



**OMGA Board of Directors Meeting 3rd Quarter 2019 (Approved)
September 7, 2019**

**Linn County Extension Office
33630 McFarland Road, Tangent, OR 97389
Hosted by Linn County Master Gardener Association**

Attendance

Benton County: Richard Taylor, Representative
Central Gorge: Barbara Kilkenny, Representative; Eric Bosler, President; Sheri Bosler
Central Oregon: Gary Weber, Representative
Clackamas County: Seamus Ramirez, Representative and Database Manager; Harry Wise
Clatsop County: Linda Holmes, Representative
Curry County: Jeffrie A. Hall, Representative; Ruth Patton
Douglas County: Barbara Hamby, Representative; Kish Doyle, Alternate Representative; Chris Rusch, President-Elect; Patrice Sipos, Treasurer
Jackson County: Barbara Davidson, Representative and Historian
Josephine County: Carolyn McCord, Representative
Lane County: Kate Kloos, Representative; Victoria Harrison, Alternate Representative
Lincoln County: Ron Woodard II, Representative
Linn County: Janice Gregg, Representative; Randy Peckham, Alternate Representative
Marion County: Cyndy M. Shorter, Representative
Multnomah County: Marilyn Frankel, Representative; Lucy Keating, Alternate Representative
Polk County: George Woodward, Representative; Lorena Elliott, Linda Vognild
Tillamook County: Linda Stephenson, Representative; Barb Casteel, Karl Carlson Grants chair; John Casteel, Jake Lyons; Betty Lyons; Marcille Ansorge, Secretary
Washington County: Karen Graham, Representative
Yamhill County: Tonia Beebe, Alternate Representative; Sue Nesbitt, Past President; Marcia Sherry, Newsletter Editor

Welcome—Linn County Master Gardener Association

Eric Bosler, President, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming. He introduced Janice Gregg, Linn County OMGA Representative, who organized the meeting at Linn County Extension office and thanked her and her chapter for hosting. Janice introduced Elizabeth Records, Educational Program Assistant for Linn and Benton County Master Gardeners, who spoke about the projects of Linn County Master Gardeners, with a focus on BeeVent, a one-day conference held annually in March, and on the work that master gardeners do to create habitats for bees and protect them in rural and urban gardens in Linn and Benton Counties.

Approval of the Agenda – Eric Bosler

Eric asked for changes to the agenda. There were none; Patrice Sipos moved and Chris Rusch seconded that we accept them as presented.

Board Action Items

Approval of the OMGA Board of Directors Minutes for June 8, 2019—Marcille Ansorge

Marcille Ansorge, Secretary, noted that Ron Woodard of Lincoln County had said that on page 4 of the minutes, related to the description of the Lincoln County Master Gardener Association Karl Carlson grant, it should read “Lincoln City Demonstration Garden of Lincoln County”. Marcille asked for any other changes; there were none and the minutes were approved as corrected.

OMGA Treasurer’s Report—Patrice Sipos

Patrice Sipos, Treasurer, reported few changes since the last report and no major expenses paid. She presented the list of CDs and Money Markets and said that as CDs mature, she is rolling them into the Money Market which earns a higher rate of interest. Richard Taylor (Benton) said that his chapter had recently invested in a 12-month DC that was earning 2.3%; he will get information about the investment for Patrice. Kate Kloos (Lane) asked that he send the information to all chapter treasurers since many are looking for places to invest monies. Any change in investments for OMGA will be brought before the Board of Directors for approval.

Change of Accounting Firm—Patrice Sipos

Patrice said that OMGA has been working with Above All Accounting, which has offices in several cities in the State, for many years in order to file the necessary information with the IRS. This year the cost for doing so was higher than previous years and included a 15% administrative fee for each transaction, including the \$10.00 cost of mailing the material to her. The total amount was over budget. In addition she was asked to pay for the cost before receiving the forms. She would like information from other accounting firms in the State that do work for non-profits. It would be preferable to have a company that has offices in several cities in the State. If any member has knowledge of such firms, please let her know at omgatreasurer@gmail.com.

Reports

Leadership Forums—Chris Rusch

Chris Rusch, President Elect, who has organized the Leadership Forums for this year reported that yesterday Jacob Lebel presented information about how climate change is affecting Oregon and specifically his family and why he was one of the plaintiffs in the Juliana vs. US lawsuit. The Forum in November will be on Grant Writing with a workshop and information from chapters about their success with grants. Eric commented that the Forum yesterday was most informative with learning about the challenges of a young man developing a small farm.

Treasurers’ Workshop—Patrice Sipos

Patrice reported that she had organized workshops for chapter treasurers so they can become more knowledgeable about how to handle chapter finances and for her to understand their challenges and their successes. She is encouraging all chapters to create an email that is for the treasurer of the chapter to be passed on when a new treasurer is elected and for all chapters to use QuickBooks for software. These can be purchased through Tech Soup at a reduced cost. At the workshops, she informs the treasurers of the reporting needed to be done to the IRS. Another goal is for her to get to know the treasurers and them to know each other; she wants them to know that she is available for

any questions they may have. She traveled to Redmond earlier this year and met with four members there and held a workshop yesterday before the Leadership Forum at which nine members were present. She has another planned on Friday, November 1, in Tillamook before the 4th Quarter Leadership Forum for treasurers in that area of the State.

Patrice also gives information about audits and best practices for them. She has created a form available on the OMGA website for sending in dues for members. She suggests that the position of treasurer be changed every few years. A discussion followed on why change so often since it is often difficult to find someone qualified to fill the position. Patrice said that it is a volunteer position, the person is not paid, background checks are generally not done, and outside audits are generally not performed. The position of OMGA treasurer is limited to two years according to bylaws but the person can continue if voted to do so by the Board of Directors.

Patrice emphasized that one does not need to know how to do bookkeeping to hold the position or have a degree in accounting but be willing to work with numbers.

Marilyn Frankel (Multnomah) asked about presenting a budget and that will be done at the 4th Quarter meeting and be asked for approval.

Gardener's Pen—Marcia Sherry

Marcia Sherry, Newsletter Editor, reported that the deadline for the next issue, coming out in October, is September 20; the topic is "The Scoop on Compost." So far she has received one photo and no articles for the newsletter and would like members to submit articles related to projects that their chapters are involved in.

She said that she has been the editor for seven years with help from Kathy Burdett and would like to pass the job on to someone else for next year. She is willing to work with the new editor for a few issues. The job description is on the website for those interested. There was a discussion of software used and suggestions given for other programs to use.

It was noted that not all members receive the Gardeners' Pen. OMGA representatives can be instrumental in getting it sent out. It is sent to the presidents of all chapters, the representatives and the alternate representatives. A discussion was held on how to get members to read it; suggestions included printing copies and make them available at the Extension Office and at meetings and highlight articles to create interest. It was noted that some members still prefer a printed copy as opposed to an online copy.

OMGA Website/Database—Seamus Ramirez

Seamus Ramirez, Database Manager, asked that email addresses of newsletter editors be sent to Eric or Seamus so that Seamus can create a dedicated list and have links to other chapters' newsletters.

Seamus also asked that members send in changes to personnel as they occur so he may keep the database updated as opposed to sending them in after he sends out the latest list.

State Program Coordinator—Gail Langellotto

Gail Langellotto, State Program Coordinator, was not able to attend and sent apologies. She had sent a report to all members of the Board of Directors, which follows.

Dear Colleagues,

As summer is winding down, I hope that you have found time to enjoy the Oregon sunshine.

My summer has been a blur. I spent three weeks sampling bees, for what is the final year of my garden bee study ([65 species documented, thus far, with more yet to ID](#)). Another two weeks were spent at conferences (the International Master Gardener Conference in King of Prussia, PA and the International Pollinator Conference in Davis, CA). Many days have been spent recording lectures for an [online certificate program in Urban Agriculture](#) (the first in the nation, with first classes to be taught this academic year! ~ fliers attached) or working on MG staffing or other priorities. Now that my field research is winding down, I've started to work on a field guide of Western Oregon garden bees. I hope to publish this guide through EESC, in tandem with another Extension publication on 'Attracting Beneficial Insects with Native Plants (Western Oregon)', which will be based upon Aaron Anderson's Ph.D. research.

I will not be at the 3rd Quarterly Board meeting. My husband and I made a spur of the moment decision to go to Hawaii for the OSU vs Hawaii football game . . . something that happens every 3-5 years, and something that has been on our bucket list for a long time. I've really been suffering from burnout, these past few months. My health has taken a huge toll ~ and I'm trying to take more time to enjoy life away from work. This does not mean that I'm going to become a slacker, or that I'm abandoning the MG program. I love this program, and my passion is to make a positive difference in Community Horticulture Extension, Education, and Research, before I retire. What I'm trying to do is course correct, and take care of my health before it really starts to impact my quality of life and my job. I like to think of this phase of my life as 'experiments in work-life balance' . . . since I have had very little balance over the course of my career. Some of you know that my husband owns and operates a commercial cleaning business. This means that he works from 4-11pm most nights . . . which means that I would simply extend my work day well into the evening. This was fine in my 30s, and even in my 40s. But, I'm looking ahead to the next 12 years that I hope to work at OSU, and am thinking 'this isn't sustainable'. So, I'm trying something new . . . and that includes heading to Hawaii on September 7th. I will miss you all, and look forward to hearing about the board meeting, upon my return.

Items in my Report:

1. EMG Program Staffing Updates
2. Continuing Education Proposition ~ Provide Your Feedback
3. Use of Term 'Veteran Master Gardener'
4. Home Hort Retreat Subcommittee Update
5. Urban Ag Course Development and Online MG Course
6. Oregon Food Bank and Seed to Supper
7. Mini-College Notes

1. EMG Program Staffing Updates: this past year, a lot of my time has been allocated to staffing issues. I chaired the committee for the Lane County Extension Professor of Practice, and served as search advocate for a tenure track hire in Extension entomology. I've crafted the first drafts of Position Descriptions that will soon (hopefully) turn into a new Extension hire on the north coast, and a temp hire in the Columbia Gorge.

New Hires

- Erica Chernoh (Assistant Professor of Practice in Lane County). Erica will be working with Lane County Master Gardeners and commercial growers (with a focus on tree fruit and nut growers). Erica is fluent in Spanish, and has delivered Extension programming in Spanish. She has worked for Extension in California and in Oregon. She

has created new curricula at Chemeketa community college, where she has taught a wide array of subjects in horticulture and agriculture. She also has extensive international experience. We are lucky to be working with her.

- Carla Stables (Office Specialist in Yamhill County): Carla lives on a farm South of Gaston with her husband and two children. They raise dairy cows, meat goats, and horticultural crops. Her children are very active in 4-H and FFA. She enjoys working with the Master Gardeners at the Yamhill County fair and plant sale. She has spent the past 20 years working in the medical industry doing scheduling and insurance for a physical therapy clinic. She is looking forward to working with the Master Gardener association.
- Morgan Lyman (EPA in Josephine County) Morgan will be working with the Master Gardener and the 4-H Programs in Josephine Counties. She recently graduated from Oregon State with a degree in Animal Science. She is looking forward to meeting members of the Home Horticulture working group, and working in the Master Gardener Program.
- Amanda Noyes (temp EPA II in Clatsop County): Amanda moved to Astoria, OR from Astoria, Queens four years ago. Her passion for vegetable gardening led her to the Clatsop County Master Gardeners; she completed the training in spring of 2019. She previously worked in university administration at New York University and has a master's in theoretical linguistics from Georgetown University. She is very much looking forward to working with the Home Horticulture working group.

Resignations

- Rachel Suits (Outreach Program Coordinator, Hood River County): has taken a position with the White Salmon School District.
- Jade Wilson (OS1, Yamhill County): relocated to another area with her family.

Other Staffing Updates

- We anticipate hiring a new Professor of Practice to cover community horticulture and Master Gardeners, covering Clatsop and Tillamook counties. Some may view this as a loss ~ since Joy Jones was only located in Tillamook County. But, I see it as a gain for community horticulture, as Joy was split between 4-H, general agriculture, and Master Gardeners. The new Professor of Practice position will cover two counties, but only one program. And, there is a commitment to get on-the-ground assistance in EACH county, to support the efforts of the new Professor of Practice.
- We anticipate hiring a temporary Educational Program Assistant to cover the MG Program in Hood River County, for an 18-month period.

2. Master Gardener continuing education credit for reading research-based publications.

Sara Runkel brought up the idea offering continuing education credit for Master Gardener volunteers who read approved, research-based publications. We have drafted a proposal. Please take a look, and let us know what you think.

In order to make more continuing education (CE) opportunities available to Master Gardener Volunteers we are now officially approving CE credit for reading approved research-based publications that relate to sustainable gardening. These publications will provide in-depth information on a variety of gardening topics that volunteers can draw on when working in the plant clinic or providing community education. In addition this process will encourage volunteers to read OSU and other research-based publications with the added benefit of familiarizing volunteers with up-to-date resources that can be shared with clients. Each publication will qualify for one hour of CE. Some publications may take more or less time to read, but 60 minutes is a good average.

How to determine if a publication qualifies for CE.

Publications from the following sources are generally deemed appropriate: OSU Extension Catalog, other Extension Services, governmental organizations (i.e. Department of Agriculture, USDA, etc.). Where possible OSU

publications should be given preference. Publications should relate to sustainable gardening, home horticulture, or backyard and local food production. Providing a list of suggested and approved reading with web links is encouraged. This will make it easy for volunteers to access the publications and should prevent them from finding out of date publications that have been archived.

Example of a suggested reading list for August from the OSU Extension Catalog

Conserving Water in Your Yard and Garden

Fall and Winter Vegetable Gardening in the Pacific Northwest

Blossom-End Rot of Tomatoes

Picking and Storing Apples and Pears

A Guide to Collecting Soil Samples for Farms and Gardens

Cover Crops for Home Gardens

How to receive credit for reading research-based publications.

We want to ensure that you carefully and comprehensively read each publication, so that you are able to incorporate your new-found knowledge in your volunteer activities, as well as in your own garden. For each publication that you read, please report the following information in the Volunteer Reporting System (VRS), or turn in the following information to your Master Gardener coordinator.

1. Author. Year. Title. Publication Number or other identifying information.
2. Where you found or accessed the Publication
3. What is the overall goal of the publication?
4. List three things that you learned from reading this publication.
5. List two ways you can use this information in your volunteer service and/or your own garden.
6. Report 1 hour of CE per publication, in the VRS system (or the reporting system used in your county).

Example:

1. Jones and Sells. 2004. Rufous hummingbird. EC 1570.
2. I found it on the OSU Extension Catalog site. The direct link is <https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/sites/catalog/files/project/pdf/ec1570.pdf>
3. This publication teaches people about rufous hummingbird life history, behavior, and habitat.
4. I learned:
 - Rufous hummingbirds migrate to warmer climates in the fall, because there is no nectar in northern climates in fall and winter. In fact, they follow manzanita blooms as they migrate. I had thought that they migrate because they can't tolerate cold weather (which is probably also true, but I had not considered the nectar connection).
 - Rufous hummingbirds use spider webs to 'glue' together their nest materials. So cool!
 - Hummingbirds can live up to 5+ years. I had thought that their small size and high metabolism would promote a shorter lifespan.

5. I will use this information to:

- *Tell people what to plant for hummingbirds: bleeding hearts, red-flowering currant, salmonberry, columbine, fuschias, orange honeysuckle.*
- *Encourage people to consider how their cat might be impacting hummingbird populations.*

3. Use of the Term ‘Veteran Master Gardener’

Please consider moving away from the use of the term ‘Veteran Master Gardener’, and instead substitute the term with ‘Perennial Master Gardener’ or ‘Current Master Gardener’.

This suggested change in terminology is coincident with our program’s increasing outreach to military veterans, many of whom have joined our program as Master Gardener volunteers. This suggested change in terminology makes it less confusing for military veterans working in our program (are we referring to them? are we referring to other volunteers?). More importantly, it is helping to make our military veterans feel more welcome in the program, and their service respected.

As the MG Program continues to try and make our program more inclusive to all, please consider making this change on the local level, and communicating this change with your fellow volunteers. I welcome your comments on this suggestion.

4. Home Horticulture Retreat Subcommittee Update

The outcomes of our Home Horticulture working group retreat (held May, 2019) include:

- Updating our Mission and Vision Statement
- Drafting an Onboarding and Mentoring Program for Master Gardener Coordinators

Our subcommittee (composed of Pami Monnette, Sam Clayburn, Eric Bosler/Sue Nesbitt (OMGA representative), Nicole Sanchez, and Michelle Sager are working on these items, and plan to have concrete recommendations to advance to the entire group, in advance of our meeting at Extension Annual Conference.

5. Urban Ag Course Development and Online MG courses

- The Urban Ag courses that I referenced in the preface of this report are part of an overall certificate program that will result in a transcript-visible certificate in urban agriculture at OSU. But, we are also spinning off course content into non-credit, online trainings. These non-credit, online trainings are offered for a fee, that helps to fund the instructors.
- The development of an online certificate program in urban ag dovetails nicely with our efforts in online courses for Master Gardener volunteers and the gardening public. Folks who teach online courses for credit at OSU have access to OSU ECampus course development resources . . . something that was never made available to me when putting together non-credit, online course offerings. Developing the urban ag courses has thus helped to raise the quality of course delivery for the online MG program ~ including more videos and interactives. These will continue to grow, over time. Here’s an example of a new, intro video for the entomology module (<https://oregonstate.box.com/s/1qtkekxfwca3f4x9x2dgv3pckaahjhjo>) . . . you may need to have a Box account to view, but I tried to change the link settings so that you do not.
- This year, to assist with what we anticipate will be a shortage of OSU instructors for MG annual trainings, we are making all online MG classes free to county MG coordinators, for use in their annual MG trainings. This is a pilot project, that will be evaluated at the end of training. I rely on income from the online MG classes to pay the online MG course instructor. However, I suspect that most of the traffic we get for paid courses comes from outside of the MG Program (many are in other states or countries), and that making the online modules free for use should not negatively impact my ability to fund the people who work in my program.

6. Oregon Food Bank and Seed to Supper

- I received a lot of feedback, from multiple counties, regarding different interpretations of a recent conference call between the Oregon Food Bank and Seed to Supper facilitators. I am collecting feedback from county MG coordinators, to inform a discussion scheduled for September 11th at the Oregon Food Bank. I have heard conflicting accounts related to that phone call ~ so I don't want to summarize the issues, here. In fact, there are different interpretations of what the issues are. For now, I want the OMGA to know that I am gathering information, and am looking forward to the September 11th meeting with the OFB.

7. Mini-College: A few notes, related to Mini-College discussions:

- There is a hold on the Alumni Center for July 24-25th, 2020, in case the OMGA would like to go forward with Mini-College
- I have submitted a query to OSU Housing and Dining, to find out about dorm space and dining hall options. I will share information with Sue Nesbitt, once received.
- I have submitted a request to the Hilton Garden Inn, Holiday Inn, and Courtyard Marriott for proposals for hotel housing. I will share their proposals with Sue Nesbitt, once received.
- Sue and I met with the new coordinator of the Oregon Master Food Preservers, to talk about hosting a joint conference. They are interested in partnering on this event ~ where partnership means making a place and space for MFP classes/workshops, attendees, fundraising options (silent auction). We decided, since there are so many more MGs than MFPs, that it still makes sense for the OMGA to be the fiscal agent for Mini-College.

Take care,

Gail Langellotto, Ph.D.

Statewide Coordinator, Oregon State University Extension Master Gardener Program

Professor of Horticulture, Oregon State University

4017 ALS Building, Corvallis, OR 97331

Office Phone: 541-737-5175

Email: gail.langellotto@oregonstate.edu

Eric reviewed some of the items in the report. He commented on the ongoing staffing changes, which have involved much of Gail's time. He noted that the report includes guidelines for receiving educational credit for readings. He explained Number 3 in the report related to the use of "veteran" Master Gardener" and the suggestion it not be used. The background is that there is a program for military veterans, Boots to Roots, which some chapters are involved in; using the term veteran Master Gardeners becomes confusing for those involved. It was suggested to use the term "perennial", but not all Master Gardeners like the term. OMGA does not make a decision on what terms to use. Note that Gail is open to suggestions on this subject.

Related to Part 5 of her report, which discusses the Urban Ag Courses, additional information may be found in [Appendix A](#).

A Guide to Using Modules from the ONLINE MASTER GARDENER TRAINING PROGRAM may be found in [Appendix B](#).

OMGA Grants and Awards Report—Chairs

There were none made by the chairs.

OMGA Committee Reports—Chairs

No committee reports were given.

Activity

Announce State and Chapter recognitions including statewide longevity awards. Celebrate the achievements and the accomplishments of our membership.

Shortly before lunch, State and Chapter awards were announced and distributed to those receiving them or to a representative. Awards made to chapter members included County Master Gardeners of the Year, County Behind the Scenes Award winners, and Longevity Awards of 20, 30 and 40 years.

Among those present to receive their awards were the following:

Eric Bosler (Central Gorge): State Master Gardener of the Year

Tobie Habeck (Marion County): State Master Gardener of the Year

Barbara Davidson (Jackson County): nominee for State Master Gardener of the Year

Jim Liskey (Marion County): State Behind the Scenes Award

Those attending were invited to lunch prepared by Linn County Master Gardener Association, which included a special cake to honor the award winners. Those who helped with the preparation and serving were Janice Gregg, Karin Magnuson, Ann Kinkley, Betty Goergen, and Randy Peckham.

Old Business

OMGA Educational Mandate – Mini-College Survey & Planning--Sue Nesbitt

Sue Nesbitt had sent out a questionnaire earlier this summer asking members to respond to three questions:

1. What type of educational program and activities would make Mini-College so compelling that the members of your chapter would not want to miss it? For example, would hands-on laboratory courses be interesting? What about educational workshops that produced a product that you could use in your plant clinics? What ideas and/suggestions/or thoughts do the members of your chapters have.
2. For a slight increase in cost we could hire an event coordinator who would take over the majority of the organizational arrangements and minutia that take so much of the Coordinators time and energy. Would your chapter members be willing to pay a slightly higher fee to attend Mini-College?
3. Where in the state would your chapter suggest holding Mini-College and in what type of facility? For example, there are convention centers, colleges, community colleges, hotels, casinos, etc. Does your chapter have a preference and a suggestion?

Responses to these questions may be found in [Appendix C](#). A location suggested was the campus of Oregon State University because of the personnel and research labs available. Sue met with Gail Langellotto and they were able to come up with two possible dates: Friday and Saturday, June 26 and 27, or Friday and Saturday, July 24 and 25. Master Food Preservers were invited to be part of the event and Sue has met with Joy Waite-Cusic to help plan the event. A Leadership Forum and Board of Directors meeting would be held on Thursday preceding the event. Joy Waite-Cusic has a

greenhouse available where workshops could be held. Classes and tours would be half-day; the tours would be held at the same time as classes but some would be repeated so that attendees could have more options in choosing. Members would receive educational credit for both tours and classes.

There are several options for housing. Dorms are available; for 2019, the cost is \$27.25 for a single and \$19.25 per person for a double room. The rooms are not air-conditioned. The Hilton Garden rate for 2019 is \$152.00 and the Marriot Courtyard is \$142.00, both discounted conference rates. A campground is located nearby and camping is available at the fairground. Meal rates are \$7.25 for breakfast, \$9.25 for lunch, and \$10.25 for dinner; this does not include the banquet.

Sue asked how to proceed. So far she is working with Eric and Sheri Bosler (Central Gorge), Julie Huynh, Second Vice President, and Master Food Preservers to organize the event. She would like an additional three to four people to help with the banquet, tours, bookstore, silent auction, and chapter displays. Janette Woosley may handle the registration which would include making nametags and handling the evaluation after the event. The cost in 2018 at Linfield College was \$45.00 per day with lunch included but the cost may be more at OSU.

Eric said that the plan is to have workshops and presentations at an advanced level with a keynote presentation to the general public and have tours of facilities at the University. There may be additional costs for materials for workshops.

Discussion followed with many comments from attendees; members were supportive of the plans presented and liked the plan to have high quality presentations and to be able to receive state of art information.

Suggestions were made to hold the Mini College every two years with possible lesser events in the off years.

Several members offered to help. Sue plans to have those interested in helping with the planning meet one time face-to-face and all future meetings would be by conference call.

OSU Extension Home Horticulture Work Group—Sue Nesbitt and Eric Bosler

As Gail had indicated in her report, Eric and Sue are working with the Home Horticulture group to write a vision and mission statement.

OMGA Officer and Chairs Recruitment – Group Discussion

Chris Rusch, President-Elect, is looking to fill positions for the Executive Committee. She has a possible person to serve as Secretary. Positions still open include President-Elect, 1st Vice President, and Newsletter Editor. Representatives are asked to encourage members of their chapters to consider these positions.

Silent Auction at 4th Quarter Board Meeting – Sue Nesbitt

Sue reported that since no Silent Auction was held because Mini College was cancelled, chapters have been asked to bring three items having a value of \$25.00 each to the 4th Quarter Leadership Forum and Meeting, November 1 and 2, in Tillamook. Many chapters have responded with a variety of items, included stained glass items, wine, a quilted wall hanging, hypertufa pots, and a handcrafted wooden bowl. Chapters should send photos to Sue of the items being offered by September 30 and

a booklet will be available to all chapters showing the items; members may bid on them in advance by contacting their representatives. Software may be available to do online bidding.

Educational Support Funding – ECCo

Not all the funds budgeted for Extension Educator Grants were used and OMGA is looking for possible programs to fund with these. One possibility is ECCo, a program being developed by Amy Jo Detweiler, Extension Agent for Central Oregon, that would put questions brought to plant clinics into a database. A goal is to interface with a program that Weston Miller uses in Multnomah County. Cyndy Shorter (Marion County) said that a request had been brought to her chapter for funding this program and the chapter funded it with \$500.00 with a matching donation from Marion County Extension. Since there were questions about how the program will work, Amy Jo will be asked to present information about the program at a future meeting.

New Business

Chapter Membership Guidelines - Eric Bosler

Eric noted that there have been questions about membership as Master Gardeners. OMGA does not dictate who chapter members are, other than to indicate who is a certified member.

OMGA Chapter Rep Job Description – Group Discussion

Eric asked if it was necessary for OMGA to write a job description for Chapter Representatives. It was noted that in the Representative Handbook there is a page on Guidelines and Expectations which lists suggested duties of a Representative. It was felt that this is sufficient. Eric asked that chapters that have written job descriptions send them to him. An orientation is planned for representatives at the 1st Quarterly Meeting next year. Representatives are invited to the retreat December 2 and 3, 2019 at Hopkins Demonstration Forest in Clackamas County and can get more information about OMGA at that time.

Chapter Rep Scholarships – Group Discussion

Eric noted that small chapters often do not have funds to send representatives to OMGA Leadership Forums and Quarterly meetings. Members have indicated that they support having scholarships available to help these representatives with costs. It was also suggested that local members of chapters hosting meetings invite representatives to stay in their homes. A draft of a scholarship plan will be available at the next OMGA meeting.

Announcements

2019 OMGA Meeting Dates – Host Chapters

There was no action on this item.

For the good of the cause

Karen Graham (Washington County) commented on the problems that her chapter has had related to banking and insurance because of the structure of OMGA. To reduce the cost of insurance, there has been discussion of getting a blanket OMGA insurance policy that would cover all chapters. Patrice Sipos has contacted the company and is awaiting a response about a policy. She had also asked about liability insurance for OMGA officers and was told that considering the type of organization that OMGA is, it is not needed. She recently learned that in addition to filing taxes with the IRS for OMGA, she needs to file for all chapters individually; she needs additional documents from the chapters to do this and will be contacting chapter treasurers to get the information.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 pm.

Submitted by Marcille Ansorge
OMGA Secretary

Executive Committee	Leadership Forum	Board of Directors
Friday, February 1, 2019 Linn County Extension Office Tangent, OR	Friday, March 1, 2019 Marion County Salem, OR	Saturday, March 2, 2019 Marion County Salem, OR Cyndy Shorter, Contact
Friday, May 3, 2019 Linn County Extension Office Tangent, OR	Friday, June 7, 2019 Jackson County	Saturday, June 8, 2019 Jackson County Susan Koenig, Contact
Friday, August 2, 2019 Linn County Extension Office Tangent, OR	Friday, September 6, 2019 Linn County, Tangent, OR	Saturday, September 7, 2019 Linn County Tangent, OR Janice Gregg, Contact
Friday, October 4, 2109 Linn County Extension Office Tangent, OR	Friday, November, 1, 2019 Tillamook County Tillamook, OR	Saturday, November 2, 2019 Tillamook County Tillamook, OR Linda Stephenson, Contact



eCampus Course

CASE STUDIES IN URBAN AGRICULTURE: HORT 483, SPRING 2020

Take this course to explore the diverse business models of urban farmers!

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Provides an overview of diverse endeavors that are available to potential urban agriculturists. These include urban and peri-urban farms (for profit and non-profit), community and school gardens, controlled climate facilities, rooftop farms and gardens, and more.

Special Topics Include:

- Analyze personal interviews with urban farmers from multiple states.
- Model a personal, hypothetical urban farm.
- Identify factors of successful urban farm operation.



Information about the course is available by contacting the instructor, Mykl Nelson.

Instructor's email: mykl.nelson@oregonstate.edu



eCampus Course

INTRODUCTION TO URBAN AGRICULTURE: HORT 283, WINTER 2020

Ever wondered how classic agricultural concepts can be adapted to the urban environment? Take this course to find out!

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Focuses on the adaptation of agricultural principles to the urban environment, specifically the production of plant crops. Topics include: (I) urban environments and infrastructure, (II) urban crop production practices, (III) urban markets and farm management. Exposes students to a breadth of issues that they should consider in order to be a successful urban grower.

Special Topics Include:

- Trends of modern urban agricultural systems
- Microclimatic variation within an urban environment.
- Basics of urban agricultural production management.
- Creating a hypothetical urban production plot.
- Preparing for a future in urban agriculture.



Information about the course is available by contacting the instructor, Mykl Nelson.

Instructor's email: mykl.nelson@oregonstate.edu

Guide to Using Modules from the ONLINE MASTER GARDENER TRAINING PROGRAM

As a service to Oregon Master Gardener Coordinators, pre-recorded training modules from the online MG course are available for your use in your 2020 annual Master Gardener trainings, **free of charge**.

MODULES AVAILABLE FOR 2020 TRAININGS Grouped by MG Curriculum Category		Lecture length
Required Classes category		
Intro to the Oregon MG Program (<i>updated yearly</i>)		1 hr
Botany Basics		1 hr
Pesticide Safety		1 ½ hrs
Plant Problem Diagnosis category		
Diagnosing Plant Problems		1 hr
Introduction to Entomology (2020 update)		<i>tbd</i>
Plant Pathology (2020 update)		<i>tbd</i>
Sustainable Gardening category		
Soils, Fertilizers and Compost		1 hr 10 min
Integrated Pest Management		1 hr 40 min
Sustainable Landscape Design		1 ½ hrs
Sustainable Landscape Management		45 min
Gardening with PNW Native Plants (<i>new for 2020</i>)		<i>tbd</i>
Back yard and Community Food Production category		
Vegetable Gardening		1 hr
Container Gardening		30 min
Elective Classes		
Pruning Woody Ornamentals		¾ hr
Herbaceous Ornamental Plants		1 ½ hrs
Woody Landscape Plants		1 hr

EACH MODULE INCLUDES

- ☐ A narrated, multi-part PowerPoint lecture
- ☐ A .pdf transcription of the lecture
- ☐ An assignment to put learning into practice
- ☐ One or more chapters from the Oregon "Sustainable Gardening" MG manual
- ☐ Supplemental materials: readings, website links, videos
- ☐ Optional self-test (using your own testing procedures is recommended)

YOU MAY USE ANY OF THESE MATERIALS FOR YOUR ANNUAL BASIC MASTER GARDENER TRAINING.

How to Access the Class Modules

1. Decide which module(s) you would like to use, and how.
2. REGISTER THE MODULES THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO USE FOR THE YEAR with **Signe Danler**, signe.danler@oregonstate.edu, 541-908-1307. Also contact Signe with questions.
3. View a brief training video (that will be provided) on how to set up a Canvas shell (if you already have one, go to Step 5).
4. FOR HELP IN CREATING YOUR OWN CANVAS SHELL contact Susan Yeager at PACE, Susan.Yeager@oregonstate.edu
5. You will be given a link to the modules, which you can then import into your own Canvas shell.
6. At the end of Master Gardener training, you will be asked to provide feedback via a Qualtrix survey on how well the modules integrated into your annual training, as well as on the modules themselves.

Five Options for Using the Class Modules

1. Give your trainees access to all or part of each online module through your Canvas shell. If you are using the online modules for this option, the online class modules should constitute no more than 50% of the classes that you offer, as part of your annual Master Gardener training.
2. Use an on-line module as part of a flipped classroom – trainees watch the lecture and do readings on their own, then attend class for hands-on activities.
3. Show the recorded lecture in class in lieu of a live lecturer.
4. Use as an emergency replacement for a cancelled class.
5. Allow a trainee to make up a missed class. This option should be used sparingly.

What type of educational programs would make Mini-College so compelling that members would not want to miss it.

1. More hands-on training, hands on demos, hands on laboratory courses (7-chapter responses), These give us more educational tools to assist with questions in our community. Must be well organized!!!!
2. Workshops or plant clinics including diagnostic diseases, Pest ID, no-till growing, soil conservation and sustainable amendments.
3. Bees: differentiating wasps, bees, flies with the opportunity to try skills by some sort of lab practice using specimens of each.
4. Video produced by Canadian woman, Susan Simard, on how trees talk to each other.
5. Growing tomatoes in Oregon – different types for different areas, challenges such as keeping them alive, virus free and the different types and tastes.
6. Artistic craft projects, workshops to make items you can take home and put in your garden (mini-garden, mason bee houses), hyper-tufa planters, flower arranging.
7. Not so many crafts.
8. Advance training with longer sessions – 2 responses
9. Classes on soil, composting, pruning, plant disease, pest control, invasive plant ID and how to manage them, how to survive with deer, rabbits, moles and gophers(multiple responses in various forms and formats).
10. Garden design, landscaping design, terracing, water systems.
11. Hydroponic gardening, indoor and out (there is an offer from a MG to teach this class)
12. Growing food plants indoors all year long
13. Plant propagation: grafting, starting plants from cuttings, air layering. – 3 responses.
14. Starting seeds indoors, up-potting and transplanting, lighting requirements, potting soil and how to make your own.
15. Pruning – especially how to keep fruit trees small by pruning all summer,
16. Growing exotic plants such as figs, passion fruit, Saskatoon berries, etc. Suggestion to contact One Green World and Portland Nursery as possible presenters.
17. Specialty crops such as orchids
18. Edible landscapes
19. Pollinator friendly landscapes
20. Mulching
21. Tours of local sights, gardens, and businesses related to Master Gardening.
22. Tours of field trials
23. Tours nice; but, not compelling.
24. Organize a one-day Garden Market of local vendors: advertise this to the public.
25. Be sure to have a social event or two for networking.
26. The latest in fruit production by OSU staff.
27. Instruction in Hugelkultur.
28. Seed saving.
29. New methodologies and current gardening events that are in the news.
30. Bee poisonings
31. Statewide issues with a comparative approach
32. Climate Change – how can we be aware of and have the tools to combat the weather changes and new invasive bugs and diseases.

33. International imports and their impact on gardening.
34. Good business practices for successful plant sales.
35. Topics for speakers and activities at mini-college should all support the mission and long-range goals for OMGA, provide educational value and be timely (e.g. last year's climate change talk was excellent)
36. A workshop that presented ideas for family-oriented educational gardening activities/sessions.
37. Classes taught by experts. The class offerings need to include options that we do not normally have at our local chapter level. Maybe pair up a more unusual class offering at the same time as a more commonly offered class might appeal to more. Garden tours, workshops and a variety of events including wine tours, if we are in wine country. Hands on skill classes like pruning, garden design, native plants, and plant specific sessions would be helpful. Classes should also be relevant to us in that we should be able to apply what we've learned to our gardens. Theory is good, but it needs to be balanced with relevance or practical application.

Teaching Methods

1. More new and innovative ideas for plant clinic educators to use to entice the community to come to the booth including question signs, insect photos, dirt comparisons
2. Coordination between plant clinics, practicums, community education and garden education – how to capture OSU sanctioned education to disseminate in various ways.
3. Keep these classes for Master Gardeners only and have a class on teaching methods so the MGs can then teach the public in their counties.

For a slight increase in cost, OMGA could hire an event coordinator who would take over the majority of the organizational arrangements and minutia that take so much of the Coordinators time and energy. Would members be willing to pay a slightly higher fee to attend Mini-College?

1. Yes, worth the money for their knowledge and expertise of the local area. It is getting harder to find OMGA volunteers who can spend hours getting those details taken of. – 10 yes responses.
2. Yes, but no more than \$20 higher. Another suggestion was \$10 – 15 dollars higher.
3. No, Volunteers should be able to complete the assignments. Not really concerned about having an expert put it together.
4. No, it is already too expensive.

Where in the state would your chapter suggest holding Mini-College and in what type of facility?

1. Portland is the only logical choice. Maybe Portland State University would work with us. They may have dorm rooms available and the city is accessible via Max.
2. Not in Portland.
3. Avoid places that are not accessible by commercial airlines. Thus, Portland works well for this. Casinos are terrible for almost anything other than gambling and usually inconveniently located to other opportunities.
4. Have regional conferences and encourage all chapters to attend. 2 responses
5. Colleges such as Linfield or OSU – 2 responses specifically for OSU, 6 responses for colleges in general.

6. Community Colleges such as Umpqua Community College, Bend Community College or Lane Community. They thought there would be more space available for hands on classes and that it would be less expensive. 4 responses for community colleges.
7. Casinos such as Seven Feathers or one of the ones located at the coast or The Mill Casino – they take care of all the logistics. (There were a couple of votes against a Casino).
8. Any place that has A/C and is centrally located. Community facilities such as fairgrounds. 2 chapter responses
9. Anyplace with hands-on areas such as the OSU Experiment Gardens and Stations.
10. Eugene
11. Willamette Valley – it is centrally located.
12. Linfield works – why change – 2 responses
13. Astoria would be fun since the community college isn't at full capacity in the summer and Astoria has a variety of accommodations within walking distance. It is also a beautiful location with a variety of entertainment – depending on timing. However, if it is necessary to rely on the local chapter this is a rather small group.
14. Have an RV park near-by so people can travel in their RVs
15. Inexpensive. (2 responses)
16. West of the Cascades – can get more speakers from OSU
17. A hotel or convention center would offer more flexibility in the dates. With a college we are limited to the summer when their classrooms are available.
18. How about doing a one-day mini-college?
19. What about doing mini-college every two years? This could be a two-day event. Location could rotate throughout the state. One year in Corvallis, two years later in Southern Oregon, then Portland, the coast, etc. Perhaps local MG chapters could help with planning logistics when mini-college is held in/near their county.
20. Several places were suggested for holding Mini-College. CGMGA members liked it when mini-college was held at Oregon State University and Lindfield College. We also thought that Bend, and La Grande would be a good place to have Mini-College. If mini-college were to be held in Bend, a rafting trip down the Deschutes could be included. The coast would offer other possibilities and would be a nice place to have Mini-College. We also thought though that a hotel with lots of rooms for classes and places to socialize would be great. One of Master Gardeners who attended Mini-College at Lindfield said that the campus apartment was very dirty and that she fell off of the top bunk. The bathroom also had to be cleaned before it could be used.

Timing:

1. Early fall or late spring
2. Change the date to fall/spring? October/April? This might be something to think about. Even though many MGs are retired, summer is still a busy time for travel, working in our own gardens, working in the MG gardens or other summer-season MG volunteer activities, spending time with extended families and friends, etc. I have not been involved in the planning of mini-college so changing from a summer date could likely make scheduling of speakers more difficult (e.g. college instructors are more likely to have time in the summer as opposed to fall/spring).

Other

1. Make the presentations available via the computer so members can participate remotely.

2. Attend remotely for an additional fee.
3. Call it a conference – not Mini-College or G2
4. Free beer😊
5. Make the classes “regionally relevant”.
6. Expert speakers that speak on a regular basis as professionals
7. Exciting knowledgeable speakers – 2 responses
8. Consider vendors to generate additional revenue.
9. Promote networking and be purposeful in facilitating the networking, perhaps expanding it to include other states – 2 responses. The potluck so MGs can meet new people and learn more about other chapters.
10. Do every other year. 2 responses.
11. The recognition given to innovative ideas within a chapter along with highlighting MGs who have shown initiative and given time to their chapter is a thoughtful way to show others how to be successful
12. Divide the money that would be spent on Mini-College among the chapters that have their own educational events to assist them.
13. Have a Mini-College that travels around the state, could have different speakers at different locations and make use of Extension Employees like Brooke Edmonds, Neil Bell, etc. Could be only 1 day long.
14. Other suggestions for improving mini-college were to do lots of promotion, and to encourage each chapter member to participate in mini-college. More opportunities to socialize and get to know other Master Gardeners was also brought up. It was also suggested to change the name, as some thought that mini lessens the importance of the event you are trying to get people to attend.