



## Oregon Master Gardener Association

### First Quarter Chapter Reports

2020

#### COUNTY

Benton County  
Central Gorge Chapter  
Central Oregon  
Clackamas County  
Clatsop County  
Coos County  
Curry County  
Douglas County  
Jackson County  
Josephine County  
Lane County  
Lincoln County  
Linn County  
Marion County  
Multnomah County  
Polk County  
Tillamook County  
Washington County  
Yamhill County

#### SUBMITTED BY

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# Benton County Master Gardener's Association 1st Quarter 2020 Report

Submitted by Richard Taylor

**BCMGA Plant Sale Transition Plan:** We are in year 2 of our transition to 100% propagated perennials. The transition will be complete by 2024. Our chapter is extremely interested in learning “best practices” of other county chapters and will be working closely with neighboring counties. We hope to leverage our combined resources for purchasing the materials needed at the best possible costs to maximize the success of our plant sales.

Sale Year	Dug Perennials	Propagated Perennials	% Propagated Perennials
2020	5400	600	10
2021	4800	1200	20
2022	3600	2400	40
2023	2400	3600	60
2024	0	6000	100

### Insights into Gardening:

The one-day educational event was held at La Sells Stewart Center on the OSU campus on February 8, 2020. The event sold out two weeks in advance and we had nearly 400 attendees! The organizing committee has already reviewed the surveys from attendees and have identified ways to make the event even better. Since the classes were completely sold out, some may be repeated next year to give people the opportunity to attend that weren't able to this year.

### Gearing Up for Gardening:

The 2020 series of 8 weekly free gardening talks, held at the Corvallis Public Library, were nearly full, with 90 – 100 attendees each week. The theme this year was The Nuts and Bolts of Gearing Up for Gardening, offering talks about preparing your garden before the growing season. Unfortunately, the last talk on soil preparation had to be cancelled due to illness. Maybe next year!

### Upcoming Membership Meetings:

Our Vice President, Alan Taylor, has the first two programs scheduled so far for this year.

- March 16**      **Jumpstarting Your Vegetable Garden – Darren Morgan, nursery manager for Shonnards Nursery.**
- April**        **Birds and Gardening – Bill Probst**
- May**          **Pruning – Erica Chernoh – Lane County Extension**

## **CENTRAL GORGE MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION**

### **2020 First Quarterly Report**

#### **Hood River County**

Spring is almost here and as Master Gardeners we are certainly looking forward to it. This time of year gives us opportunities to look over our seed catalogs and begin planning our Spring and Summer gardens.

We ended 2019 in our greenhouse with our Holiday Greenery Event. We make wreaths and swags for ourselves and our community to be distributed to the Fish Food Bank and WGAP.

As we enter 2020 the main focus for Hood River County is the training of new Master Gardeners, and preparation for our plant Sale. Our Plant Sale this year will be on May 9, 2020 from 9-1pm.

In March we have invited the Community to three classes, Vertebrate Pest Management and Vegetable Gardening on March 7, 2020, Growing Berries on March 14, 2020, and Herbaceous Ornamental Plants on March 25, 2020. These classes are a bargain at \$10.00.

Our first CGMGA Association Meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2020. We have planned a fun event with pizza, salads and desserts provided by the Executive Committee. Francis Fisher will present a talk about native bees. Francis moved to Hood River from Bozeman, MT and works for Friends of the Columbia Gorge Land Trust. She has a bachelor degree in Ecology and Entomology with a focus on native bees. Also, project leaders will be presenting their projects for 2020. Sign-ups for these various projects will take place at the Association Meeting.

Central Gorge Master Gardeners are beginning plans for our 2021 Garden Tour. This project takes 15+ months to prepare and plan for, and we will be kicking off the 2021 Garden Tour with a first meeting this spring and garden visits in June/July.

Submitted By:

Barbara Kilkenny

Central Gorge Master Gardener Association



## First Quarter Report to OMGA Board of Directors Winter 2020

We started our year with a Board Meeting on January 2<sup>nd</sup>. New and continuing Board members are: President, Nancy Glick; Vice Presidents, Liz Anderson and Elizabeth Hughes-Weide; Secretary, Vickie Minor; Treasurer, Tim Schindele; State Representative, Janet Dart; Alternate State Rep, Diana Hardin; Historian, Mimi Thomas; Membership Coordinator, Jolene Dodge; and Communications Liaison, Rocky Bessette. Master Gardener Classes started January 15<sup>th</sup> with a record number of 39 students. Classes are being held in the new extension office addition in Redmond.

We have 200 events on our calendar for 2020, including many gardening classes being held in Bend, Redmond, Madras, Prineville and Sisters.

**Membership:** We currently have 66 members, with renewals still arriving.

**Membership Meetings and Continuing Education:** In conjunction with quarterly meetings, COMGA members will be invited to educational sessions throughout the year including a webinar about “Bees in the Garden,” a hands-on pruning class, a session on “Grow a Little Fruit Tree”, and a tour of Rainshadow Organics. At our holiday luncheon, we all pitched in and made holiday wreaths and table decorations for Hospice of Redmond. In addition, we collected food for our local food bank, Neighbor Impact.

**Asset Inventory:** A committee was formed last year to inventory all of our assets. This project is nearly complete.

**Community Education:** There will be five formal vegetable classes in March, with dates and locations to be announced. Informal classes will be done in the community gardens after opening day (April 25). We also plan to hold one class a month to be taught in Redmond, on Saturdays, to bring in more members of the community. Because some of our classes have become so popular (Vegetable Gardening in Central Oregon in particular), we will begin having participants register online via Event Bright. Additionally, this year we will emphasize team teaching: pairing an experienced instructor with someone wanting to learn. We are also working on classes to train speakers and teaching assistants.

**Spring Seminar:** Our popular Spring Gardening Seminar will be held on April 18th at the Deschutes County Fair and Expo. Several of the classes are approved for advanced credit, so we welcome Master Gardeners from all over the state to participate. We hope to have the registration packet and list of classes online at [www.gocomga.com](http://www.gocomga.com) in the first week of March.

**June Garden Fair** (previously known as Plant Sale): Our Annual Plant Sale has been revamped into the June Garden Fair, with an emphasis on education. The event will run from 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM. The fair will include more educational segments, including 10-minute universities, educational booths and vendors, along with a plant clinic. There will still be plants for sale this year between 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM but we will no longer plant seeds for varieties that are difficult to germinate and transplant in time (e.g., tomatoes and peppers). Instead, we will purchase commercially started seedlings for those plants, and raise them for the event. We will plant some seeds, but only for plant varieties that germinate and grow easily here.

**Community Gardens:** Both of our community gardens, Hollinshead and Discovery Park Community Garden (formerly known as Northwest Crossing) open April 25<sup>th</sup>. Due to the popularity of both gardens, we have an application lottery beginning March 1<sup>st</sup>. Both gardens will host classes throughout the year.

**Water-Wise Garden:** Our Water-Wise Garden will have its first work day on April 9<sup>th</sup>.

**OSU Demo Garden:** The first work day in our OSU Demo Garden in Redmond is April 7. Last year we instituted a requirement for each Master Gardener to volunteer for 3 hours in the Demo Garden; 2019 was the first year the garden chores stayed current and there was time to do work that couldn't be done before. Consequently, the garden was in great shape last year. MGs are encouraged to engage with visitors touring the garden. Additional landscaping around the new building will be planted by the contractor, with Master Gardeners eventually taking over the maintenance.

**Tech Committee:** We have formed a Technical Committee to provide technical support to COMGA committees and projects. The Technical Committee plans to have a cadre of individuals who can be called upon for any tech needs.

Report submitted by,

Janet Dart, COMGA State Representative

## **Clackamas County Master Gardeners**

### **OMGA 1<sup>ST</sup> Quarter Chapter Report**

**2020**

As we start into the year 2020, we will see a full calendar for our chapter. Several events are held this spring.

In addition, we are in the middle of the Intern training classes. We have 45 trainees from Clackamas County attending the sessions. In addition to the training experience we provide pH soil testing for samples the interns brought in from their own gardens. At the end of the training we will hold a chapter potluck dinner to recognize and honor the graduating interns and welcome them.

Our annual Garden Discovery Day is scheduled for March 7<sup>th</sup>. It is an opportunity for the public to attend classes on specific gardening topics, have specific gardening questions answered, and bring soil samples for pH testing.

The other major event that requires a lot of preparation is the Spring Garden Fair on May 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. People from all over the Pacific Northwest attend to improve their gardens and gardening skills as well as have a fun family time. There are over 100 vendors selling an amazing variety of plants, tools and garden art. Typically we have over 2800 volunteer hours donated to set up and run the fair.

John Wilbur, President

## Clatsop County OMGA 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2020 Chapter Report

Welcome 2020 Spring!! With the OSU Training Program classes drawing to an end March 14<sup>th</sup>, we are pleased we have several new trainees already working on Clatsop County Master Gardener projects! Our new president, Janet Willoughby plans to lead our Chapter this year with special focus to Education in all our projects, events, field trips and meetings. Not just for our community, but with all our chapter members in mind as well.

At our first General Membership Meeting in February, we invited local farmer, and Master Gardener Teresa Retzlaff (46 North Farm) to discuss Dry Farming on the coast. She has participated with OSU in Dry Farming trial vegetable crops since 2016. After more than 5 years, she shared a great deal of information and experience. Several of our members, as well as community members, very much inspired, left the meeting excited to start a trial of Dry Farming in their own garden this year! To complete the Dry Farming experience, a field trip to Ms. Retzlaff's "46 North Farms" is planned late this summer. This will include Pollinator Identification on sight with chapter veteran Mary Jo Mosby (a participant in the Oregon Bee Project).

We are enthusiastic about beginning a new 3-year phase plan to completely rejuvenate our 20 plus year-old Demonstration Garden at Clatsop County Fairgrounds (Astoria). Plants are being shaded out by several large maturing Maple Trees planted at its inception. Our Chapter Coordinator, Amanda Noyes, invited a local Arborist to teach a pruning class in March at the Demo Garden. It was quite educational, with a range of instruction on pruning mature trees & shrubs as well as helpful in the plan to show/demonstrate benefits of professionally pruned mature Maple Trees in a landscape setting.

With the future in mind, continuing development of this space will include self-guided tours and potential for public gardening workshops.

Our newer Alderbrook Learning Garden located in Astoria is ramping up to start planting vegetables. We enjoyed wheel barrel races, while renewing the bark chips at a recent work party. This stunning garden has produced several hundred pounds of produce delivered to the local food bank each of its two years in existence. And now, this year, there is additional collaboration with a dedicated area for use by the "Seed to Supper" Program.

Public educational opportunities new this year include Vertical gardening for limited space gardens, and Companion planting of cultivars.

Continuing from previous years, examples of vegetable varieties specifically for our coastal climate, ESPALIÉRED apple trees, composting, herbs and pollinator gardens.

Our Spring Plant Sale & Garden Fair will be held May 9, 2020 (Mother's Day weekend) at Clatsop County Fairgrounds. We are pleased to have as our Keynote speaker, OSU 's very own wonderful Rory McDonnell with his presentation of "SLUGS". If you have never seen/ heard his presentation, you are really missing out! It is absolutely wonderful, quite educational and he adds the perfect amount of humor as well!

Save the date and come to the Coast!

Respectfully submitted by Nancy Bouse, State Rep for Clatsop County Master Gardener's

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**COOS COUNTY**  
**2020 OMGA**  
**1<sup>ST</sup> QUARTER REPORT**

Coos County Master gardeners are beginning the new year with 51 members.

Our Master Gardener training class started on January 9, 2020 with 12 trainees. We have an enthusiastic group and are looking forward to them joining our chapter at the end of their training and completion of volunteer hours.

The newly built raised beds at the extension office, built with a grant from OMGA are growing a beautiful crop of Fava Beans this winter.

Registration is open for our annual **Fertilize Your Mind** that will be on April 4<sup>th</sup>. We will have James Cassidy, OSU soil scientist as the Keynote speaker along with lots of educational classes for the public as well as continuing education hours for our Master Gardeners.

The chapter has also begun planning for the annual Plant Sale that will be the first weekend after Mother's Day. May 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. This is our main fundraiser for the year to fund our college scholarships as well as school garden grants.

Our community gardens have started distributing applications for garden beds for the 2020 growing season. They are receiving many completed applications for new and returning gardeners. It looks like it will be another year of fully rented garden beds.

Respectfully,

Dottie Tucker



## Curry County Master Gardener Association

### First Quarterly Chapter Report, March 2020

#### Jeffrie Hall – State Representative

The weather has been fairly warm here, not too much rain or snow. Not enough rain actually, Brookings rainfall is about 12" below normal like many other locations. Spring is near and the early flowers are appearing here. With budgets for 2020 completed and the board elected the Curry Master Gardeners celebrated the end of 2019 on a drizzly December afternoon with very good wood fired pizzas and appetizers. Now plans are being made for the coming year. The new 2020 MG class is busy with all "that learning" and already stepping up and volunteering for different projects.

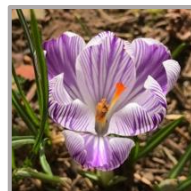


#### Fundraising

The Holiday Bazaar at the Brookings High School in November was again a great success. Almost all of the inventory was sold. It is a good place to promote the program. Hypertufa, cast cement, driftwood containers planted with succulents, mixed, and individual succulents sell well there.

At the Gold Beach HS greenhouse, the many varieties of perennials propagated last summer are now being transplanted into gallon pots and being moved outside as they outgrow their smaller pots. This will make some room for the many trays of succulents propagated for the May plant sale at another greenhouse. New trainees are already helping with work in the greenhouse and workers are having to split into groups because there is not enough room for all.

Driftwood gathering has been completed. A day in March will be the gathering to make hypertufa and driftwood containers for this year's sales, messy but fun.



#### Gardening Education

**Riley Creek Elementary School:** Thanks to the Karl Carlson grant, awarded in 2019, two new attractive signs were purchased and hung at the compost and worm composting bins. These are scientifically based educational signs for the garden.

The "Annual Fall Fest" at the Riley Creek Garden had the largest attendance ever. All grades, their families, staff, and faculty participated. Garden veggies were served and there was a line for the fresh pressed apple cider. Kids and adults made Fall Crowns from flowers and greenery. Pumpkins were weighed, other vegetables harvested and taken home.

Ali Mramor's next project will be the spring garden cleanup and volunteer appreciation day in March. The concrete floor for the hoop house funded by a Rotary donation has a bid and will be put in either very soon or after the May plant sale vegetables are out of the hoop house.

**"Dig Your Library":** The "Dig Your Library Spring Equinox Celebration" is Saturday March 21. It will include a DYI vermiculture bin building and care workshop followed by a session in the garden. Cleanup of the older garden beds and preparation for the "Three Sisters Bed" has started. All of the classes for the spring, summer & fall sessions are scheduled.

Julia Bott founder of "Dig Your Library" is also helping with a new Chetco Community Library program started by Lynette McPherson, the Brookings School District Garden Manager, "The Chetco Seed Library". Seeds can be checked out, planted, then new seeds returned to the library for others to plant. It will be a way for local gardeners to preserve, save, share heirloom, non-Gmo, and non-hybrid seeds. The Curry MGA made a donation in 2019 to the Brookings school's garden program which was used to buy heat mats for starting seeds.

**ABC Preschool:** Barb Cary, our Master Gardener of the Year recipient is moving. But the gardening program for preschoolers she developed will be taken over by a couple of dedicated members, Ruth Patton and Sherry Baum, with additional help from other volunteers.



#### **Other Classes & Events in Curry**

**Seed to Supper:** Will be expanding this year to both Gold Beach and Port Orford thanks to new MG trainees. Training for both locations is scheduled at the end of March in Gold Beach. The Brookings leaders are planning their training and want to hold the classes in April this year.

**New Adult Classes at Riley Creek:** Worm composting, winter garden preparation, and a two-part hypertufa and succulent planting class were successful. One class, making a cold frame had to be canceled. It will be decided later this year if the classes will be held again.

**“Speakers Series” and Future Events:** “Speakers Series” is again at the Chetco Community Library in Brookings from June to early October. This year the speakers will be able to give their talks at the Curry Community Library in Gold Beach. Some of last year’s speakers will return and Scott Thiemann, program coordinator, is encouraging any MG to speak on a horticultural subject that they are interested in. He is also looking for speakers to present short talks on sustainability at the SWOCC community college, Brookings campus, Earth Day event in April. During March, as part of the community college “SWOCC & Beyond” series, Master Gardener Dennis Triglia, of the Brookings Oregon Monarch Advocates (BOMA), will be giving four talks about the life cycle of the monarch butterfly, gardening for them, how to raise, and release them. Finally, the Curry MGs will have information tables at the upcoming 2020 county events and of course the plant clinics at the OSU Extension office will start again in April.

## Douglas County Master Gardener 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Report

March 2020



### Planting of *Ginkgo biloba* “Peace Tree”

The atomic bombing of Hiroshima, Japan, on August 6, 1945 resulted in mass destruction, but it did not destroy everything. Among the surviving plants were *Ginkgo biloba* trees. On February 20, 2020 at 2:20 pm, a descendant of one of these surviving trees was planted in the Japanese Garden of the Master Gardener Discovery Garden during a special ceremony by Douglas County Master Gardeners. It was planted next to statues of the Japanese words “harmony,” “peace” and “contemplation.”

Roseburg’s Japanese sister city Kuki-Shi helped ensure that Roseburg would be a recipient of three of the 36 peace tree seedlings that were gifted to Oregon. The other two trees will be planted in the Roseburg area - one at Umpqua Community College and the other at the Odd Fellows cemetery. *Ginkgo* trees grow to about 50 feet tall with foliage that turns a beautiful golden yellow in the autumn.

Steve Renquist, Associate Professor, Extension Horticulturist, Douglas County Extension and Nancy Fuller, President, Douglas County Master Gardeners pose with the newly planted *Ginkgo biloba* “Peace Tree.”

### “Spring into Gardening” Symposium

On February 29 DCMG’s sponsored “Spring into Gardening.” The day-long event was open to the public and offered a wide selection of informative gardening classes taught by Master Gardeners and OSU Extension agent, Steve Renquist. Workshops were offered on growing vegetables, peppers, dahlias, fruit trees and berries. Other classes cover topics such as vertebrate pest management, fire-wise landscaping and building healthy garden soil using compost, cover crops and biochar. Sessions on the importance of pollinators, the value of chickens to a garden and how to keep them healthy, and selecting and caring for garden tools were also offered.

### Trash to Treasure Yard Sale

This annual yard sale is slated for March 7 at the Winston Community Center. This is a great opportunity for our Master Gardeners to clean out their closets and garages and help their chapter when they donate their goods to this fundraising event. There are plenty of great finds and bargains for everyone. One man’s trash is another man’s treasure.

## **2020 Winter Training**

Our annual winter training has 32 trainees paired with Master Gardener mentors. This group of enthusiastic and eager students will complete their course work on March 10 and will have their “finals” March 17, followed by a celebration with cake and ice cream. Family members and all Master Gardeners are invited to this festive event.

## **Plant Clinic Data**

The Plant Clinic has been a great resource of information for the public. There were more than 30 visitors in January. Last year, there were a total of 865 contacts, including 455 walk-ins, 43 emails, and 367 calls. The plant clinic is a great way to promote our Master Gardener Program and encourage sustainable gardening in Douglas County. It also provides opportunities to work with fellow Master Gardeners and learn new things. The months of February and March are devoted to training our new students from the 2020 winter class, as they work alongside veteran Master Gardeners.

## **Annual Plant Sale**

Out in our greenhouses, work has begun to get plants ready for our annual plant sale scheduled for May 2 at the fairgrounds. Master Gardeners are seeding, propagating and planting a great variety of plants for the garden and yard. This event is open to the public. Vendors, including artists and nurseries, will also be exhibiting and selling their wares. Master Gardeners are available throughout the day to answer gardening questions and share valuable information.

Submitted Barbara Hamby, OMGA Representative

# **Jackson County Master Gardener's Association**

## **OMGA 2020 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Chapter Reports**

### Board Governance

JCMGA has focused much of its work around improving board governance and the ways in which we fulfill our mission.

- The Board reviewed and revised the policy for the OSU endowment fund used to provide scholarships of \$2,500 to OSU students.
- Our 2019 school grants totaled \$4,760.
- Membership dues was increased from \$20 per year to \$25 per year.
- We refined our Working Group organizational structure.
- A committee was formed to review, update, and propose revisions to our bylaws.
- A membership election for the 2020 Board of Directors was held with online voting for the first time. A new Board orientation was held in December.
- The Board continued to assess progress towards our strategic 5-year plan goals related to development of a business plan, a long-term plan for demonstration gardens, community outreach, increasing membership, and continued technology support.

### Master Gardener Class

The Board proposed a new mentor program for students in the Master Gardener class. The program call "Garden Buds". The program pairs a Master Gardener veteran with one or two students.

### Education

The annual, one day educational event titled "Winter Dreams Summer Gardens" was quite successful offering 38 different presentations ranging from sustainability and regeneration to everything there is to know about daylilies. 40% of the attendees were Master Gardeners.

The Board planned for a retreat to be held in January for the purpose of reviewing and assessing all current education offerings for continued feasibility and congruence with our mission.

Submitted by Barbara Davidson

## JOSEPHINE COUNTY

### 2020 1ST Quarterly Report, February 21, 2020

- The Josephine County Master Gardeners started the new year with a board meeting to begin planning and preparing for upcoming events that will take place during the first quarter.
- The 2020 Master Gardener training classes began with an orientation on January 23 and the first day of class on January 30. We had a lovely potluck luncheon provided by the Master Gardeners seniors to welcome the 28 new Master Gardener trainees.
- On March 6-7 our chapter will host the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter OMGA board meeting in Grants Pass.
- March 14 will be our 31<sup>st</sup> annual Seeds of Spring Garden Seminar at the Rogue Community College campus. Students choose classes during 4 sessions from among 20 offered. Pre-registration \$35, \$40 at door, and a \$10 lunch optional. Pre-registration closes on March 9. To see session descriptions and registration information, see our website <https://jocomastergardeners.com/seeds-of-spring.html>
- April 21 will be our first Josephine County Master Gardener retreat for the officers and program leaders.

#### Program Status

- **Library Program** - The Sustainable Garden Speaker Series is being held at the Grants Pass Library on the last Saturday of the month.
- **Young Master Gardener** – This monthly program has been running for 5 years at the Grants Pass Library. There are 2 courses taught, a morning program for 5 and under, and an afternoon program for 6 and over. January's program was about Hydroponics, growing "Plants without Soil." February's program is focused on "All The Dirt About Soil."
- The **Greenhouse** team, along with the trainees, began planting in January of over 140 varieties of plants this season.
- The **Perennials** Group also began preparing for their weekly Perennial Tuesdays. Perennial plants are for sale to the public while the team is caring for and propagating new perennials.
- **Junior Master Gardeners** – This 7-week after school winter session with 11 participants began January 29 at Highland Elementary School for grades 3-5. This session's focus is on Ecology and Environmental Horticulture.
- **Seed to Supper** – Planning meetings began in January for the 6-week Vegetable Gardening courses that will be held beginning in April at Cave Junction and Grants Pass.
- **Demonstration Gardens** – This group is busy sprucing up the gardens around our facility after a winter hiatus.

Submitted by

Breezy Schallheim, OMGA Representative

## Lane County

### OMGA 2020 1st Quarterly Report

The LCMGA Board agreed to change meeting dates from Thursdays to the second Tuesday of the month, so interested Board members can participate in Thursday demo garden work parties. It has been difficult to recruit Board members the last few years, and there remain vacancies for this year, so the Board established a committee of current experienced Board members and former Board members to review the composition of the Board and recommend possible changes to the membership. In addition, the Board is also looking into ways to implement member retention strategies by identifying means to make comparisons from past years, given the fact that MG classes vary in size, and we are looking to increase social and belonging activities.

Because we have fully instituted a no-dig policy for our Plant Sale, starting last fall, and do not yet know the impact that this will have on our sales, we are looking at trying some events that combine fundraising with social activities. Also, in support of the no-dig policy, a new Propagation Committee was formed to help propagate all the plants sold at the Plant Sale.

2020 Master Gardener Classes are nearing completion with 32 students this year. In order to assist the transition into the Plant Clinic for trainees, the Plant Clinic Training Committee held a "Train the Trainers" meeting on Feb. 21st. Trainers commit to working three shifts a month from April through July, helping our MG Trainees and other Master Gardeners learn Plant Clinic protocols and navigate the busy growing season. To be considered for a trainer, new trainers need to have worked at least 40 hours in the Plant Clinic in 2019.

Another specific training for Master Gardeners will be the next Plant Diagnostic training: March 14 and 21, 2020. Classes will be held from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM each Saturday.

There will also be an annual Compost Specialist Training on April 1 and 8 from 9:00 to 4:30. Applications are due by Thursday, March 14. A lot of great information is packed into the training. Topics include Compost Science; Composting Methods, including hot, cold, sheet, trench, Bokashi, and worm bin composting; Organisms in the Compost; The Environmental Impact of Solid Waste; Trends and Issues of Commercial Compost; and Love Food not Waste. Participants will also get hands-on experience with various types of aerobic composting. Applications are available at the OSU Lane County Extension office (Kaufman House) at 996 Jefferson Street, Eugene, as well as in the link below. The class is limited to 20 participants.

After training, Compost Specialists must volunteer 20 hours of compost-related activities to become certified. These hours, which include teaching others about composting, also count towards your Master Gardener volunteer hour commitment. Non-Master Gardeners may become Compost Specialists but pay a higher tuition. Refer to the registration form for details here:

[https://mcusercontent.com/de039f775e29ec45af200e596/files/83a7bc77-e1c9-4ba4-bac3-389d89762131/2020\\_\\_Compost\\_Specialist\\_Training\\_Registration\\_form\\_2\\_.pdf](https://mcusercontent.com/de039f775e29ec45af200e596/files/83a7bc77-e1c9-4ba4-bac3-389d89762131/2020__Compost_Specialist_Training_Registration_form_2_.pdf)

For both the public and Master Gardeners, the Sustainable Landscape Program held its Mid-Winter Meeting on January 9 with 15 Landscape Specialists in attendance. Our Extension also hosts a public seminar every third Tuesday of the month, except for December.

Our Extension has a robust schedule of training specifically for the public, which includes Pruning classes and Composting demonstrations held at a variety of locations, and numerous other presentations, a sampling which is listed here:

Presentations at Lane Community College / Continuing Education:

Monday, January 6, 2020: Designing Your Own Forever Garden

Monday, January 13, 2020: The Correct Tools for Gardening Smarter, Not Harder  
Monday, January 27, 2020: Everything You Need to Know about Growing in Containers  
Monday, February 3, 2020: Save Time and Money Choosing the Right Plant for the Right Place  
Monday, February 10, 2020: Increase Your Success with Proper Garden Prep  
Monday, February 24, 2020: Tips and Tricks for Extending Both Ends of the Growing Season

Our main fundraising event, the Spring Plant Sale, is again in the Horse Pavilion at the Lane County Fairgrounds on Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>. It will include a book sale, a bake sale, a Silent Auction and the Mobile Plant Clinic to answer gardening questions.

Report submitted by: Vicki Harrison, OMGA Representative, Lane County MG



**Lincoln County Master Gardener Association**  
**First Quarter Report to OMGA Board of Directors**

**Winter 2020**

We started our year with a Board Meeting on January 13<sup>th</sup>. New and continuing Board members are: Co-Presidents, Pam McElroy, Kristi Kind; Co-Past Presidents, Diane Primont, Marlene Shapiro; Co-Vice Presidents Pamela Yu, Bill Shapiro; Secretary, Carita Edson; Treasurer, Alanna Miklic; State Representative, Michael Christy; Historian, Kharizma McAnulty.

Master Gardener Classes started January 23<sup>rd</sup> with 22 students and one on-line student. Classes are being held at the local Oregon Coast Community College (OCCC) in South Beach. New this year is that there will be 9 of the classes with be the traditional classroom training and the remaining 4 will be later at the different demonstration gardens during the growing season.

**Membership:** In 2020 we have 100 members and 22 trainees (plus 1 online student who lives in Lincoln County).

**Membership Meetings and Continuing Education:**

**-Guiding More Good 2020: CNS's Annual Conference, OSU Corvallis, Oregon**

The LCMGA Treasurer and Co- Vice-President will be attending this event. This day-long event for nonprofit boards, staff, and volunteers provides informative talks and interactive workshops alongside opportunities for networking. Our sixteen sessions cover a wide scope of topics such as fund development, financial accountability, organizational and board development.

**Community Education:**

**-Seed to Supper beginning April in Newport:** This free beginning gardening course teaches participants the tools they need to start a garden and grow their own food on a budget. A joint program of Oregon Food Bank and OSU Extension Service

**-Round Table Winter/Spring:**

All sessions are held at the Toledo Fire Station community room at 285 NE Burgess Rd, Toledo, OR 97391 from 10am to 12pm.

<b>Jan 18</b>	Natives Plant with Ann Geyer, LCMGA
<b>Feb 8</b>	Roses with Alanna Miklic, LCMGA
<b>Feb 22</b>	Soils and Amendments Harry McCormack, Ten Rivers
<b>Mar 14</b>	Tomatoes with Master Gardener Tomato Mavens--Carita, Sharon, Claudette and Marlene
<b>Mar 28</b>	Microgreens with Sonja Lovas, LCMGA
<b>Apr 11</b>	Rhododendron and Azalea Care with Mike Bones, Bones Nursery, Florence
<b>Apr 25</b>	The Plant Doctor with Donna Davis, LCMGA
<b>May 9</b>	Vegetable Gardening with Rebecca Hooper, LCMGA

\*The Summer/Fall schedule is currently being finalized.

\*\*All the classes are approved for continuing education credit, so we welcome Master Gardeners from all over the state to participate.

\*\*\*These classes are open to the public and advertised on LCMGA Facebook page and other mixed media of Lincoln County.

**Spring Plant Sale:** Our Annual Spring Plant Sale will be on May 16<sup>th</sup> this year. The event will run from 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM. The fair will include educational segments including OSU Nutrition, Composting, Straw Bale Gardening, Rainwater, Adaptive gardening, Bees in the Hood, along with a plant clinic. Plants are locally grown and have included up to 70 cultivars of tomatoes. Plants/seedlings are grown here on the coast so they will grow in your garden. Additionally, we have a huge Oregon Native plant sections that continues to grow each year.

**Demonstration Gardens:** We have 5 individual gardens here in Lincoln County. A wide range of interest: From a children's garden at the historic Yaquina Bay Lighthouse to a garden in Yachats that also supports a large community garden with many new Dura-beds. From both OCCC locations to an adaptive garden at the Oceanview Senior Center.

Planning and work parties well underway to start the gardens when the new apprentices are released.

Pami Monnette (Program Coordinator) provided demo garden leadership training in December 2019. Expectations for demo garden leaders were discussed and the group set some guidelines with communication being very important. The monthly demo garden reports are being considered; maybe a brief 5-minute update could be made at the board meetings. The group also talked about what is expected of apprentices in the demo gardens and giving apprentices some ownership.

**Special Note:**

- **YBLG:** Yaquina Bay Lighthouse and School Garden (YBLG) celebrates its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year.
- **Lincoln County School District (LCSD):** The grant application for Lincoln County School District is fully funded. LCSD has posted the position of School Garden Coordinator. It will be a partnership with the school district and is an 18-month program.

Check out our website at <https://www.orcoastmga.org/> to see more.

Report submitted by,

Michael Christy,  
Lincoln County Master Gardener™ Association  
State Representative  
[lcmgaorrep@gmail.com](mailto:lcmgaorrep@gmail.com)

## Linn County

### 2020 OMGA 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Chapter Report

Linn County Master Gardeners have been planning and preparing for a new year. Planning for programs and events have been the focus of the winter Master Gardener efforts.

#### **BEEvent and other Pollinator efforts**

**Bee Supplies-** We have new wood workers that have started building bee supplies for the 2020 year. We are trying to increase the number of supplies and cocoons available as sales are increasing. "Bee Notes" is an email written by Raneé Webb that is sent to 675 people, reaching approximately 1,000 area residents with news about bees. There are now several groups from other counties and states that have learned about mason bees from Linn County and are starting their own projects. It is growing fast and we are always looking for more supplies and more volunteers.

The 2020 BEEvent, the annual 6<sup>th</sup> Pollinator Conference for small farms and gardeners, will feature bees, plants and pesticides. It will be held at the Linn County Fair and Expo on March 7. We are looking to buy the domain name(s) for oregonbeeevent.org and .com. There have been 15,000 donated mason bee cocoons which we can sell.

#### **Educational Programs and Talks**

Evening garden talks will be given at the Albany Public Library. Topics are: January-Growing and Using Winter Herbs, February-Good Bug, Bad Bug, March-Introducing New Ornamentals for 2020, and April-The Secret Life of Plants. These talks also include the monthly MG member meeting.

Gardening in the PNW Brownbag Talks Series will be offered in the month of March from noon to one o'clock at the Albany Public Main Branch:

- Starting Seedlings for Your Home Garden
- Fruit Trees and Berries for Small Back Yards
- No Garden? No Problem! Fruit, Berries and Veggies in Containers
- Successfully Gardening with Physical Limitations

#### **Demonstration Garden**

Work parties are being planned to clean up the garden. We are developing a sign about leaving "winter landscape" in place to allow for the birds, insects, etc. to forage.

#### **Garden Tour will be held June 20.**

**Seed2Supper Classes beginning.** Several Master Gardeners will be participating in this education program offered throughout the County.

#### **New Master Gardener Trainees**

We have 17 new trainees enrolled for Linn County. Mentors are being assigned to each of the trainees. Experienced MGs have been challenged to get familiar to the updated MG schedule which is a significant change from past years.

Report submitted by Janice Gregg, Linn County OMGA Representative

## Marion County

### 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter OMGA Representative Report

**Leadership Forum** - The fourth quarter Leadership Forum was held in Tillamook on Nov 1; the topic was grants. OMGA had asked recipients to give a presentation on grants received by OMGA and Marion County volunteered to do so. Jim Liskey and Kelly Noack provided information about the Marion County Junior Master Gardener Program for which they recently received the \$500 Search for Excellence Award. Cyndy Shorter gave a presentation on behalf of Sharon Lohse for the Adaptive Garden for which the \$200 Karl Karlson Award was received. The presentations included how the money was to be used.

For more information about applying for an OMGA grant, go to <https://omga.org/programs-and-awards/>.

There was also a presentation given about how to look for and apply for grants outside of OMGA. Cyndy was given a list of potential companies and foundations to research. If anyone wants a copy, just let her know.

The first quarter Leadership Forum of 2020 will include an orientation of the new OMGA Representatives from each county.

A reminder that all Leadership Forums count as Continued Education.

The name of the Leadership Forum has been changed to Educational Forum to make it clear that it's not just for leaders or board members, it's open to all Master Gardeners!

**Audit Committee** – Cyndy was asked to participate on the Audit Committee and was one of several Master Gardeners that reviewed the OMGA Treasurer's practices and documentation. The committee was pleased with the level of transparency and thorough documentation the current Treasurer is maintaining. The committee approved and signed in agreement that it accepted the reporting. Cyndy was asked to participate again when the committee meets in the fourth quarter of next year. OMGA will provide the travel expenses for her to participate.

**OMGA Board of Director's Meeting** - The fourth quarter OMGA board meeting was held on Nov 2.

Mini College 2020: The Master Food Preservers will not be joining us after all. Too busy that time of year for such a small program. It is definite now that Mini College will be a bi-annual event at OSU per Gail Langelotto. The dates are Friday, July 24 and Saturday, July 25 at CH2M Hill Alumni Center at OSU in Corvallis. Through Gail's negotiations, we are being given a price break for the use of the Center. Thursday, July 23 is the Board Mtg. There will be no Educational Forum.

- Housing - Hilton Hotel is offering us their conference rate of \$132/night. The Board meeting will be held in the University Room. Parking is free for the Board meeting at the Hilton. More detailed information to follow regarding staying in the OSU dorms and the fees for that.
- Meals OSU Cafeteria – Breakfast - \$7.50, Dinner \$10.25 if you want to eat there. Your daily charge of \$49 registration per day includes lunch.
- Parking fee on Friday is about \$8. No charge for Saturday.
- Theme – (GPS) Grow, Provide, Sustain
- Schedule is tentatively: Thursday afternoon – OMGA Board of Directors Mtg and Evening Social; Friday – Keynote Speaker, Classes, Workshops, Tours, Awards Banquet (perhaps with a speaker), and Silent Auction; Saturday – Classes, Workshops, Tours, Silent Auction Closes
- Will run classes, workshops and tours simultaneously!
- Stressing upscale speakers, classes and tours. OSU is going to open up their labs to us so we hope to having better tours, etc.

OMGA needs help to put this together! They need someone to volunteer to find tours on campus, establish workshops (probably have an extra charge if supplies are needed), Chapter sales, Chapter displays, Send-A-Friend Raffle, Silent Auction, Thursday evening Welcome Social, Friday Banquet including Menu, Table Decorations, Music during social time, Possible speakers, etc., etc.

IF INTERESTED, CONTACT:

ERIC BOSLER at [ericbosler@hotmail.com](mailto:ericbosler@hotmail.com)

SUE NESBITT at [sue.nesbitt1231@gmail.com](mailto:sue.nesbitt1231@gmail.com)

Educational Support Funding: ECCO – OMGA received a grant proposal for \$3000 to further develop the tool that will assist us with answering questions at the Help Desk. Essentially takes the place of the Intake Form and has search features to find answers to questions that have been asked before. The Board voted and approved the funding.

Chapter Representative Scholarships: OMGA discussed and approved funding for OMGA Reps or Alternate OMGA Reps travel expenses for chapters that don't have enough money to send reps to the quarterly meetings which are generally from the more remote areas of Oregon. Approved four scholarships at \$100 each annually. OMGA will contact the three counties that generally do not attend the quarterly meetings and let them know this is available.

OMGA Calendar: OMGA would like to add chapter annual plant sales, annual educational events, etc., to the OMGA calendar. The thought was that chapters may want to attend goings-on in other chapters and this would facilitate that and will help MGs get CE hours and attend fun events. Send this information to [presidentomga@gmail.com](mailto:presidentomga@gmail.com) for now, but a new email address will be soon created for this.

OMGA Election of Officers 2020: Will take effect January 1, 2020

President: Chris Rusch (Douglas)  
Past President: Eric Bosler (Central Gorge)  
President-Elect: Vacant  
Secretary: Sharon Bordeaux (Douglas)  
Treasurer: Patrice Sipos (Douglas)  
First Vice President: Vacant  
Second Vice-President: Julie Huynh (Lincoln)

## Multnomah County Master Gardener

### First Quarter OMGA Report 2020

We are in very active at the beginning of this year with planning and prepping for our Spring Schedule.

Our speaker series at chapter meetings started with "*Adapting your yard and garden for climate change*", Weston Miller, OSU Extension Service, Tuesday January 14th, 7pm. It continued with "*Not a Doomsday Vault: Plant Diversity in Action*", Dr. Kim Hummer, Research Horticulturalist, USDA National Clonal Germplasm Repository, Tuesday, February 11th. Our March talk will be "*Growing Wisdom through Organic Gardening*", Gentiana Loeffler, Professor of Horticulture, Clackamas Community College, co-owner of Blue House Greenhouse Farm, Tuesday, March 10th.

We have extended our schedule by one week for trainees and are in the middle of 8 weeks of concentrated classes, online modules and interactive learning that started Jan 31st and ends March 20th. We have over 100 trainees signed up this year!! That helps round out the metro trainings of about 180 new Master Gardeners.

Our Spring schedule is packed full of activities starting with Propagation Workshops April 3rd and 5th, Demonstration Garden Open House April 4<sup>th</sup>, Soils Workshops April 19th and 26th and Native plant sale April 11th. Mixed in is our Trainee Pot Luck at our April 14th chapter meeting.

Under the direction of Rich Becker, Beven Peters, Kathy Fetty, Marcia McIntyre and a host of 20 or so others we are continuing to work on our Incredible Edible Sale slated for May 9th, the day before Mother's Day. This is a very popular one day sale of veggie starts and perennials starts. It will bring all hands on deck for this one-day fund raiser.

We are also getting ready to start our very busy farmer's market season with clinic tables all over the metro area, staffing phone banks and welcoming a new group of interns. We are also working toward a new series of educational offerings as we increase the work of our mission in various neighborhoods around the large Multnomah metropolitan area. Stay tuned for more.

Marilyn Frankel OMGA Representative, Multnomah County

## Hello from Polk County

With spring right around the corner comes all the projects and activities with the help of a little sunshine. With a new board and many new chairs and a great class of trainees, this year is sure to be a fun filled year.

Our Inspiration Garden continues to be a massive labor of love with many changes and more to come. Just to touch on a couple of those changes, a new scented garden was added as well as an olive grove. In addition, come see the newest addition - The Peace Garden

### SAVE THE DATE

PEACE GARDEN DEDICATION APRIL 24, 2020  
2:00 pm at Mt Fir Park, Inspiration Garden  
799 F Street, Independence, Oregon

This will be a very special celebration for our new Ginkgo Tree



If you have any questions, please contact Judy Nathe at [jun3@comcast.net](mailto:jun3@comcast.net) or at (971) 312-1639.

Our annual plant sale is in full swing! Sure to be another great event!

Annual Polk County Master Gardeners

# Plant Sale

**Mother's Day Weekend 2020**  
**Friday & Saturday**  
**May 8 & 9**  
**Fri. 9am - 4pm**  
**Sat. 9am - 2pm**

- Over 15,000 Quality Plants
- Our Ever-Popular Country Store
- Herbs & Native Plants
- Vegetables, Hot & Super Hot Peppers
- Over 70 varieties of Tomatoes
- Perennials & Annuals
- Hanging Baskets
- Trees, Shrubs, Fruit Trees & Berries
- Tool Sharpening, Planter Boxes & Outdoor Furniture
- Plant Clinic

**For Information call 503-623-8395**  
or go to [www.Facebook.com/OSUPolkCountyMG](http://www.Facebook.com/OSUPolkCountyMG)

Located at the Polk County Fairgrounds in the Main Building,  
520 S Pacific Highway W (Hwy 99 W), Rickreall, OR

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See you all this weekend.  
In service George Woodward, Polk County Representative

**Tillamook County**  
**OMGA 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Report**

**March 5, 2020**

After a busy fall Tillamook Master Gardeners celebrated at our awards Banquet December 11<sup>th</sup>. Our Master Gardener of the year is Sarah Ostermiller, Learning Garden Master Gardener of the year is Ken Jackson, Early Bloomer is Vicki Wight, and Behind the Scenes award went to Kristy Lund.

Our Master Gardener classes are half over already. We have 15 apprentices this year. We have at least 10 local Master Gardeners teaching classes and 10 speakers brought in from outside our group. Many favorites from the past have taught, Weston Miller, Matthew Shepherd, Rich Little, Neil Bell, Bernadine Strik, Dr Jay Pscheidt, Harry Coffman, Joy Jones and Gail Langellotto to name a few. We have 15 Mentors helping the apprentices through the classes, and assisting the instructors. All of this is being achieved without the aid of an agent. Evelyn VonFeldt has taken responsibility for the schedule and making everything come together with the help of our education committee.



Some of our ongoing projects are:

Seed to supper continues this year in three areas of the county with 15 MG facilitators, 4 of which are apprentices. 32 people are taking advantage of these classes.

A Junior High Pruning project helping to teach fruit tree pruning to young gardeners, about 6 of us will be assisting the instructors at the school.

The Education Committee is lining up community classes for this year. In April tomato repotting and right before Easter a flower arranging class given by a MG who is a professional florist. In May, we will have a seed propagation class.

In May we will also have a class on managing invasive weeds taught by Chip Greening, an Oregon Master Naturalist and Clackamas Master Gardener.

Preparation for the plant sale and the Garden tour are underway.

We entered into the Fred Meyer Reward program and received our first check---\$20.00.

Improving our Facebook page and web site has been going on since last year. We have a great Facebook page and showing now is a slide show of last year's highlights. Many wonderful pictures collected by our historian, Jake Lyons, and set to music. Shows pretty much what we did all year.



MG's helped with aspects of the Tillamook High School Charity Drive. The total raised this year was \$168,726. Over the last 67 years the drive has raised over \$3,699,000 to contribute to Doernbecher's Children's Hospital, local charities and scholarships.

Our Learning Garden opening was February 25. We cleaned and sterilized the green house and are beginning to clean up the leaves and weeds that winter has left for us. We have started propagating for the plant sale and garden. The water system will be checked and repaired if necessary. We are planning a new drip system. Our showpiece for the Fair will be a specialized dahlia bed showing all the types of dahlias that are judged at the fair.

Officers for 2020 are:

President Cammy Hickman  
Past President Karen Sarnaker  
Vice President Ron Vogel  
Treasurer Nika van Tilburg  
Recording Secretary Neal Lemery  
Corresponding Secretary Arla Ayers  
Historian Jake Lyons  
OMGA Rep Betty Lyons  
OMGA Alt Rep Jake Lyons  
2018 Class Rep Kristy Lund  
2019 Class Rep TBD

Respectfully submitted, Betty Lyons, Tillamook OMGA Representative

# Washington County Master Gardener™ Association

## 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Report 2020 to OMGA

**WCMGA has continued actions to further strategic goals in the following areas:**

### **Fundraising**

- We are seeing results from promoting indirect donations from members through Bottle Drop donation of cans and bottles with recycle value and donation of rewards for purchases at Fred Meyer and Amazon.
- We were awarded a \$5000 grant from a local trust for both demonstration gardens and the helpline office to support educational activities (e.g. kits for K8 education, loupes, microscopes, etc.)
- Applied for new Tualatin Valley Soil and Water District grant program focused on conservation education. (Learning materials for both gardens, student fellowships, translation to Spanish)
- Garden Fest activities continue to focus on increasing plants offered with goal of 5,600 plants, purchase 65% and donation/propagation of 35%.

### **Community Activities/Outreach**

- Garden Fest is expanding its community outreach and efforts through partnering with Earth Day's 50th Anniversary and adding partner booths as well as adding educational content to this year's event.
- Spanish-speakers in Washington County is a new outreach area. In addition to translation plan (see grant above), we are connecting with community organizations such as Adelante Mujeres and working with OSU Extension Nutrition program to identify content.
- Condo and apartment complexes to promote small space gardening are an additional outreach focus to increase small-space and container gardening.
- Sue Ryburn, Jack Shorr, Susan Albright and Eric Butler are doing a poster presentation at the Urban Ecosystem Research Consortium. Based on his graduate research, Eric is also presenting on ecosystem connectivity. Eric, Jack, and Ron Spental presented at the Spring Home & Garden Show.

### **On-going Education**

- Developed a monthly self-study learning group for master gardeners to increase their knowledge level and comfort answering questions from the public. Initial 2 sessions had good attendance and positive evaluations.

### **Other**

- Established formal partner arrangements with relevant organizations for shared publication of events and addition of their logos on our website.
- Currently updating our website and in process of developing WCGMA logo.

Respectively submitted by Leslie Ray, OMGA Representative

## **YAMHILL COUNTY, OREGON**

### **OMGA QUARTERLY REPORT**

#### **JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH 2020**

We have 27 new students taking the Master Gardener classes at the Extension Office and 3 on-line students. We are very limited due to lack of space at the Extension Office for any additional students so we have quite a long list of people waiting for next year's classes. Our mentors are doing a great job helping the new students complete their required duties and making sure that they feel welcomed into the Master Gardener Group. We held a "Job Fair" for the students to acquaint them with volunteering opportunities. We are already counting on them to help with "desk" duty in the office answering questions from the public.

We have been working hard coordinating the activities for "Spring into Gardening" which will be held at the McMinnville Community Center on March 21<sup>st</sup>. We have a great line of speakers and are looking forward to learning from them.

The Greenhouse and Propagation crews are all busy getting seeds planted and cuttings growing for our Plant Sale the first weekend of May.

We are gearing up to begin the Farmer's Markets in McMinnville and Newberg as well as setting up clinics at the Farm Fest, Camelia Festival, Seedy Saturday, Fred Meyer's and Kramer's, just to mention a few. We are also working with Newberg High School's Horticulture classes getting ready for their Plant Sale on the weekends in May.

We had a blueberry grower take the time out of his busy life to schedule a blueberry pruning class both for the students as well as the Master Gardeners. It was well attended and we really learned a lot.

Submitted by Polly Blum, OMGA Representative