

OMGA Retreat Agenda
December 2 and 3, 2019
10 AM
Hopkins Demonstration Forest
Everett Hall
316750 S Brockway Rd, Oregon City, OR 97045

President Chris Rusch and Past President Eric Bosler led the retreat. Officers, representatives and guests from Benton, Central Gorge, Clackamas, Douglas, Jackson, Lincoln, Linn, Multnomah, and Washington counties attended.

Discussions on Monday, December 2, 2019:

1. Mini-College:

After brainstorming, the attendees decided on the theme for the upcoming mini-college: GPS: Growing, Provide, Sustain. The logo was designed by Marcia Sherry.

Chairperson Reports

Budget – A draft of the 2020 Mini-college budget was passed out and reviewed.

The attendees voted to have an Early Bird Registration: \$49 per day (including lunch) if registered and paid by July 10, 2020. After July 10, the registration will be \$59 per day (including lunch).

Registration – Karen Graham, Washington County Representative, volunteered to handle registration for Mini-college.

Speakers – Shari Bosler & Julie Huynh: Robert Pyle, Ph.D. will be the keynote speaker for Mini-college. The topic will be on insect conservation and decline. Shari and Julie will finalize arrangements. Gail will check with the OSU Entomologist team to see if they would like him to stay and talk with them.

Bookstore – Barbara Davidson: Shamus has volunteered to co-chair

Publicity – Eric Bosler:

- Eric will send out information to the chapters to via chapter e-mails
- Promote at the Winter Classes
- “Save the Date” on the OMGA website
- Bookmarks to pass out
- Posters at the Plant Sales and information booths (Marsha will design)
- Promotions for radio and newspapers

Cookie Coordinator – Polly Blum

Award Certificates – Marcia Sherry

Thursday Evening Social – Rich Taylor:

- After discussion, the majority of the attendees thought viewing a Corvallis Knights evening game from the skybox would be a fun outing. Rich will make the arrangements.

Chairpersons Needed

Tours

Workshops

Sent-A-Friend Raffle

Silent Auction – (Paula L. volunteered) Suggested having the raffle pick-up and payment at 4 pm after the Closing Ceremony (Chris Rusch will be the speaker)

Friday Banquet – How to encourage more people to attend. One suggestion was to have only the state awards, not chapter awards. Have chapters make posters with pictures of local awards to put up in common areas.

Decorations – (Alumni Center – Jannice volunteered)

Decisions Needed:

- Chapter Displays – should we have them, contest for best display, chapters must RSVP by early March
 - Chapter Sales – do we want to have them (YES), check on chapter participation before the event open to vendors, vendors provide raffle prizes as part of fee
 - Contact OSU Printing for cost of pamphlets
 - Speakers Gifts – Gift cards, cash, flat rate stipend. Put together a package for speakers. Key Note Speaker \$750 travel and room.
 - OSU Housing will handle dorm registration. Follow-up.
2. Gail Langellotto gave a slide presentation on the Extension services and budget concerns for the Oregon State University Extension programs. The focus of the Extension programs is on youth programs, which affects other programs, including the Master Gardener program.
 3. OMGA Quarterly Meetings:
 - March 6-7
 - July 23, 1:00 PM, Board of Directors Meeting, Hilton Garden Inn, University Room, Corvallis (No Educational Forum)
 - September 4-5 Yamhill County (McMinnville)
 - November 1-2 Multnomah County
 4. Educational Forums for 2020: Members were asked to suggest relevant topics for the September and November Quarterly Educational Forums.

5. Educational Forum for Friday, March 6: Chris and Marcille will coordinate the March 6, 2020 OMGA Representative Orientation. This will be for new and returning representative. The Handbook is available at omga.org/omga-reps-handbook.
6. 2020 Budget: Patrice provided a copy of the 2020 budget finalized at the last Executive Board Meeting. She noted that the 2019 taxes were \$1,071 while only \$800 was budgeted. She adjusted the 2020 budget accordingly.
7. Patrice will hold Treasurer Workshops during 2020. The dates and places are to be determined. Patrice's 2020 goal is to have all chapters 1) convert to Quick Books, and 2) set up email addresses for chapter treasurers so treasurer business will go to a designated email and not to a personal email. These workshops are for new and returning treasurers. Contact Patrice psiposcb@gmail.com if there are topics you would like to cover. Audit information (what to look for during the annual audit) will be covered in the workshop.
8. Filling the President-Elect and Vice President positions: How do we attract volunteers to fill these positions? The Vice President's job description will be rewritten to exclude the Mini-college now that there is a committee for the Mini-college.
9. 2020 Focus for OMGA – Developing an action plan

OMGA Retreat 2020 Goals & Actions

The following outlines the results of the brainstorming session held at the OMGA Retreat on 12/03/2019. The topics were “prioritized” as noted. It should be noted that there are several ongoing Goals & Actions which are carryover priorities. A primary example of this is OMGA Mini-College.

Priority One:

Advocate for Extension in general and the Master Gardener Program specifically.

In face of shrinking staffing and funding for OSU Extension and particularly for the Master Gardener program on campus and at the chapter level around the state OMGA should develop and initiate a program to actively pursue the University leadership and decision makers to reverse the long term trend of eroding support for the Master Gardener program

Priority Two:

OMGA should continue its financial support for “Educational Content.”

Resources that can be used throughout the Master Gardener Program to further our mission of educational outreach. The MG Webinar Series and the Electronic Client Contact Program (ECCo) are examples of programs to receive continued support. Identification of available educational materials/information should be undertaken and links for accessing these provided to the Chapters. OMGA's Educational Forums (formerly Leadership) should continue to identify topics and provide programs in the same vein.

Priority Three:

Identify and recruit people to take on the tasks/jobs that need to be done now and in the future.

“Mine the Mine” Inventory the skill/interest of MGs. Survey electronic format.

Priority Four:

Form a working committee to continue developing a better understanding of our “legal” standing.

How the State of Oregon sees OMGA and the individual Chapters.

What’s the specifics of OSU, OMGA, Chapter with regard to liability insurance and are there options for coverage from and at each level.

Risk assessment for the individual, Chapter, OMGA.

Priority Five:

Search out ways to enhance membership retention/diversity.

Model – Mentorship

Develop a more “Welcoming Attitude.”

Non-Prioritized Goals & Actions:

Reach out to the Chapters and ask; “How can we (OMGA) help.

Outreach:

Continue to expand existing and search out new avenues of communication.

Refine and better utilize OMGA’s website.

Expand access to MG’s via email (possibly develop an Opt-in email program)

Expand and better use Social Media

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ACTION ITEMS:

Chris & Marcille: Send out OMGA Representative Orientation information to chapter presidents and representatives prior to March Education Forum.

Update the job description for the OMGA Vice President

Rich Taylor: Make arrangements for the Mini-college Thursday night social in the skybox at the Corvallis Knights game.

Gail Langellotto: Check to see if OSU Entomologist team has an interest in having Bob Pyle stay and talk to them.