some members to attend meetings. Our county members are so spread out it's always a long drive for most to get to meetings and events, but maybe we can find a way to accommodate more people.

We have set workshops to create our donation to the Mini College silent auction. I think people will be excited about our choice this year and hopefully raise a little coin for OMGA!



## CURRY COUNTY

### Curry County Master Gardener Association Third Quarterly Chapter Report, August 2019 *Jeffrie Hall – State Representative*

The weather on the South Coast has been mostly pleasant this summer, not as much fog as last summer which the tomatoes appreciate. August & September have some of the best weather here and thankfully there hasn't been much smoke this year. Also, it actually rained once in July & once in August making watering garden duties easier. Curry County Master Gardeners, veterans & trainees, have participated in the Plant Clinics at OSU Extension and two other locations in Brookings. They have also participated in other county & community events and will have an information table at the Brookings Monarch Festival coming up in September.



*Cuttings, Gold Beach HS, JHall*

#### **Plant Sales & Greenhouse Planning:**

Propagating perennials has started with many different species under the direction of Carol Hobbs. Older plants are being watered, fertilized, weeded, & repotted as necessary. The next sales event will be the Brookings Christmas Bazaar held in November. Planters made from hypertufa & driftwood filled with succulents do well there. A lot of effort by Debbie Carroll & Carol Hobbs has gone into creating a plan for a future MG greenhouse & demonstration garden but all research & planning really depends on locating usable land. The land will dictate what can be done. Publicizing the need for land is an ongoing project.

### **Education**

#### **Riley Creek Elementary School:**

The last school garden event the “Strawberry Festival” ended the school year, but Ali Mramor the garden coordinator has a summer program “Summer Garden Days” held two days a week.

“Students, families, & volunteers are encouraged to help in garden & pick produce to take home. There are planned activities every week. Garden produce will be served in the school for the summer lunch program & excess harvest donated to the Food Bank.”

And they submitted seven prize winning entries into the County Fair Land Products Division, with a big ribbon for a very large onion. She has also worked with the 4-H Clover Buds at the garden. Ali is making a schedule of classes for students & volunteers for the new school year.

“As for what’s growing in the garden, we’ve been harvesting lots of zucchini, carrots, lettuce, berries, tomatoes, and garlic. We are beginning to look ahead to planning for Fall and Winter and have planted some broccoli and lettuces for the cooler season approaching.

The school garden will be teaming-up more closely this year with Cathy Boden and Statia Ryder with the Curry Watershed Council to deliver more focused environmental and food education to the students, while giving them hands-on learning experiences in the garden.”

In August OSU's Oregon Natural Resources Education Program (ONREP) held a two-day educational workshop at the school educating the educators about stream side habitats, pollinator gardens, and produce gardens.



*Riley Creek Garden, Ali Mramor*

#### **ABC Preschool 4th Year:**

Classes are underway & will go to the middle of September. The children, with the help of some dedicated volunteers, are growing zucchini, tomatoes, potatoes, carrots, peas & sunflowers, doing craft projects, studying insects & soil. A new 3rd bed keeps them busy watering. “Currently there are 9 to 12 kids, age 3 to 5, each week.

Those numbers will grow over the next few weeks as returning kindergarten students attend daycare.”, Barbara Cary.

#### **“Seed to Supper”:**

The first Seed to Supper classes held in Curry and Del Norte Counties were a success. This project involves providing garden education targeting lower income folks but is open to all to attend. A lot of effort was made to “get the word out” for the classes through different media outlets, groups & individuals by Connie Hunter. There was an emphasis on finding veterans who would benefit from gardening. The program held concurrently in Brookings & Crescent City had 12 to 18 people participating at each location. Given the positive way in which these classes were received, we again look to provide a similar opportunity at least once next year again, hopefully in both locations.

#### **“Dig Your Library” Summer Program Report from Julia Bott:**

“The Chetco Community Public Library loved the spring “Dig Your Library” and asked to have a summer program. It was held on Fridays 3:30-5pm from July 12 to August 16. Julia Bott took the lead and veteran Cathy Appel and trainee Sherry Baum assisted on various days. Attendance ranged from 3 to 7 kids, with age ranges from 4-14.

Summer activities included harvesting lettuce, swiss chard, parsley and peas. We also picked nasturtium and marigold flowers to add to salads. Three types of bush beans and carrots were planted in areas where the peas and



*Pumpkin near the coast, Julia Bott*

lettuce had been previously harvested. These were planted with the goal of harvesting in the planned fall program.

We experienced predation of the established peas, bean, and lettuce starts. It was frustrating but also served as a learning opportunity. We looked for signs of what was eating the plants. We looked for deer or rabbit droppings, slime or poop from slugs or snails and put out rolled up newspapers to see if there were earwigs. Did not find any evidence of those animals. So, we narrowed it down to rats and used bird netting to protect the vegetables. Traps or bait were not a good option at the library. The netting, while inconvenient, worked.

The other success to note is that we actually have pumpkins from our spring planting. Given the proximity to the ocean and small planting boxes, pumpkins were planted as an experiment. They will be used for library decorations in the fall.

A fall program is planned from September 13 to October 4. Activities will include harvesting, planting fava beans and garlic and transplanting some perennials currently in 5 gal pots into the flower garden.”

#### **New Projects & Classes in Curry**

##### **Home & Health Speakers Series in Brookings:**

Starting in June & continuing through early October monthly classes are being/have been held at the Chetco Community Library.

- **“Easy to Grow Garden Herbs for Culinary Use and Health Benefits”**
- **“Raising Chickens and Goats and Even More”** very informative class on not just chickens & goats, but ducks, quails, other birds, & rabbits raised in a smaller yard.
- **“Landscaping with Native Plants to Provide Pollinator Habitat”**
- **“Eating for Health –The Whole Food Plant Base Diet”**
- **“Urban Permaculture & Creating an Edible Landscape at Home”** Integrate and scale permaculture concepts into home settings in town. The class would include a design project that would look at your home orientation and how to grow edible plants best in your situation, also including water catchment and recycling yard waste into soil improvement.



### **New Adult Classes at Riley Creek:**

Mentioned in the last quarterly report there was a suggestion from Marna Williams to hold adult classes at “Riley Creek School” The classes have become a reality. They will be held on the weekends during September & October, thanks to the cooperation of the school, garden coordinator Ali Mramor, & hard work of others:

- **“Mold & Plant”**: A 2-part hands-on class. Students will learn the theory and practical tips of hypertufa container making and then construct a container. They will come back a month later to learn about succulents and plant their hypertufa container.
- **“Extend Your Garden Season”**: Learn to build a Cloche/Cold Frame and how it will extend the gardening season without the huge expense of a greenhouse.
- **“Fall Planting & Winter Bed Prep”**: The “what and how” for fall plants. Save the nutrients in soil over the winter by planting cover crops. Learn the importance of cleaning up diseased and dead plants, removing invasive weeds, composting & prepping for spring. Seed choices. Hands on planting, mulching, bulb dividing, garlic planting and herb pruning.
- **“Worm Bin Workshop”**: Turn kitchen scraps into worm compost, a valuable natural fertilizer to aid in the vigorous growth of plants. In this hands-on workshop students will learn the ins and outs of vermicomposting (or composting with worms). Each participant will have the opportunity to construct a bin to take home, which includes bedding and red wiggler worms.

### **Planter Boxes at the Bookstore & Coffeehouse**

Marna Williams, working with Gold Beach Books will place new planter boxes, each 2 ft. x 4 ft. on the south side of the store replacing some taller plants that blocked the windows. The bookstore will pay for the cost of materials to build the boxes, the soil to fill them & maintain. Signage will promote the plantings & the MG program. Carol Hobbs has selected plants that will not get too tall & will be able to withstand the Gold Beach winter winds.

### **Fall into Landscaping Or “Autumn is Awesome”**

Scott Thiemann, Master Gardener Coordinator will conduct a landscaping workshop late September. “We will be touring several MG landscapes and talking a lot about the plants that work well here and ideas for planting and grouping.”



*Late summer, Jeffrie Hall*

## DOUGLAS COUNTY

Summer is always a fun time for Douglas County Master Gardeners. Our monthly meetings are held at member's homes. We can peak into their gardens and yards and enjoy the beauty of their surroundings and hard work.

Our plant clinic runs 5 days a week during the summer. This year, because of the 24" of snow we had in February and the hail in July plus the unusual 1/2 "of rain in August, clients have brought in a spectrum of problems to be solved.

Our Victory Garden struggled for the first 6 weeks as gophers were enjoying all the garlic and onions that had been planted and replanted. Other critters, probably the two legged ones, made off with peas and cabbage. As of now the garden is back running smoothly and harvesting crops for UCAN, our local food bank distributor.

Steve Renquist our local Horticultural Agent has led several hands-on diagnostic workshops in our members' gardens.

Douglas County holds our elections for officers in July. **Barbie Hamby and Kish Doyle** will be representing Douglas County this year. Please welcome to the OMGA meeting in Sept.

The Douglas County MG has a member who is a wonderful artist. Diane Smith-Lewsadder and her friend put in over 300 volunteer hours to create a one of a kind sign to be displayed at our Douglas County Fair booth. There were many oohs and aahs from the public regarding the sign.

The artwork (not the logo) is copyrighted by the artists. Any interest in duplication or posting needs to be approved by Diane- Smith Lewsadder, Master Gardener ([diane@smithpoint.net](mailto:diane@smithpoint.net)). The sign can be adjusted to most any size as it has been digitally scanned.



I would like to thank those of you I have had the pleasure to connect with as the Do. Co. Rep. I am sure our paths will cross again. See you at Mini-College.

Rosemary Brinkley

## **JACKSON COUNTY**

### **3<sup>RD</sup> QUARTER 2019 CHAPTER REPORT -- JACKSON COUNTY**

JCMGA has collected over 1400 pounds of produce for ACCESS this summer with 2 weeks to go. This exceeds last year's collection by about 500 pounds.

A board retreat was held in June where reports were given by each of the 5-year plan committees.

When our compost area had to be moved, JCMGA seized the opportunity to improve our compost "garden."

A "lasagna" style compost pile approximately 30' x 12' and growing. Simultaneously, a foundation was built for the compost tool shed, and the old tool shed was moved, cleaned, and old and new tools labeled. We received a donation from Wooldridge Winery of a wine barrel to use as a container to chip up garden waste with a weed trimmer fitted with a blade. Next plans are for a 3-bin hot compost container. Much of the cost for our new compost operation is due to generous donations from JCMGA individual board members.

A committee in coordination with our agent is planning our graduation ceremony for approximately 40 new master gardeners.

A solar committee has been meeting monthly since February: their charge—to explore possible use of solar power for use at the Southern Oregon Research and Extension site. Three local contractors have submitted preliminary cost proposals. Their next report will be at the Retreat on September 20, 2019.

The committee has also been investigating conservation measures which include replacing light fixtures in the Practicum classroom and the propagation house with LED tubes, as well as a heat pump for the greenhouses to replace the electric heater.

The five committees for our 5-year plan are continuing to meet. Three committees—Outreach, Demonstration Gardens and Business Plan group made interim reports at the last retreat.

Our annual Summer Picnic potluck was attended by about 90 people with hamburgers supplied by JCMGA. The weather (and lack of fires in the area) was in our favor—we enjoyed a beautiful evening in the arboretum.

Barbara Davidson, OMGA Representative

## **JOSEPHINE COUNTY**

### **JOSEPHINE COUNTY 2019 3rd Quarter Report, August 30, 2019**

Carolyn McCord, OMGA Representative

By June our chapter has completed its two major annual events—the Seeds of Spring seminar and the Spring Garden Fair. Youth programs take a summer break. Our monthly board meeting date often

conflicts with 4<sup>th</sup> of July events so we don't meet in July most years. But...a lot was happening, even if some of it was behind the scenes.

The Perennial Committee continued its weekly work schedule, did a lot of cleanup and organizing, and held a plant sale in June. They even found time to attack some blackberries from adjoining property that were trying to join their committee.

Cleanup and repairs to the greenhouse to get it ready for the next season were identified and some were accomplished. Next year's procedure will be slightly different, in that planting will begin three weeks before the beginning of the 2020 class. Early planting will mean more "hands-on" involvement from MG seniors.

Shelving was purchased and our 1<sup>st</sup> VP spearheaded an effort to organize our attic storage, the nightmare of anyone who has ever visited the area.



The Plant Clinic at the Extension Office continued operation despite the death of our long-time coordinator. Wilma ran an organized and dependable operation until a week before her death at age 94. A team stepped up to finish the training of new class members and plan for future operations. The weekly Plant Clinic at the Growers Market was staffed each Saturday.

Young Master Gardeners, which meets at the library, reported that attendance last year was 387 total children (235 under 5; 174 6+.) The program will resume in the fall. Junior Master Gardeners will also resume in the fall at Highland School. Seven of their ten active students are moving up to junior high so they will be recruiting when school starts.

The chapter involvement with the county fair continued with great success. We provide funding to help with awards, decorate the horticulture building, assist with entries, and encourage our members to enter their garden successes. We maintain a Plant Clinic table throughout the fair.

The plants in the Up from the Asphalt Idea Garden were magnificent. A bee identification and deadheading event was held August 22 for members. Those attending brought jars for catch and release and members of the Insect Working Group helped identify the bees (and other insect visitors) enjoying the wonderful plant selection.

The Grape Tasting Event, for members and family only, will be held for the second year on September 7. Cuttings from last year's favorite grapes were taken and plants will be sold by the Perennial Committee when they are ready.

## KLAMATH COUNTY

## LANE COUNTY

Lane County Master Gardener

Q3 2019 Report

Submitted by: Kate Kloos

Lane County has hired a new **Extension Horticulturist – Erica Chernoh**. Erica will be starting in late August. Interim Horticulture faculty, Ross Penhallagon, will remain at the office until September 9<sup>th</sup>. The Lane County Master Gardeners very much appreciate Ross' expertise and dedication over this transition!

**Lane Extension office hours** will soon be extended to five days a week, 8am to 5pm (no lunch time closing). Lane County was the only County not to offer these hours. The Plant Clinic Committee will be considering the impact of this change on the Plant Clinic since the Plant Clinic has been open 4 days a week and currently takes a lunch break. Changes to the Plant Clinic procedures will take effect on April 1 when the new trainees start in the Clinic.

**Vendor Policy** changes are being reconsidered for our two community events, the Fall Festival Educational event and the Spring Plant Sale fund-raising event. Consideration is being given to the benefits of having outside groups sell their goods at our events, the value of having non-profit education groups participate, and the optimal revenue model for participating outside vendors.

Lane County Extension has celebrated the work of our many volunteers with an **Appreciation Potluck** in August. It has been the normal and busy summer with perfect weather in Lane County and MGs have put in hundreds of hours at outreach events, the Plant Clinic, mobile Plant Clinic, our Demo Garden, and talks and booth interactions at the Lane County Fair.

**Fall Festival Saturday, September 28, 2019:** The workshop schedule is nearly complete. Publicity materials will be produced immediately after finalizing the schedule. MGs are looking into how security is handled at the River Road Recreation Center in light of recent events.

## LINCOLN COUNTY

Lincoln County Master Gardener Association

3rd Quarter Report

Submitted by Ron Woodard II

### Mini-College Questions

At our last board meeting we addressed the three questions you asked about the mini-college and the suggestions from Lincoln County are as follows:

1. Offer big name speakers that will generate excitement to attend; hold the event during a season other than summer (we are coast kids and don't take the heat well); have chapter displays; allow vendors; hold niche classes covering a specific topic in greater detail; have food classes; or simply let mini-college die.

2. An increase in fees is fine if it goes toward something like a big name speaker that would increase draw overall and make it worth attending.
3. Hold the event on the coast, perhaps in Lincoln City at the Chinook Winds venue or some other place that offers appropriate facilities; and schedule it to avoid the main growing season.

#### Annual Awards

This year the Lincoln County chapter chose Diane Primont for the Behind the Scenes Award and Mary Jane Bonelitz for MG of the Year. Both ladies have made many contributions to the chapter, serving on the board, coordinating demo gardens, doing community outreach and generally going above and beyond what is generally expected of a Master Gardener.

#### Demo Gardens

Our demo gardens are progressing. Yachats has a new dry stream bed and border that looks great and will cut down on maintenance. Yaquina Bay continues to receive great traffic and Ann Geyer has stepped forward to be the lead coordinator next year. Pam McElroy is on the mend and her Oceanview Adaptive garden has new color pops with freshly painted pots planted with colorful plants. Lincoln City's coordinators, Kalie Wentz, Phyllis Davis and Maureen Chaplain held a very successful kids fair on August 13th with over 48 kids and adults learning about plants, doing crafts, listening and singing to live music, having their faces painted and eating hot dogs. The majority of our students are nearing the completion of their projects (and hours.) We look forward to their contributions in the future.

#### Community Education

The Fall Roundtable series is under way and receiving good attendance. Most roundtables are continuing to be held in Gleneden Beach, with plans to host the next series in Toledo to help keep attendance steady in our geographically long and narrow county.

We continue to host a booth at the Farmer's Market and plans are in the works to find a volunteer who would like to coordinate the market booths next year.

With the efforts of a great number of hard working individuals, we all gain!

### **LINN COUNTY**

#### **2019 OMGA 3rd Quarter Chapter Report, Linn County**

**Demonstration Garden.** This summer the demonstration garden has welcomed many visitors, formally and informally. Guests at Comfort Inn and Holiday Inn often come to enjoy the garden. One couple from Sand Point, Idaho intentionally choose to stop at Holiday Inn specifically to visit the garden and take pictures of the Anna Hummingbird that lives there.

Displays and a Clinic table was set up at the Linn County Fair and the Mother Earth News Fair. We answered many questions, enjoyed visiting with 548 persons at the County Fair and 972 persons at the Mother Earth News Fair. Two classes were taught at the Mother Earth News Fair: Growing and Using Herbs and Encouraging Pollinators. We also provided



a venue for a breakfast hosted by the Oregon Lavender Association with an opportunity to talk to the guests about the garden and Master Gardeners.

**June Spring Garden Tour.** The weather was perfect! All the volunteers showed up to host in the gardens. Everyone had a good time and it went very well. It was the best year ever and the tour grossed \$6407.83 with a net of \$4540, which was last year's gross. They ran out of tickets which meant we had more people attend than expected.

**Summer Master Gardener Tour.** Our summer garden tour was August 31st. We went to Sebright Gardens, 4 acres of botanical display gardens with hostas, ferns and epimediums featured.

**Willamette Community Gardens.** The garden began in 2010 when two Master Gardeners convinced the City of Albany that a garden would create a sense of community and could promote healthful food. Currently the garden has 46 members who pay \$35 per year for a 5x10 raised bed. There are 54 rental beds, fruit trees, a blueberry patch, a strawberry area, and a pollinator bed. Charity was a prime consideration when the garden was planned, so many beds within the garden, are planted strictly for donations to local food distribution agencies. Each year more than one ton of produce is donated. Beds are also planted outside the garden for people to pick as they pass by. Master Gardeners still run the garden and a number of garden members have since become Master Gardeners.

**Albany Farmers Market.** Linn County Master Gardeners host a table at the Albany Farmers Market on the first and third Saturdays from May through October. Each market date has an advertised topic to coincide with the gardening calendar. This year's topics have been: Fertilizing Vegetables, Aphids and Slugs, Deer Resistant Gardening, Ornamental Plant Problems, Irrigation and Drought, Plant in Summer for Fall/Winter Gardens, Yellow Jackets, Tomato Problems, Growing Caneberries, Spiders, Managing Lawn Pests, Composting and Soil Testing. Average visitors to drop by the table was 55. Also in conjunction with the market the Linn County Master Gardener Association supports the Power of Produce program both financially and by providing a childrens' activity for two different Saturdays during the market season.

## **MARION COUNTY**

### **OMGA 2019 Third Quarter Report for Marion County**

#### **Further Propagation Preparation**

Much work is going into the Propagation Program for next year's plant sale and beyond. We need more places to grow and store plants, protect them from rain and store the equipment and materials needed for propagation. We've had multiple clean up days in the Marion Garden. Items were tossed, donated and moved to new locations. A garage tent we had stored away will be repaired, put back up and utilized, mother plants

have been established from which we will take future cuttings, sand has been laid down on the floors of the greenhouse and potting shed for comfort, a drip system is now in place and roll-up sides have been installed on the greenhouse for cross ventilation during the hotter months.



### **2020 Application is Available**

The application for the 2020 MG class is available and we have received 9 applications already. The Membership Committee is actively reviewing and revising materials related to next year's classes.

### **Strategic Planning Meeting**

In 2018, we held a chapter-wide meeting and developed a Five-Year Strategic Plan. We identified four major goals for our organization, strategies to achieve those goals and measures of success. It's time to get together and update the plan, see how we are doing, and modify the plan as needed. This year, it will be held on November 7<sup>th</sup>.

### **OMGA Awards Granted**

We received word from OMGA that we were awarded two grants – the Karl Carlson grant for the Adaptive Garden plot in the Marion Garden and the Search for Excellence grant for our Junior Master Gardener Program. Congratulations to the recipients of those grant dollars! They will be put to good use!

Respectfully submitted by Cyndy Shorter, OMGA Rep 8/20/19

## MULTNOMAH COUNTY

### Multnomah County Third Quarter Report 2019 to OMGA

June found our chapter going into full summer mode.

We continued our speaker's series at chapter meetings with **"Native Pollinators and How to Attract Them"** Mace Vaughan, Xerces Society.

Our Chapter sponsored the third annual Intern Summer Veggie Class on June 8th. This opportunity is offered exclusively for Master Gardeners in-training as a way to network with other interns, learn about our Chapter, and connect again with our MG Extension leader Weston Miller. Nineteen enthusiastic MG Interns participated in this year's class which was held at Corinne Thomas-Kersting's home garden and also hosted by Eddie Rosen.

Saturday June 15<sup>th</sup> we had open Garden Tours in NE Portland with 4 locations participating. We began our "Garden Educator Grant" Program for innovative education ideas around the metro area. June also brought a partnership with the June Key Delta Community Center, the East Multnomah Soil and Water District and our chapter to supply raised beds on their sight and bring vegetable gardening to the location

July speaker series and chapter meeting was held at Oregon Public House where we could enjoy brews while listening to Shaun Tounsand on Hop Cultivation and backyard hop growing. Amazing number of chapter members growing their own hops.

August brought a short break from the speaker's series and chapter meetings so folks could enjoy their August adventures. Aug. 17 and 18 was busy with an open gardens tour, Backyard Habitat Tours, garden mosaic classes and demonstration garden work party all on the same weekend at the annex of our demonstration garden. A clinic table was included by Metro for questions and answers and tours were given of our perennial beds and veggie beds.

Our Demonstration Garden and Annex portion are going strong with over a ton of produce harvested at the time of this writing with much more to come. Our 2 year

old location of our new demonstration garden has bloomed and blossomed. We also are currently in a "Dry Farm Trial" with OSU growing Early Girl tomatoes and North Georgia Candy Griller squash in two different concentrations with no water or irrigation. They are doing fantastic! Tomato production is going well and the squash will be harvested all at once at the end of the season. We continue to work toward a greenhouse in our new location and intend to hold lots of outdoor classes as time passes.

We are looking forward to this Fall's activities, including several more speakers and our annual Harvest Fest in Sept.

Respectfully submitted, Marilyn Frankel Multnomah Chapter Rep.

## **POLK COUNTY**

Hello all from Polk county

Well just like that it seems summer is waning. The frenzy of gardening and projects is coming to a close, with much progress and a long list of things that still remain on the list of "to do". Here in Polk County it was a busy summer with educational offerings being capped off with an extremely popular leaf casting workshop, also a fermenting workshop. All the normal activities are keeping people busy at the inspiration garden, with watering and weeding and a new paving project.

Our big event of the summer was a 30 year anniversary celebration, I was unable to attend but was told it was a great day of food fun and great company. The achievement was honored with a signed proclamation from the Polk county commissioners.

Upcoming we have on the 28th of September:

## **You will LOVE this! Brunk House Cider Press**

September 28, 2019, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm  
Located at 5705 Dallas-Salem Highway 22  
Event sponsored by: Polk County Cultural Coalition and  
Polk County Historical Society



- See cider made on a 100-year-old press -
- 2 gallons per family limit for purchase
- Free tours of Brunk House built in 1861
- Stroll the gardens
- Fiddle music by Truman Price
- Free crafts and activities for children
- Delicious apple desserts for sale
- Polk County Master Gardeners Clinic 9:00 - noon

Questions: Marsha Graciosa 503-999-6129, [mkgrac@yahoo.com](mailto:mkgrac@yahoo.com)  
or Polk County Historical Society 503-623-6251



Our October Chapter meeting the 10th @ Trinity Lutheran Church in Dallas Or. will be about bees with the speaker being none other than myself. Come learn about beekeeping, its a great addition to any garden. Hope to see you there.

George Woodward  
OMGA rep for Polk County

## TILLAMOOK COUNTY

OMGA report from Tillamook County, September 7, 2019

Third quarter reports already? Where has the summer gone?

Tillamook Master Gardeners were present at three Farmer's Markets during the summer in our county. They were held in Manzanita, Tillamook and Pacific City. Among all of the usual white awnings in Tillamook, it's easy to find our Master Gardeners under a new orange and black Oregon State awning. Master Gardeners are popular at the markets and we not only get a lot of questions but also people who just want to talk about gardening. Our favorite!

TCMGA has a new Education Committee that is committed to planning more activities for our members and the public. In July Yamhill County graciously welcomed eight of our Master Gardeners to a propagation workshop and shared how they are successfully cultivating plants for their plant sale using cuttings. In August three propagation workshops were held at our Learning Garden where other Tillamook Master Gardeners were taught (and practiced) what we had learned in Yamhill County.

Fall Classes will be held in October for Master Gardeners and the public. Our keynote speaker will be Daniel Sparks, the OSU Natural Resources Extension Agent for Clatsop, Tillamook and Lincoln Counties. He will be talking about Coastal Trees and the spruce aphid which is a definite problem in our area. Other offerings will be information on online resources for gardening and the use of Webinars, a class on healthy culinary oils and flavored vinegars taught by Janice Gregg from Linn County, a craft class making garden signs and lastly a tour of Kilchis Point. Kilchis Point is a 200 acre parcel of land north of Tillamook that was the sight of a permanent Native American village and eventually the first settlement in Tillamook. It is owned, protected, maintained and held in public trust by the Tillamook Pioneer Museum. It has trails with signs about the flora, fauna and Native American heritage.

The Tillamook County Fair was held August 7<sup>th</sup> through the 10<sup>th</sup>. Since our Learning Garden is located on the fairgrounds we have many people who come to enjoy our sanctuary from the busy activities at the fair. We just edged out our total from last year by one with 1506 people who visited while we had hosts in the garden. Visitors came to the fair from as far away as South Africa!

Every year we are told that the Learning Garden is "the best it has ever been." And it is spectacular every year. But this year we added milkweed for monarch butterflies and a bed of flowers especially for pollinators. We also have amazing dahlias, raspberries and blueberries with just enough for visitors to try, vegetables in several different kinds of raised beds and so much more. All of the food grown in the garden is donated to the Tillamook Food Pantry.



Two of the main attractions in the garden during the fair were our tiny library and an N scale trolley. Our tiny library is dedicated to Pam George who was active in our association but has since passed away. We stock it with books for young children and they are welcome to read away while they sit in the shade or they can “borrow” a book to take home to enjoy. The second attraction was the trolley car that Master Gardener Ken Jackson and wife Janet had in the garden. Ken says that not only were children delighted with it but so were many of the “big kids” accompanying their children.

Respectfully submitted, Linda Stephenson, Tillamook OMGA Rep

UMATILLA COUNTY

WASCO COUNTY

**WASHINGTON COUNTY**

### **Washington County Master Gardeners' 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2019 report**

#### **Education Garden at PCC**

The Learning Garden hosted students from Goodtime Chinese school with activities focused on pollinators. The school is interested in returning next year and the curriculum will be available to use with other school groups. Tualatin Soil and Water Conversation district, which gave the Education Garden a grant, used the site for a naturescaping class. The garden was designed to emphasize low maintenance strategies and the team is discussing ways to focus their time on expanding the educational mission. The Juan Young trust funded the information kiosk which is used to display educational material and take away information.

The partnership with PCC Rock Creek continues. TSWCD sponsored a Bee Safari and PCC Rock Creek shared what it means to be a Bee Campus. Another Instructor from Rock Creek PCC used the garden for a class session on summer annuals and perennials. Preparation is underway for participation in the PCC Rock Creek Harvest festival.

#### **Strategic Plan, priority 1, Continuing Ed. For Master Gardeners--Learning Group Development**

The committee working on our strategic plan priority 1 is developing a pilot program for small learning groups, held in geographically convenient locations to help Master Gardeners further their education. The format will be similar to but not supplant the current Metro Study group. In our survey earlier this spring, fifteen people volunteered to help lead the groups. Leaders will begin their first training session the first week of September. Members in a particular geographical area will organize themselves. Our hope is that more will be able to participate in learning groups closer to home.

#### **Strategic Plan Priority 2-Community needs/wants**

Attendance in our In the Garden series has increased. It is possible that the increased advertising through our sister groups (TSWCD, Xerces) may have helped with increased attendance. We continue to look for more ways to advertise our services. Several events are planned each month for each of the gardens.

Participation in the Science Geek-out weekend in Beaverton was successful and will probably be continued next year.

Washington County Master Gardeners manned an "Ask a Master Gardener" booth and two activity tables for children and adults at the Washington County Fair. Over 500 contacts were made during the fair.

### **GardenFest**

The committee continues to analyze this first year's sale. Committee members are grateful for the time and information about propagation that Yamhill County Master Gardeners shared. We are hopeful that we will be able to increase next year's profits by decreasing our dependence on purchased plants. Our being able to use the PCC Rock Creek green houses will be a huge help.

### **Insurance, 501c3 status, current registration status with Oregon Corporations Division**

The insurance committee has been wrestling with the high costs of insurance and its effect on our budget for next year. We are wondering what others are doing and look forward to further discussions. We have had email discussions with OMGA leadership about our 501c3 status and how we are registered with the state.

## **YAMHILL**

### **YAMHILL COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION THIRD QUARTER REPORT**

Change has been the key word around here this quarter! Lots of new people are appearing on the scene.

Our key receptionist, Jade Wilson relocated to Eugene, with her husband and baby-to-be and although we miss her, we wish them well. We welcome Carla Staples who has replaced her and has quickly stepped up and helped us carry on with minimal problems Thanks Carla! Propagation and Seed to Supper are undergoing reorganization after key leaders have resigned after literally years of dedicated service. Ruth Estrada, Patti Gregory and Gene Nesbitt are stepping back although all are staying involved and helping with the transitions. New committees have been formed to share the responsibilities that these people had handled on their own so now more MGs are involved which is great to see!

An unfortunate change is in our OMGA representative's health. Nancy Woodworth fell at her home and shattered her femur so is laid up in a recliner recuperating. Thus I, Tonia Beebe, her alternate is writing this report and trying to tackle her responsibilities and keep her up to date

and informed so she doesn't go stir-crazy!

Good things have also happened; like the Yamhill County Fair, the first weekend in August, where we helped with the Flower and Veggie entries, and showed off our Demonstration Garden. We also manned the MG booth at the Oregon State Fair and greeted and advised numerous interested attendees and passed our free seed packets. Volunteers said they really enjoyed their time there.

The yearly Ice Cream Social was held at Donn Callaham and Nancy Woodworth's Farm where we got to feed the cows apples, pick up peacock feathers and enjoy their beautiful landscaping with rock walls and a fish pond built by Donn. The hay ride down to Pat Fritz's farm to wade in the creek was a great finale to the day.

An abundance of beautiful flowers were donated for the Lei Making Class, taught by Reika Loomba at Michael O'Laughlin's farm. We learned how to make leis and flower crowns and dreamed we were in Hawaii. Even the weather let us imagine we were there.

The Community Garden who works closely with MG, is offering classes for us on Saturdays for only \$5. Organic Gardening, Soils, Plant Problem Diagnosis, Low Water Need Plants etc are just a few of the topics they cover. They also held a silent auction which was well attended by MGs.

The Farmers Markets in McMinnville and Newberg have been busy this summer. The Education Committee held a clinic at Edwards Elementary School in Newberg where children were led in planting pots of marigolds and beans. The clinic at Kramers Nursery was also very successful. This years notice of the Willamette Valley Lavender Festival wasn't feasible but is on the agenda for next year!