



Oregon Master Gardener Association

2ND Quarter Chapter Reports

2020

COUNTY

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Benton County Master Gardeners 2nd Quarter Chapter Report 2020

- Benton County Master Gardener Association members have become very familiar with using Zoom video conferencing over the last couple of months. Our board meetings, member meetings, and Seed to Supper classes have all been held online. The Community Garden Education Team, who teach the classes, have also made the classes available online with "Seed to Supper at Home". BCMGA has added resources for new gardeners and ideas for gardening with children to our website. We have created a BCMGA YouTube channel to store some of the Zoom meetings that have been recorded, such as our guest speaker presentations at our member meetings.
- At our last BCMGA board meeting, on May 5, the board selected Rich Taylor as Master Gardener of the Year and Lisa Borgerson as the Behind the Scenes Award winner. Both winners will be receiving all expenses paid trips to their respective backyards this summer.
- Several Master Gardeners were trained by our Extension staff to use a new Plant Clinic Dashboard online tool. The Dashboard will allow them to perform many of the Plant Clinic desk functions from their homes to help answer questions and solve problems for local gardeners.

Submitted by:

Richard Taylor, OMGA Representative

CENTRAL GORGE MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION 2020 Second Quarter Report - Hood river County

2020 has been a very challenging year for Master Gardeners in Hood River County. I am proud to say that we have definitely stepped up to the plate. For most of us, our gardens are looking fabulous as we have had to navigate the COVID 19 VIRUS and lockdowns. Thank goodness for good weather and the great outdoors as this and our gardening habits have truly lifted our moral.

One of our greatest challenges this year has been our Master Gardener Plant Clinic and how to implement it. Thanks to some very computer savvy MG's our plant clinic became virtual and started in early April. Community questions are now pouring in to plant clinic via email, phone, and our online form.

OSU Hood River County Central Gorge Master Gardeners have been offering a free virtual summer gardening seminar series called Gardening to Save the World. These one-hour seminars are being presented by OSU professors and staff through a Zoom webinar format. Master Gardeners can pre-register and join in on the day of the seminar at 6pm.

This year our plant sale had to be cancelled but again Master gardeners stepped up to the plate. This was a difficult decision but we were able to salvage the annual, perennial and herb plugs. Master Gardeners fostered all of those plants in their own gardens. Since we could not give these plants to any community organizations, it was decided to give them to ourselves.

Plans are being made and gardens are being previewed for our upcoming May 2021 Garden Tour. Many Master Gardeners have signed up to help and we are all looking forward to this event to take place next year. The selection process will include criteria such as: floral diversity, hardscape features, educational opportunities, proximity to other selected gardens and parking options for visitors.

Thanks to all Central Gorge Master Gardeners for rallying during a very difficult year.

Submitted by:

Barbara Kilkenny, CGMGA Representative



Second Quarter Report 2020 to OMGA Board of Directors

We, like everyone else, are on hold. So far, we have canceled our Spring Seminar and our Garden Fair. Fingers are crossed that we may be able to open our community gardens and hold our annual garden tour. We continue to hold our Board meetings via Zoom. Meanwhile, we've all been busy, as you will see below.

Membership: We have 77 paid members, 5 associates and 39 trainees.

Community Education: All of our in-person classes have been canceled, but we offered several on-line classes which have been very popular and had high attendance. Even when we open back up, we may continue with on-line classes in order to reach people who can't make it to our in-person classes. Unfortunately, we had already run ads for our classes so that is a sunk cost.

Spring Seminar: We refunded deposits received from our sponsors. A few sponsors left their donations in place, which luckily was enough to cover our costs expended for printing.

June Garden Fair: We purchased supplies for the plant sale, but will be able to use these next year. Luckily, we were able to cancel all plant orders, so we have not lost any money on this event.

Community Gardens: Both of our community gardens, Hollinshead and Discovery Park Community Garden are still closed, but we have held lotteries for the open garden plots in case we can open in time. Our problem here is that we have a very short growing season, so if vegetables aren't planted by mid-June it may be too late, and our gardens close in October. But our gardeners are ready to garden as soon as we open. We are set up for on-line registration.

Waterwise Garden: Our Waterwise garden has not been able to open, so we fear it is in dire need of pruning and weeding. However, we have a group of volunteers creating a database of plants in the garden who have continued to meet via Zoom to develop the database.

OSU Demo Garden: No one is allowed in the garden, but Amy Jo, our agent, is weeding as often as possible.

What has everyone been doing?

- I, for one, made over 150 cloth masks in conjunction with a Facebook Group that formed – Central Oregon Emergency Mask Makers – to help supply masks to our hospitals, clinics, nursing homes, etc. At least two other Master Gardeners are members. This virtual group has distributed over 8,000 masks throughout the community and is still making them. When

not making masks, I killed the grass in my backyard and am replacing it with pathways and garden beds. And of course, I'm weeding. Oh, and did I mention sourdough bread?

- From Nancy, our President: Pete & I have been working on our property:
Our irrigation pond is fed by a small canal from the Deschutes and it began drying up a few weeks ago. The first warm day in May we hiked through the marsh where the canal was dug about 50 years ago and spent almost 3 hours cleaning out hundreds of 2' long tree branches that the beavers had used to fill the canal. The second photo was taken the next day, showing that the water is again flowing.

The beavers are such wonderful creatures and have a huge dam at the side of the river, built on top of our 15" wide canal. Obviously, their instincts tell them to block flowing water so the river will remain high, even though this canal flows into our pond and back out to the river, downstream.

The ironic thing is that in the many branches I removed, I recognized several trees the beavers have taken from our property over the past few years, including two junipers that disappeared this past winter.
- From Trainee Kristine: I have been very busy outside playing in the dirt. My family moved into our newly built home last August on five acres with no landscaping so we have had much work to do this spring. My husband has been moving dirt and placing boulders with large equipment while my skills are put to use behind a wheelbarrow and shovel. We planted trees in late April and now I am planting shrubs and perennials. As you can imagine, without landscaping and mulch, there are many weeds to pull also! One additional exciting thing I did last weekend was attend a bee keeping class hosted by my daughter's high school friend, who is an expert bee keeper. I was amazed at the passion and experience this young lady has for honey bees and gardening!! I learned so much about these incredible insects and their intricate hive!! Did you know a Queen Bee does nothing but lay eggs? She doesn't even feed herself—her royal court brings her food and takes care of her. 🐝 Her health is essential to the survival of the colony so she is well cared for!! Bees are an integral and essential contributor to food production and our gardens!!
- From Trainee Jenn: My work was deemed essential so, I was business as usual until a couple of weeks ago when took advantage of an at home program my job offered. We had a hops plant, strawberries, and a couple other things come back from last year so that was fun. Also, we put in a little 5x5 garden we hope to plant, soon.
- From Trainee Carma: I have been doing some hardscaping, building raised beds, starting seed and direct planting! Have had spinach and radishes. When weather did cooperate for fun outdoor things, I sewed masks which were then distributed through Central Oregon Emergency Mask Makers. Haven't had a dull moment :)
- From Trainee Julie: Like most I imagine, I have been very busy in the yard and garden. I have to say our property has never looked better! My husband and I own 1.5 acres on the east side of Bend. We have weeded and weeded, trimmed and cleaned beds, planted

onions and potatoes, and started other garden seeds as well. We also put down 22 cubic yards of bark mulch! Other than that, I continue to paint my garden art poles and launched my website: gardenshedgirl.com

- From Donna: Weeding!!! And also cleaning out drawers that have years of useless stuff. So, I think this stay at home time has been good for me and I plan to continue it. I am 74 and my husband is 87. So, we are in the vulnerable group. As the community opens up, it will depend on how well people abide by distancing and wearing masks as to whether I am willing to participate in activities. As I have told restaurants, there is no meal served that I am willing to risk death for. And that is also true of other activities. I go to the grocery store, hardware store for garden supplies, Bi mart, and nurseries!!! That's it!!!!
- From Gary: Well of course not much has been going on with my project, the community garden, except trying to think about how we can open the garden without people coming in contact with each other like they would have in our traditional way of doing it. In the meantime, I've been doing some experimenting at home with my own raised bed meant to mimic the ones at the community garden. First, we've been interested in finding a more durable substitute for our cloche materials where we have been using disposable plastic for the ends and side walls. I fitted my own cloche with pvc panels on the ends and am in the process of making sidewalls of pvc as well and also hinging to make it easier for access. All the while keeping things sealed up against our rodent friends. The other dimension to this is an experimental planting on April 14 directly in the garden. I chose radishes, lettuces, spinach, arugula, beets and Swiss chard (I forgot to plant the kale). With our sunny and warm weather, germination and growth have been fantastic. Now we just need to see how well these varieties will handle any sustained cold spells and maybe a freeze here and there. I'm hoping it works for an early planted garden in this land of no last frost date!
- From Vickie: I have yet to be bored. I've sewn dozens of masks, shipped many to friends all over the country who couldn't get them, made many loaves of bread and goodies to share with neighbors, and in April, coordinated a food drive in our neighborhood as part of the Bend Food Project, which helps stock the shelves for the Giving Plate - the pantry in town that has the backpacks for kids' program. We have been working with the Bend Food Project since 2017 and are neighborhood coordinators for the project so our next collection is in June. We have also continued to volunteer with the Family Kitchen - we do their cardboard collection every other week and take it to the landfill, and we do a collection from Costco for them, once a month (just did one yesterday). In the middle of all that, I've been a wound nurse for my spouse, who fell in March, the bruise turned into a large hematoma that got infected so George was admitted to the hospital right at the beginning of the COVID-19 Stay Home order. Two surgeries, two hospital stays and a skin graft later, all requiring daily bandage changes, he's finally on the mend and almost back to his old self. Our talks with family have not changed much as we have always had weekly calls with the kids and family, so that stayed pretty much the same for us. My yard is looking pretty good - all Waterwise, no grass, and herbs/veggies only in pots as I have little space to plant a regular garden and it's easier for me to support my local farmers. I still have plenty to do, I cannot believe it's May already and the summer is still going to be busy, no matter what happens with the stay home orders. I always find things to do, especially with volunteer work!

- From Jan: In some ways the COVID-19 shutdown, as difficult as it is, has been a real boon for me. I started seeds on April 6 and this has been my most successful seed-starting by far -- I think because I'm home all the time. In the past my watering, fertilizing, transplanting etc. has been kind of haphazard because I'm busy with many other activities. This year I've been able to pay more attention and lost only a few seedlings along the way, so I have a lot of extras for friends.

Similarly, in my garden I am normally playing catch-up all through the spring because we don't get here until April and the weeds have already gone to town by then. Then I get busy with teaching classes, plant clinic, demo garden, etc. But this year I've been weeding a couple of hours a day so it's more under control than it ever has been. I'm almost finished direct sowing, which I normally don't get to until about first or second week of June.

Hay is looking good too.

In the non-garden world, I've been busy with one of my other volunteer jobs, writing grants for BrightSide Animal Center. I've completed 16 grant applications since early March. Most still are pending, but so far this grant writing has brought in \$17,000 for the shelter, so I feel pretty good about that.

I miss my normal life, but am counting my blessings that I am healthy.

- From Kathy:
 1. Daily walks in the nearby Deschutes forest with our giant Black Lab/Great Dane dog called Persephone aka Persey. We are exploring decommissioned roads and rarely used trails close to home to avoid crowds. We also do some bird watching and are now hunting morel mushrooms while on these walks. We had the good fortune to witness a large herd of elk cross the Deschutes River 2 different times in the last 2 months. That was very exciting!
 2. Zooming!
 - My hubby & I pick a couple of friends to connect up with each week and set up a Zoom Happy Hour. Also, my immediate family has a weekly check-in on Zoom.
 - Volunteer activities moved to Zoom (e.g. Virtual Water-wise Garden Project, Sunriver Women's Club Philanthropy Committee working to fund local non-profits hit hard by COVID-19)
 - Library book club meetings each month are on Zoom
 3. While the weather was still cold, I finished up some weaving projects. I am a beginning weaver and member of the Central Oregon Spinners & Weavers Guild. I participate in study group to learn new techniques. Before the lock down we were just finishing up a sampler project of various "double-weave" techniques. Before I got distracted by nicer weather I bought the material and have plans for several other projects (e.g. a belt for my husband using the Inkle Loom that he made me; a wool tweed vest for him; a birthday present scarf for a friend and a set of place-mats for a wedding gift). Last week I switched gears and sewed 2 masks for each of my family members and mailed them out (14 total).
 4. Gardening!

- Started seeds & planted a vegetable garden (Potatoes, peas, radishes, lettuce, carrots, beets, parsley, kale, cabbage, tomatoes, cucumbers).
- We implemented a landscaping project that included excavating a dry creek bed and building berms in front of the house. Fortunately, we own a small tractor. We planted 4 native trees in the berms that extend a native garden started 2 years ago. These will screen the house from the road we live on. We are in the process of covering the sod in the berms with black plastic to kill the grass. There will be additional native plantings when the grass is dead. The dry creek is intended to serve as a fire break. We got a load of rock from a neighbor and bought 11 yards for delivery. The dry creek now needs some sculpting and beautifying.
- Another landscape project underway is diverting a natural spring on our 1.6 acres into a pond. Previously the spring drained almost immediately into the neighbor's property and then out to an adjacent Deschutes River slough. We hope create a cool, shady sitting area near the pond to take advantage of a nice view of the slough during the warm summer months. We have planted willows and river birch near it already. So far, the diversion is working!

Report submitted by,

Janet Dart, COMGA State Representative

Columbia County MGA 2nd Quarter Report 2020

Our Master Gardeners are sorely missing their opportunities to volunteer, learn, teach, and garden together. Due to the COVID shutdowns we have cancelled what would have been our 25th annual tomato and pepper plant sale fundraiser, we have not seen or touched our demonstration garden, and have cancelled several other community events, educational booths, and public classes. However, our community has remained active, enduring, and socially distant.

Working from home, our OSU Extension Team has been taking calls and answering emails from the public and local farmers. Through social media they have gotten the word out about online classes for gardeners and many articles with valuable information. Many families in our community (beyond the MGs) have engaged in the Seed to Supper program, received ample seeds from the OSU extension office or other distribution sites, and have been growing their own “victory gardens.”

Our local foodbank, Columbia Pacific Food Bank has received over 150 donated tomato and zucchini starts to distribute to the community for free. In return they are asking for the growers to donate some of the crop back to the foodbank. Many local farmers are “growing a row” for the foodbank who typically received large fresh produce donations from the MG community gardens.

Despite a short break while transitioning to Zoom classes, we had 17 new trainees finish the 2020 coursework. Optional trainings are being offered to the master gardeners for CE via Zoom or online recordings. Our local chapter board meetings have continued to be held on Zoom with call in options.

Submitted by:

Rachel Krager, OMGA Representative for Columbia County



Coos County 2nd Quarter Report 2020

As with all other counties in Oregon, our Master Gardeners have had all our events cancelled. As a result, everyone's personal gardens and yards have become our focus of our efforts and skills.

We have had one Zoom meeting, which is new to most of us. We enjoyed seeing each other again after our isolations, some needing hair appointments, nail appointments and other "beauty" things we miss. After figuring out the tech tricks of Zoom, we shared what we have been able to do and what we still can't do, so hopefully next quarter report will contain more.

I have attached a few pictures of our accomplishments, at least we are going to eat well during this time.





Submitted by:

Terry Harris, OMGA Representative

What is happening in Curry County Second Quarter Report 2020

As this is written all of our in-person events and programs are still shut down and we wait for the latest directives from OSU. Even though all activities have been cancelled, the Curry “Team up Calendar” is still updated (with cancellations), the bookkeeping is still done, monthly Zoom board meetings are still happening with minutes taken, and our “Brambles” newsletter is still being published. Seed to Supper is taking place online. Plant clinic questions can be received through email or Facebook. Zoom get togethers have been taking place once a week. We are lucky to live in a fairly remote area that has been spared, so far, from many cases of the virus and most of us have plenty of space to enjoy the outdoors. Plants have their own viruses but ignore ours and they are doing what they do best this spring which is to make our little corner of the world a beautiful place.



From our coordinator Scott Thiemann: “One of the main reasons that I continue to do this work is because I love being in touch with the earth—that is, the soil in this case—and given all the pulls and pressures of living in our world, it is a place to truly find solace. The magic taking place this time each year as things grow and green up makes me feel like I am truly part of something important.”

Education

Seed-to-Supper: The planned training sessions were cancelled. In addition to Brookings, the program was expanding to Gold Beach and Port Orford. The class is still happening but moved online thanks to a lot of preparation and planning from the “Community Garden Coalition” in Del Norte county and the “Community Food Council for Del Norte and Tribal Lands”. Some are Master Gardeners, and all are interested helping everybody to “grow and eat better together”. A six-week class is held on Tuesdays with a question and answer session on Thursdays. It has been well attended with a mix of novice and experienced gardeners.

Riley Creek School Garden: The greenhouse has a new concrete floor thanks to a donation from the Rotary Club making it a much better place to hold classes and raise plants when the



school reopens.

Unfortunately, garden coordinator Ali Mramor, is leaving Curry County and Riley Creek School. She and her new baby will be missed, but better opportunities for her family are elsewhere.

Driftwood Elementary School:

New Master Gardener trainees from this year's class who live in Port Orford worked at the Driftwood Elementary School garden with staff of the Curry Watersheds Partnership in February.

Dig Your Library Program, Brookings — Julia Bott:

"...Dig Your Library ended the fall 2019 session by planting garlic and fava beans. Most of the fava beans were eaten, likely by rats, but the garlic did well. Potentially, programs will reopen at

the end of June and the garlic can be harvested by the kids. If not, Julia will harvest and give some to the food bank and save some for a fall planting activity.

March was all about worms. In early March, Master Gardeners Geo Vella and Julia Bott worked with the library's youth STEAM program to build a DIY worm bin. A similar program for adults was planned for March 21. The STEAM youth were trained to be assistants for that program. However, the program was cancelled to reduce the spread of COVID 19. ...

A 3 sisters garden was planned for an unused lawn area. So, in February, the STEAM kids marked off an area, laid out cardboard and with library and parents' permission, used a chipper to make mulch to cover the cardboard. Use of ear plugs, safety goggles and situational awareness was integrated into the program...However, with the program cancelled in April and May, no additional work was done to ready the 3 sisters' bed, except for the library's gardener adding more lawn clippings during their maintenance. The bed will be left to continue decomposing. Hopefully in the fall, it can be fenced, and fava beans or other cover crops can be planted.

...Given the uncertain timing of restarting the program, the beds will be planted in 3 types of pumpkins to be used in the library's fall decorations and activities."

Plant Sales

Vegetables: All the vegetables lovingly propagated were given away and taken to local essential businesses to be given to the employees there.

Perennials: Just before the lock down hypertufa & driftwood containers were made by a group at the annual container making event. Lots of attractive containers are waiting to be filled with succulents when plant sales can resume.



Submitted By:

Jeffrie Hall, OMGA Representative

Douglas County Master Gardeners 2nd Quarter Report 2020

2020 Master Gardener Winter Training: Fortunately, we were able to complete this year's winter training before everything was shut down. Unfortunately, we weren't able to celebrate our 32 trainees' accomplishments, so our official graduation ceremony has been put on hold.

Plant Clinic News: Our plant clinic may possibly reopen in July, but with restrictions. In accordance with OSU guidelines, we will be answering questions by phone or emails, but not visiting with the public. We will begin training our new MGs as soon as it is safe to do so.

Discovery Garden: Master Gardeners are looking forward to working in our Discovery Garden soon. However, many are spending lots of time in their own yards and several have said that their yards have never looked better.

Grants: Last fall, DCMG was awarded a \$5,000 grant from the Ford Family Foundation to help replace tables in one of our greenhouses. We later received a \$2,500 grant from the Cow Creek Foundation to complete the revision of the irrigation system in the greenhouse. We are very grateful for their generous grants.

Submitted by:

Barbara Hamby, OMGA Representative

Josephine County 2nd Quarter Report 2020

The Josephine County Master Gardener Association members have continued to meet via Zoom. All program and events for Spring and Summer have been either cancelled or postponed.

We are tentatively planning a Fall Plant Sale (via Zoom). Depending on our predicted environment we will have to be flexible in our plans to adapt to the changing COVID-19 situation. This may be difficult to arrange given the limitations given to us by OSU and Oregon's Higher Education Executive Order.

We have lost recovery of expenses and revenue with the cancellation of the Spring Garden Fair and the cost of the plants that were in our greenhouses when OSU gave an immediate closure of office/property.

We also would like to have an end-of-the-year social event to recognize Master Gardener awards.

Submitted by:

Breezy Schallheim, OMGA Representative

Lane County 2nd Quarter Report 2020

Although the Extension has been closed since the third week of March, there have been times when some Master Gardeners been surprising busy. Here are some of the ways we have continued to assist our local community with gardening education:

We have offered several online seminars to replace our Tuesday evening monthly seminars. Both the public and Master Gardeners tune in for a variety of presentations. In addition, we have invited all the Specialty Committees to participate in a "Tip of the Week" to be posted on our Facebook page and other social media. Our Extension staff also keeps us updated with numerous educational webinars offered statewide to provide educational opportunities for trainees and MGs.

The Sustainable Landscape Committee and the Plant Diagnostic Committee are planning on presenting their training programs via remote technology. A new mentoring plan is being started to provide the newly graduated Master Gardeners a way to continue to expand their training and to fulfil certification requirements.

Our annual Spring Plant Sale scheduled for April 25th was, of course, cancelled. A master list of carefully propagated vegetable, herb and annual starts for the sale was sent out to all Master Gardeners with an invitation to request specific starts. Those who had grown the plants responded with a planned, socially distancing pick up time for collection. For those wishing to, donations for the plants could to be mailed to LCMGA. The few plants that remained were donated to two local charities. Propagated perennials are being held over for a possible fall or spring sale in the future.

Master Gardener Sarah H. shares this report as a volunteer "pilot" with our new Remote Plant Clinic:

When all but essential services were closed around the state due to the coronavirus, Master Gardener activities initially came to an abrupt halt. This included the Plant Clinic, which closed its doors to both our volunteers and the public in mid-March. It was hugely disappointing not be able to offer our services at this important time in early spring when gardeners get busy again after the long winter. It was also disappointing for many of our new trainees, who had just completed their classes and were eager to get hands-on experience working on real cases. Must we resign ourselves to missing an entire season of garden advice and support? After a frustrating month of inactivity, we were excited to discover that one or two other Oregon chapters had found a way to deliver Plant Clinic services remotely. Our creative and skilled staff, Erica Chernoh and Jet Eccleston, developed a model for Lane County based on what others were doing elsewhere.

They began by training a small group of experienced MGs. After a week or two testing the system with a pilot group, and making some modifications, those of us in the pilot group were ready to train additional volunteers. The system has evolved as we tested its strengths and weaknesses (and our own!). We continue to hold Zoom meetings to make improvements and share our experiences.

So how do you provide Plant Clinic services remotely with volunteers working at home?

A typical “virtual” shift works like this:

1. We start by logging in to a shared Gmail account. All the emails and phone messages received at the Plant Clinic are forwarded to this account, which takes the place of being physically in the actual Plant Clinic to read emails, answer the phone, or see clients.
2. We select a case to work on, mark it as “taken,” and enter some basic information about the case (name of client, problem, etc.) on a spreadsheet that is stored on the Google Drive associated with the shared Gmail account. Multiple MGs can access the spreadsheet at one time and check on the progress of any particular case.
3. Follow-up with the client is often needed, because we rely on the client to provide detailed information and photographs of the problem. We do this by email and telephone. There was some concern about using our own phones to call clients, so we use a Jive account that we downloaded to our home computers or phones that uses the Plant Clinic number. When we call, the client sees that the call is from the Master Gardeners.
4. We follow our usual practices of researching cases using evidence-based resources, and consulting with other MGs on the shift (e.g., by phone or Zoom) when we need a second opinion. Without being able to inspect samples, we rely heavily on clients’ photos and their descriptions of the problems, so our diagnoses must sometimes be tentative.
5. When the case is closed and the client informed, this is noted on the spreadsheet and the email thread is removed from the Gmail inbox.

So far, we have worked on well over 150 cases using these methods. In May, we have been averaging about 40 cases a week. MGs have found the remote Plant Clinic procedures easy to learn in one or two shifts. There are even some positive features of our virtual methodology that we can see continuing in some form when we get back to the actual Clinic.

We are happy to have found a way to keep providing a service at this time that keeps our volunteers safe and helps the public at a time when enthusiasm for gardening is reaching new heights.

Submitted by:

Vicki Harrison, OMGA Representative

Lincoln County Master Gardener Association Second Quarter Report 2020

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.

We have continued to host our monthly board meetings via Zoom. Additionally, Pami Monette has conducted weekly MG Happy Hour events via zoom where the entire LCMGA community is encouraged to attend to stay up to date with the COVID-19 status vs. Master Gardeners and checking in on the general well-being of our membership: Sharing of ideas, sharing garden photos, etc.

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

Note: With the Master Gardener Classes closed, Demonstration Garden and Plant Clinic closed, it has been challenging to get the apprentice Master Gardeners the needed hours to graduate this fall.

- **Apprentices:** Many of our apprentices have worked through the Spring with individual demonstration garden mentors applying projects in their own gardens; often monitored safely by the mentors both in safe distancing/masks and social media/email.
- **Plant Clinics:** We have started up our local plant clinic taking on a virtual 'adopt a week' plan. Each week a tenured/veteran Master Gardener is paired with an apprentice and they are provided access to the plant clinic email to continue providing community outreach to our county.
- **Plant Donations:** Since we cancelled our Spring Plant Sale, we have worked with our local Food Bank to develop a donation strategy to provide these seedlings and garden produce to the Food Bank in a safe manner. Additionally, all the plant sale growers and Master Gardeners of Lincoln County were encouraged to grow additional vegetables and flowers to donate to the local community through the **Food Bank only**. Donating directly to the community was not authorized as a Master Gardener activity at this point.

Community Education:

- Seed to Supper beginning April in Newport: Cancelled
- Round Table Winter/Spring: All sessions were cancelled. We are looking at continuing this series through a webinar/Zoom: TBA

Spring Plant Sale: Our Annual Spring Plant Sale was cancelled due to State of Oregon Covid-19 instructions. We looked hard at defining a potential Fall program but now due to the uncertainty of Covid-19 and State/OSU regulations, that is no longer on the potting table. Now looking at our Spring Plant Sale 2021.

Demonstration Gardens: We have 5 individual gardens here in Lincoln County. With the School district closing, State Parks closing, and the Community Colleges closed all activity has ceased. Currently there are no plans to go into the gardens for any "spring" cleaning. One garden down in Yachats also serves as the local community garden. Procedures are being looked at to potentially open this garden for the community plots after an approved plan is submitted.

Master Gardener of the year and Behind the Scenes 2020 Award:



Congratulations are for a couple of our outstanding volunteers. Marlene Shapiro (left) has been recognized as our **Master Gardener of the Year** and Carita Edson (right) is our **Behind the Scenes** award winner. So well deserved, we are lucky to have you both in our MG family!

We lost one of our own:



We are saddened to lose an amazing person and Master Gardener volunteer this year, Betty Bahn. Betty was an MG for 20 years, and taught classes for Lincoln County Master Gardeners. She devoted years of care and love to developing the Yachats Community and Demonstration Garden.

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

Linn County MGA 2nd Quarter Report 2020

Rich Little and Rane Webb did the first Linn County educational Zoom Q & A session on April 8th on Blue Orchard Mason Bees. There were 42 participants! The session was recorded and later shared with Marion County and on the www.LinnMasterGardeners.com website. The questions were often topics we had not covered before in our other more basic sessions. It is wonderful that so many people are now supporting these native bees. Rane also did a Zoom presentation and Q & A on Mason Bees for Jackson County on April 16th.

Several Linn Master Gardeners were trained to use a new “Dashboard” to help Master Gardeners and trainees answer gardening questions coming into Linn County Extension through e-mail and phone calls.

On Fridays there has been a Zoom gathering of master gardeners to just talk and keep connected.

Extension has more recently started a Zoom Q & A session each week for the public to ask and get answers to gardening questions. Trainees and certified master gardeners are involved in these sessions.

Board meetings have been held through Zoom.

Like all of you we are missing seeing our master gardening friends and miss not working in the demonstration garden. It was very hard to decide that our 21st summer Albany Garden Tour needed to be cancelled.

We all look forward to seeing each other again.

Submitted by:

Janice Gregg, OMGA Representative

Marion County Master Gardeners Association 2nd Quarter Report 2020

Well, we are still here. This past quarter, we have not been working in our Demonstration Garden, held any classes or conducted any outreach through the Community Plant Clinic program. We have held our monthly board meetings through ZOOM. Despite a few glitches, we were able to have successful meetings. Our horticulturist is working with OSU to ensure we meet all requirements so we can get back to our Master Gardener duties. We are putting plans in place so we can get back to work in the Demonstration Garden as soon as we get the OK.

Submitted by:

Terry Sawyer. OMGA Representative

Multnomah County Master Gardeners 2nd Quarter Report 2020

As this Spring's MG activities were cancelled including the last two weeks of our in-person trainings many programs were rescheduled for virtual consumption.

Starting in April we went online with Friday Webinars followed by a Since all spring activities were cancelled including the last 2 weeks of Master Gardener Hangout session on Zoom.

Webinars included:

Get Growing! Vegetable Garden Success. Dennis Brown

Slug Hunting: Know Your Enemy. Claudia Growth

'Adapting your Garden and Yard for Climate Change'. Weston Miller

Gardening with Pacific NW Native Plants. Eric Butler

Several newsletters were active during this period. Metro launched a newsletter called THE REAL DIRT E-news about proper growing techniques. And our Multnomah County launch a Facebook page for our members and others.

We miss all our face to face activities including the hundreds of Farmers Markets, fairs, demonstration garden days, open house at the Demo garden, Propagation classes, soil classes, pruning classes, advanced gardening classes, etc.

We wish everyone stay well and healthy and GARDEN ON!!!

Submitted by:

Marilyn Frankel, OMGA Representative

POLK COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS 2ND QUARTER CHAPTER REPORT 2020

Polk County well we are hanging in there. Our group has been great with zoom meetings and social distancing we are navigating this strange time. Lots getting done with the plant sale a bust, our growers donated heavily and gave away all of their hard work. Lots of gardening getting done. One major highlight I would like to include is The Peace garden addition to our demonstration garden. I will add a snippet from our newsletter. If you haven't been out to our garden you are missing out.



The Peace Garden by Bill Leedy

As you may or may not be aware, Darrell Ward applied for and received a 'Hiroshima ginkgo' from the Green Legacy Foundation. These are seedling trees grown from the seeds of ginkgo trees that survived the Hiroshima atomic bombing 75 years ago. The seedling trees are made available to public and university gardens with a firm caveat that they are to be honored and well cared for. This led to the development of the Polk County Master Gardener (PCMG) Peace Garden.

I developed a garden design with numerous symbolic elements. This design was presented to the City of Independence Parks and Rec and not only approved but also partially funded with \$2600. The city also provided fill dirt, large rocks, and gravel for the project. PCMG provided an additional \$1500 to the project.

Ground prep for the garden started in early February along the East boundary line and North of G Street. Kay Beatty acquired numerous companion plants with the intent that Eagle Scout Joseph Harrington and Scout troop 38 would plant and mulch these for his Eagle Scout Service badge. And then the coronavirus pandemic derailed all plans and schedules. The numerous plants needed to be in the ground, so Kay and I planted these in late March, of course, with social distancing. All work was suspended for the next two months.

In late May it was deemed safe – with social distancing – for Joseph and Scout Troop 38 to help complete the project by placing the Rotary Peace Pole, building a post and rope boundary, and spreading mulch and gravel, and thereby, allowing Joseph to receive his badge. The Peace Garden provides a “sacred area” for solitude and reflection. When you feel safe, please come and enjoy the newest addition to the Inspiration Garden.



I hope everyone is doing their best to stay healthy and hope to see everyone in person soon.

Submitted By:

George Woodward, OMGA Representative

Tillamook County Master Gardeners 2nd Quarter Report 2020

Due to the Corona virus instruction from OSU we shut down our 2020 class early the second week of March. The apprentices had many questions, which we are still attempting to answer in late May. They went through the lessons, watched webinars, and talked with their mentors via the internet. Exams were turned in by May 15 and are yet to be checked and discussed with the apprentices. Plans are being discussed to get together with them on line or if released by OSU in small discussion groups. Due to the direction of Linda Stephenson our Mentors have tried to maintain a communication channel with our apprentices. They have many questions as we all do about fulfilling their volunteer hours, certification, making up classes, etc. this year.

We cancelled our plant sale, garden tour and involvement in the Tillamook Farmers Market. Later in the year we may get involved in the market, depending on OSU and the structure of the market.

There has been discussion about a virtual garden tour on Facebook featuring not only the gardens we had to cancel but some very attractive gardens belong to some of our chapter members. Nothing has been decided at this time however.

Our Seed to Supper classes were scheduled to run from March 17 for 6 weeks and were cancelled per the TCMGA Board meeting on March 12, 2020 to cease all public activities. It was decided to provide information to the class participants remotely. Few of the participants got their course books, we attempted to distribute them through the Library, but they shut down also. Many resources were provided to the facilitators, via the FoodHero.org site from OSU and many video links from Clatsop Co MG Vegetable Garden series of blogs. Many thanks to them and also to our own Kristy Lund for pulling this all together and providing help to the local facilitators who made it come together. The local facilitators are: John Benson, Kristy Lund and Arla Ayers, Evelyn Von Feldt and Ronen Geffen (a 2020 Apprentice). Many of the participants have been very appreciative and in spite of the pandemic we feel our efforts have not been in vain.

In Tillamook County it has been a very quiet few months, we have not had the virus cases that other parts of the state are experiencing. We are obeying the "stay at Home" rulings of the government and all are spending more time than ever gardening in our own yards and gardens. Consequently, many of our yards will be "tour ready" this year but alas, no tour.

Respectfully submitted by:

Betty Lyons, Tillamook OMGA Representative

Washington County Master Gardener™ Association 2nd Quarter Report 2020

This has been a challenging quarter. We are keeping in touch with one another, continuing on-going projects as possible, and using electronic means to provide gardening information to Washington County residents.

- We are holding Chapter meetings via Zoom and recording Chapter meeting speakers. Links to the speaker presentations are posted to our Facebook and web pages. These recordings may be accessed, along with OSU Extension MG weekly webinars at:
<https://media.oregonstate.edu/channel/channelid/161357322>
- The Tri-County Study Group (Clackamas, Multnomah, Washington) has been “Zooming” as well and we are enjoying the opportunity to connect with MGs from the other counties.
- Our project to identify and translate 10 gardening-related information sheets is continuing after a slight delay and focusing on broadening our electronic delivery possibilities.
- We are considering how we might deliver some of our demonstration garden presentations remotely while we are not able to do so at our garden location.
- Also, a new video was just published by the Xerxes Society and uses our WCMGA Education Garden for part of the production. Here is a link to *Brilliant Bees*
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EhBaMc6g_C4&t=3s .
- We cancelled Gardenfest, our primary fundraiser this year, and are planning for a small sale in the Fall to our members and perhaps the public if possible
- During this time, the WCMGA Learning Garden has been putting in a new gate. Below is a link to the video:
<https://youtu.be/p8wIRHnv5JM>



Submitted by:

Leslie Ray, OMGA Representative

YAMHILL COUNTY, OREGON 2ND QUARTER REPORT 2020

We began planting seeds in the Greenhouse in February, worked planting more seeds in February and began transplanting when the seedlings were large enough. We also purchased about 4,120 plugs from a nursery and transplanted them into larger containers. In March we learned that we could not hold our annual plant sale and so we just took care of all of our plants until a decision was made that we needed to find a home for them. We contacted Dayton High School's FFA and they were kind enough to pick up all of the plants and use them in their plant sale. We were extremely pleased that all of our work was to be used.

We worked at planting the Demo Gardens and they are doing well. We also have been redesigning our rose garden and have put in an archway and path with new rose bushes on each side of the path.

We have also been working on a redesign of our greenhouse, beginning with new flooring, heat tables and benches. This is all a work in progress and we have been holding a lot of meetings with ZOOM or Google Meet. Not nearly as satisfying as having friends in the same place, but it is working.

Submitted by Polly Blum, OMGA Representative