



## **Oregon Master Gardener Association 4th Quarter 2020 Chapter Reports**

<b><u>County</u></b>	<b><u>Submitted By</u></b>
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Central Oregon	Janet Dart
Curry County	Jeffrie Hall
Douglas County	Barbara Hamby
Jackson County	Barbara Davidson
Josephine County	Breezy Schallheim
Lane County	Vicki Harrison
Lincoln County	Michael Christy
Linn County	Ann Kinkley/Ranee Webb
Marion County	Terry Sawyer
Multnomah County	Marilyn Frankel
Tillamook County	Betty Lyons
Washington County	Leslie Ray
Yamhill County	Polly Blum

# **Benton County Master Gardener Association**

## **4th Quarter 2020 Chapter Report**

### **Fall Plant Sale –**

We were able to hold a fall plant sale by contracting with the Evening Garden Club to independently run the sale including advertising, invitations, and signups. The sale was held on September 25 and 26 and featured over 4,000 plants that were propagated and divided last fall. Thanks to OSU Extension, the sale proposal was approved in a matter of hours. You can read the details here:

<https://oregonstate.box.com/s/fubid8dr68hvv4jlb6pbyadto7qmw051>

### **The Children's Garden -**

A new garden bed, the Children's Garden, was established at the Benton County Fairgrounds, during the fall. The work was done primarily by trainees of 2020. The plantings will provide a rainbow of colors and areas of interest suited to children learning about gardening. Photos to follow next spring!

### **Virtual Garden Tours –**

Winners of the August Virtual Garden Tours photo raffle are Kathy Clark and Pat Werner. Winners of the September raffle were Deborah Hobbs and Jesse Garcia. All winners were awarded \$25 gift certificates to their favorite local nursery.

### **Annual Holiday Greens Party –**

Unfortunately, there will be no greens party this year at the Fairgrounds. Benton County Health has banned all indoor events at the Fairgrounds as being potentially too risky at this time. We have reserved the Fairgrounds building for next year in hopes that all things COVID-19-related improve.

### **Zoom License –**

Since Zoom meetings have become the new normal, the board voted to purchase a Zoom subscription for committee use. We'll be able to share and schedule meetings using a new BCMGA g- mail account.

### **Insights into Gardening 2021**

Sadly, there will be no **Insights into Gardening** in 2021, due to the difficulty planning an event of that scale during these uncertain times.

### **New Board of Directors for 2021 –**

Elections were held at the October Board meeting. The officers elected for 2021 are:

President- Deb Kern

President Elect- Jana Tindall

Vice President- Alan Taylor

Past President- Nancy Tovar

Secretary- Diana Allen

Treasurer- Marge Alig

Co-Treasurer- Lynn Trimpe

Membership Secretary- Deborah Hobbs

OMGA Rep- Rich Taylor

Alt OMGA Rep- David Mandel

Outreach- Bob Smythe

Members at Large- Frank Garcia, Debra Garley, and Pashalle Johnson.

Submitted by:

Richard Taylor, Benton County OMGA Representative

# **CENTRAL GORGE MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION**

## **4th Quarter 2020 Chapter Report - Hood River County**

Fall is here in the Central Gorge with leaves turning colors, warm days, and crispy cold mornings. It puts a smile on my face thinking about this special time of year. The harvest is in and the last of our flowering annuals are putting out a big effort to keep their faces pointed toward the sun before the morning frost lays hold. Already we are making Gardening Plans for 2021. This Winter when the wind blows and the snow is on the ground, we will be pouring through our seed catalogs, eating our canned produce, and waiting for Spring.

November is usually the month when we have our Recognition Celebration but this year being so unique, we celebrated September 30, 2020. In Covid Style we gathered on the spacious lawn at Hood River Valley Christian Church. The early fall evening was warm with a gorgeous blue sky, and no wind. Special recognition and thanks were given to deserving Master Gardeners. This was also a time for us to recognize our New Program Assistant, Megan Wickersham. Election of new officers took place and were voted in to serve on the CGMGA Executive Board. In an overview of plans for the 2021 season, we learned that the class structure will be online and no new Master Gardeners will be trained. Interaction with the public will remain virtual and projects like the Plant Sale and Garden Tour will be altered to adhere to OSU distancing guidelines at the time of the event's occurrence.

With this year coming to an end, the Master Gardener program for 2021 is sure to be exciting and innovative. One big advantage we have is the benefit of knowing how to work safely within the parameters of OSU guidelines. CGMGA projects will be different than in the past years, but will continue on with the statewide mission of "Cultivating resilient and healthy communities throughout Oregon through sustainable horticulture education and gardening projects that are rooted in science and that are supported by OSU Extension volunteers."

Before this year comes to a complete end, on November 7<sup>th</sup> from 10am to noon Sadafumi Uchiyama will be giving a pruning demonstration in the Japanese Heritage Garden. This will be a unique opportunity to learn specific pruning techniques for the Japanese plantings. The demonstrations will be limited to 20 people and all attendees must have completed the OSU COVID training and checklist. Sadafumi Uchiyama is the Garden Curator at Portland Japanese Garden.

Our annual Holiday Greenery Event will be held on December 5<sup>th</sup> this year. As a service project Master Gardener volunteers will create swags and wreaths to be given to the FISH Food Bank and WGAP. In COVID Style, we will be meeting in our beautiful new Greenhouse.

Submitted by:  
Barbara Kilkenny, Central Gorge OMGA Representative



## Fourth Quarter 2020 Chapter Report to OMGA Board of Directors

It seems like we just opened, and now we're closing for the season. We may be getting our first snow this weekend.

**Membership:** We continue to hold monthly Board meetings via Zoom, to which all members are invited (and many attend). We successfully held Board elections via Survey Monkey, and also approved our 2021 budget via Survey Monkey. We will be missing our annual party, but OSU and COMGA sent out joint thank you cards to the membership instead.

**Community Education:** We are planning next year's community education classes and will be able to hold all of them via Zoom if necessary. We're hoping we might have hybrid in-person/ Zoom classes sometime in 2021, but time will tell. The biggest challenge is coordinating our community classes with the state-wide advanced training, state-wide classes, local OSU classes, community garden classes and Spring Seminar. We're also planning a virtual Spring Seminar in lieu of our traditional day of 16 classes in April.

**Plant Clinic:** Our Plant Clinic usually closes in the fall, but since it is being conducted via email and phone, our OSU employee will continue to handle the calls that come in. We had 10 volunteers work Plant Clinic, and it was a good opportunity to test out the new ECCO system for recording Plant Clinic issues.

**Community Gardens:** Both of our community gardens, Hollinshead and Discovery Park Community Garden, are now closed. Discovery Park closed just as the first frost hit. Because of the limited ability of our volunteers to train the gardeners on fortifying their cloches to keep the rodents out, the rodents were able to dine on some of the plots. Hollinshead Garden was happy to report that, in spite of opening two months late, they still donated 532 lbs. of produce to Neighbor Impact.

**Waterwise Garden:** While the Waterwise Garden is open to the public year-round, the last work day was held on Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup>. Fresh mulch was applied to help the plants through the winter. A new community bulletin board, serving both the Waterwise and Hollinshead Gardens, was installed featuring a plant-of-the-month profile. We're lucky to have a graphic artist trainee who designed this.



**OSU Extension Service Demonstration Garden in Redmond:** Volunteer work ended in late October. We usually have two coordinators, but one could not help out due to COVID-19. Luckily, two trainees stepped

up to be co-coordinators next year. We have an incredible group of trainees this year. In 2021 we will have an expanded demonstration garden in Redmond, as the area in front of OSU's new building will be landscaped and Master Gardeners will do the maintenance. This garden also donated to Neighbor Impact, including 208 lbs. of pumpkins.

All in all, in spite of the challenges of 2020, we were able to keep our community gardens open and continue with community education.

Report submitted by,  
Janet Dart, Central Oregon OMGA State Representative

## **Curry County Master Gardener Association 4th Quarter 2020 Chapter Report**

Since the OMGA 3rd quarter meeting not much has happened in Curry County. Zoom meetings continue and Curry Members have stepped up to fulfil the positions for next year's board, also the budget for 2021 is being planned during a very uncertain time.

**PLANT SALE:** After some back forth, on again off again, it was decided to have a plant sale at the greenhouse at Gold Beach High School. A one-week license was applied for and the well-tended perennials that were supposed to have been sold at the May plant sale were sold in October to only Master Gardeners or friends accompanied by a Master Gardener. The sale was a success. Plans for a more normal future are underway. From Carol Hobbs; "What a week this has been. Thank you to everyone who has purchased plants. Our courtyard is looking almost naked compared to this summer. We hope to be on track to have a sale of some sort next spring. We are working on ideas of how to do a remote sale to include the public safely for everyone. Meanwhile, we have started many little cuttings in the greenhouse. Soil arrives on Saturday, so we will start potting in the next couple of weeks."

With the work of Scott Thiemann and Carol Hobbs greenhouse plants were planted at the Curry County Fairgrounds entrance helping to beautify the entrance. Maybe for an actual fair next summer?

**PROGRAMS:** From Scott Thiemann, coordinator: "... we have continued to support community through the Riley Creek School Gardens. That amazing location serves almost as much as a community garden, having gone from being an outdoor teaching lab for students to also being one for adults. I see you learning so much from each other in also transforming this wonderful community resource into more of a production garden that provides healthy produce to so many..." The fall harvest at Riley Creek has gone well and washed, boxed or wrapped fruits and vegetables (potatoes, zucchini, tomatoes, raspberries, carrots, lettuce, and beets plus dahlias) have been distributed to families of students. Any extra food has been donated to the teachers. From Lori Phelan: "Cathy Boden and Mary Jacobs have provided a plan to succession plant and to have more of a year-round demonstration garden providing more variety of foodstuffs. New plantings were planted for a fall/winter crop in the beds and new seeds have been started."

Dig Your Library Programs are still on hold during fall 2020 The produce grown this past summer will become Chetco Community Public Library decorations. The seeds from the vegetables will be saved for next summer's planting.

**SPECIAL EVENT ON SEED SAVING:** On September 17, over Zoom there was a presentation on seed saving. Curry Master Gardener Julia Bott helped to organize. Terry Allaway and Lynette McPherson of the Chetco Community Seed Library and the Brookings School District shared numerous insights on collecting and saving seeds successfully. Link: [https://media.oregonstate.edu/media/t1\\_h4w03a3w](https://media.oregonstate.edu/media/t1_h4w03a3w)

**DEI:** A Diversity, Equity, Inclusion (DEI) Committee Report was completed in September 2020. Awareness was raised and a number of ideas were suggested for making the program more inclusive. We need to be "transactional" & find out what people need/want in order to better serve the community. The report focused on why this effort was undertaken, results of member input, "Ideas for Consideration", & possible ways to reach out to all persons in our county. Learn their needs and offer programs to meet those needs. Assisting the food insecure is probably one of the best opportunities we have for increasing equity.

Submitted By:  
Jeffrie Hall, Curry County OMGA Representative

## **Douglas County Master Gardener Association Fourth Quarter 2020 Chapter Report**

Douglas County Master Gardeners remain strong and active, despite all the obstacles we've had to face during this pandemic.

**Plant Clinic:** Our plant clinic has remained opened three days a week through Autumn. It received more than 50 calls and emails during the last month. It will be open only on Fridays from 1-3 pm beginning in December. Since we are still following COVID guidelines, clients may leave their plant samples and gardening concerns and questions at the OSU Extension front office. E-mails and voice mails are also welcomed.

**Discovery Garden:** The gardens are in the midst of fall clean up. For the first time in 20 years, irrigation at the garden continued into October. The Victory Garden produced a record 7,267 pounds of fruits and vegetables. The garden has been put to bed with compost and a cover crop of fava beans. Sustainable gardening practices have made a great difference in the garden and confirms the importance of all Master Gardeners to share their gardening knowledge with the community.

**Membership Recognition:** Our members were recognized for their service and generosity at an outdoor gathering at the Discovery Gardens in September. We have a total of 248 members, 167 who remain active. Our total recorded hours of volunteerism are 12,735 hours.

**Plant Sale:** We are planning to have our annual plant sale at the Discovery Garden greenhouses. The exact details of how it will be organized and still abide by COVID guidelines and restrictions have yet to be determined, but we are determined!

Submitted by:  
Barbara Hamby  
Douglas County OMGA Representative

## **Jackson County Master Gardener Association 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2020 Chapter Report**

When COVID restrictions were partially lifted, JCMGA members were able to report to the Extension by appointment and maintain our 20 plus gardens around the grounds of the Extension.

Our Board meetings have been by Zoom. We have a Board orientation planned in early December which will also be by Zoom.

Lynn Kunstman has inventoried the plant starts in our greenhouses and made those lists available to victims of the fires which destroyed many homes in Jackson County in early September. We also collected tools (shovels, rakes, hoes, pruners, gloves, wheelbarrows, a chainsaw and miscellaneous other items) which were donated to Habitat for Humanity to help the fire victims.

In October we held a virtual awards ceremony for recipients of Statewide awards.

Our Plant Clinic continues to help our citizens with their gardening problems. With the help of our Program Coordinator, Erika Szonntag, several of the Plant Clinic Mentors are responding to emails from the public.

In early November, we sponsored a trial virtual garden tour for our members--thanks to Sherri Morgan and Ronnie Budge for the use of their gardens. It was well received with 82 registrants.

To help maintain our funds, we are now turning in bottles and cans in the name of JCMGA.

Barbara Davidson  
Jackson County OMGA Representative



## Josephine County Master Gardener Association Fourth Quarter 2020 Chapter Report

The Josephine County Master Gardener Association members have continued to have monthly meeting via Zoom.

The Plant Clinic is in Winters Hours at this time, 1 day per week, staffed by 1 MG with no customer interaction. Several volunteers have been supporting Plant Clinic with research from home.

The Nursery Area (Perennials & Greenhouse) and the Demonstration Gardens are open to volunteers with restricted access adhering to COVID-19 Safety rules and sign-in/out.

The Greenhouse volunteers are busy preparing to purchase soil and seeds with plans to start a daily planting schedule in January with the hope of several Virtual Plant Sales in spring next year. Committee members are working on a possible Virtual Seeds of Spring which will consist of classes during multiple evenings.

Elections were held and we were able to fill all Josephine County MGA Officer positions. The new elected Officers were announced during our recent Virtual Board Meeting. Our President and OSU County Coordinator hosted a Virtual Zoom Social Hour where a video of each of the recipients of a "Josephine County MGA Pandemic Resiliency Award" was awarded for MG volunteers who worked many hours in the Gardens, Plant Clinic, Greenhouse, Perennials, Newsletter and Plant Sales, especially during the hot and smoky summer months.

The volunteers that set up traps for the Gypsy Moth Trapping program in support of Oregon Department of Agriculture has completed. A new activity involving MG volunteers will be working with the City of Grants Pass Tree Survey Program as Citizen Scientist in support of this project.

We also have some sad news: our OSU Extension Master Gardener Coordinator will be leave mid-November for a similar position in North Carolina. We are planning a virtual MG "Goodbye" for her. OSU has developed interim plans to fill in while we wait for a new MG Coordinator in the April timeframe.

Happy Thanksgiving

Submitted by:

Breezy Schallheim, Josephine County OMGA Representative

## Lane County Master Gardener Association 4th Quarter 2020 Chapter Report

September and October were busy months for Lane County Extension. Although the Plant Clinic questions are slowing down, other projects kept us busy.

The Sustainable Landscaping committee pulled off another successful 3-day webinar in October. Both the July and October workshops went off with only a few minor glitches. All presenters learned a lot through this process, and this effort has helped us to achieve our mission of educating the public about sustainable gardening. The **2020 SL October webinar** had 14 registered participants. At least nine showed up for all three days. The webinar itself, with its two hours/day for three days, went smoothly technically, thanks to our host Jan Gano. Our lecturers did a better job by seeming to be more relaxed this second time around.

As if a pandemic is not challenging enough, this year saw intense fires and smoke affect much of the state. Because of the Holiday Farm fire, our planned Virtual Fall Festival was switched from Sunday

September 13<sup>th</sup>, to October 18<sup>th</sup> and was a successful event! We appreciated the presenters and audience flexibility with the changing date, and willingness to present online. All of the presentations were unique, interesting and educational, and we have received lots of positive feedback from the 75 participants!

The Fall Festival program included:

11:00am *Cover Crops* with Erica Chernoh, OSU Horticulturist

12:00pm *Some Like it Hot: Composting Questions Answered* with OSU Compost Specialists

1:00pm *Saving Seeds* with Stephen Oldfield, MG

2:00pm *What to Do with All That Winter Squash* with OSU Master Food Preservers

Compost Specialists Patty Driscoll, Kathleen Daly, and Leigh Rieder gathered in Leigh's garden on October 16 to film a composting demonstration. In a normal year, the Compost Specialists hold 12 or more public compost demos partly sponsored by the City of Eugene, but the pandemic brought those plans to a halt. The video, a "how-to" for hot and cold composting, will be posted on the Lane County Master Gardener YouTube channel as an alternative form of outreach. Later they hope to make another video on vermicomposting. Despite a few equipment snafus, the weather was beautiful, and they had fun!



Submitted by:  
Vicki Harrison, Lane County OMGA Representative



# Lincoln County Master Gardener Association (LCMGA)

## 4th Quarter 2020 Chapter Report to OMGA Board of Directors

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. **NO CHANGE**

We have continued to host our monthly board meetings via Zoom. Additionally, Pami Monette has conducted monthly MG Happy Hour/Check-In 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. **NO CHANGE**

**Membership:** In 2020 we have 101 members and 22 trainees (plus 1 online student who lives in Lincoln County). **NO CHANGE**

### Master Gardener Classes:

The statewide recommendation for training is to roll 2020 and 2021 into one year. We will continue to support our new apprentices, but there will not be training for new volunteers next year. We will just have to wait and see how it all rolls out. **NO CHANGE**

- **Apprentices:** Many of our apprentices have worked through the Summer 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. **NO CHANGE**
- **Plant Clinics:** Our local plant clinic continues 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. This will be our community footprint until the end of year and into the 2021 year. **UPDATED**
- **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. We have tracked our donations to date and our LCMGA Master Gardeners have donated more than **936+** plants to both local families and food share. Our donations in produce are starting to gain traction with **140+** pounds donated to food share. **UPDATED**

### Community Education:

#### -Round Table Winter/Spring Virtual Round Tables: **UPDATED**

We will be running our virtual round tables via Zoom for the Winter/Spring season. They will be 1-hour sessions running on Wednesdays from 10:00-11:00am. Advertising via social media at this time. All registrations to be online.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>
12/02/20	Making Wreaths
1/06/21	Pruning Roses
1/20/21	Soil Amendments
2/03/21	Greenhouses
2/17/21	Growing Natives
3/03/21	Growing Tomatoes
3/17/21	Growing Rhode's
4/07/21	Adaptive Gardening
4/21/21	Straw Bale Gardening
5/05/21	Growing Garlic

**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. Researching alternate methods to conduct a potential on-line presence to support our local community. **UPDATED**

**Demonstration Gardens: UPDATED**

- **Oregon Coast Community College (OCCC) - Lincoln City**
  - **NOT OPEN** to the public. Not accessible to MGs on weekends. Maintenance only. **NO CHANGE**
- **Oceanview Assisted Living Adaptive Garden- Newport - NO CHANGE**
  - **NOT OPEN** to the public. Maintenance only.
  - However, one of the residents of the community is a Master Gardener and is taking care of the garden maintenance.
- **Yaquina Bay Lighthouse and School Garden-Newport – UPDATED**
  - **NOT OPEN** to the public.
  - The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department have given permission, within local COVID protocols, for our MGs to enter the garden area for maintenance only. **NEW**
- **Oregon Coast Community College (OCCC) - South Beach – NO CHANGE**
  - **NOT OPEN** to the public, Not accessible to MGs on weekends. Maintenance only.
  - Clean-up mode- focused on assessing winter crops potential.
  - Assigned apprentices from other gardens that are not open
- **Yachats Demonstration and Community Gardens- OPEN -NO CHANGE**
  - Yachats Garden was awarded the grant from the Siletz Tribe in the amount of \$4525. This will be going to replacing the remaining old wooden beds with the Durable Greenbeds. Maintenance only.
  - Community beds are open to the public.

**Garden Tours:**

Sadly, the Echo Mountain Fires in North Lincoln County compounded the disruption of Master Gardener activities. Only 2 of the 3 planned tours were able to be conducted and the last one cancelled. The plan is to revisit the garden tours this spring. **UPDATED**

**Community Garden Initiative:** There has been a revival in the county community garden movement. Meetings with the county are held every other month. The discussion includes how to make community gardens better, community garden access, and the addition of new community gardens. We want to be involved in this discussion with the county and find ways as Master Gardeners to support this. No activity since last report. **NO CHANGE**

**Lincoln County School District (LCSD) -School Gardens Project: NEW**

LCSD's school garden program is a partnership with OSU Extension Master Gardener and Small Farms programs. Hopefully someday we will have more MG involvement when volunteering in person is allowed. This year the LCSD School Coordinator worked Yaquina View Middle School and donated 215 pounds of produce to Listos, Food Share, and Salvation Army. Currently our LCMGA MGs are not able to work directly with this project because of COVID restrictions. **NEW**

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

Report submitted by,  
Michael Christy,  
Lincoln County OMGA Representative  
[lcngaorrep@gmail.com](mailto:lcngaorrep@gmail.com)

## **Linn County Oregon Master Gardener Association 4th Quarter 2020 Chapter Report**

Linn County Master Gardeners continue to have Board meeting via Zoom every month.

Gardening questions coming in to the Extension office and LCMGA are still being answered by master gardener volunteers throughout the summer and fall months.

### **Demonstration Garden**

In June we completed the protocol so we could begin work in the Linn County Master Gardener Demo Garden with social distancing, masks and sanitation procedures in place. About 5 - 8 master gardeners worked on Mondays, Wednesday and Fridays to help keep the plants in the demo garden alive. Some vegetables were planted and shared with a local food bank. The watering system had issues so that meant a lot of hand-watering. We are getting bids to add more zones and get the system checked.

Our demo garden has a fenced area and a public area. With the next-door Albany Expo Center inactive, there have been more homeless people who are leaving trash, socks, sleeping bags and even a guitar. The Demo Garden has also suffered vandalism with two benches severely damaged and graffiti on benches as well. Several plants were dug up and stolen. We have kept the fenced area locked for the season since there is less foot traffic in the area. Before opening, we discovered our shed was broken into. A chipper, irrigation supplies, garden fertilizers, a laminator and other items stolen. The thieves cut the lock on the gate and the lock on the shed. Once the Expo Center has activity again, we think that having more eyes on the area will help. It has been a difficult year for the demonstration garden.

### **Pollinator/Mason Bee Efforts**

Susan Morton and Ranee Webb (with the help of Brooke Edmunds) recorded a webinar on mason bee care and cocoon harvesting. The webinar can be watched at any time, but there is a sign-up for the Q & A sessions. Rich Little joined Ranee and Susan for the first Q & A session to help answer specific questions about mason bees and the harvesting process. Additional Q & A sessions will be held in early-mid November. Find the information and dates online: The new Mason Bee Cocoon Care webinar with a Q & A sessions is available at: <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/linn-benton/events/mason-bee-cocoon-care> With permission, social distancing, masks, and sanitation procedures in place, Linn Master Gardeners have had 2 cocoon harvesting sessions on Rich Little's property. Mason bee cocoons are a fundraising source for Linn County MGs as well as a research and teaching project. There will be 2-3 more sessions in November.

As with all Master Gardeners, we are all looking forward to a time when we can do more as master gardeners and have more social interaction in person. We have been in a big learning curve when it comes to providing education and programs virtually!

Report submitted by:

Janice Gregg, Linn County OMGA Representative

## **Marion County Master Gardener Association 4th Quarter 2020 Chapter Report to OMGA**

Fall is upon us! With the temperatures dropping and rain threatening, our attention has shifted to clean-up mode. Our Master Gardeners have worked diligently putting the 'Garden' to bed for the winter. We removed and stored the greenhouse shade cloth for the winter. We also assessed our irrigation, and found and repaired a small leak that had been leaking for some time, causing a huge mess. The leak may have been small, unfortunately, the repair was not. Our Maintenance team spent several days repairing the leak.

Our annual membership meeting will be held in November via zoom. The ballots for our election will be sent via email in advance.

Our Propagation Team is still hard at work preparing for our 2021 Plant Sale. With our 2020 Plant Sale being canceled, and our garden being closed for several months, Master Gardeners fostered many of our plants at their homes. With cooler temps and the garden open, plants are now being returned. This should give us a good start on plant selection for our 2021 sale, which will be fully online.

This has been a challenging year for all of us, but our Master Gardeners have been quick to adapt to the changes needed to continue our mission.

Submitted by:  
Terry Sawyer, OMGA Representative

## **MULTNOMAH COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION 4th QUARTER CHAPTER REPORT TO OMGA**

**ELECTIONS:** Our Chapter Board is busy recruiting candidates to fill Board positions for the upcoming year. Efforts are being made to increase outreach to our members, and to broaden participation in leadership roles. Thoughtful discussions about possibly restructuring the Board are ongoing.

**MEETINGS:** Thanks to Marcia McIntyre (Metro Master Gardeners), we have enjoyed interesting speakers at our monthly meetings:

- Chef and cookbook author Diane Morgan (Cooking Up the Harvest) provided a hands-on demonstration and discussion on cooking with root vegetables.
- Food activist, farmer and teacher Nadine Nelson talked about her experiences working collaboratively and effectively with communities often overlooked by volunteer organizations. Her concept of “radical hospitality” rang true for many Master Gardeners in attendance.
- In November we will welcome Jenna Trentadue, who will discuss fire resistant gardens.
- And in December we hope to learn more about garden photography.

**DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION:** The Chapter’s new Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) group has been meeting regularly to explore how the chapter can expand both membership and community outreach. The following vision statement should help guide its work:

*As Multnomah County Master Gardeners, we actively strive to be anti-racist in all aspects of our operation. Our members, leaders and clients reflect the diverse range of residents, and our work reflects the needs and values of the communities we serve.*

*This vision is achieved by actively seeking out and nurturing collaborative relationships with diverse community organizations; by working in the community, rather than waiting for the community to come to us; by acknowledging and honoring the deep well of gardening knowledge of indigenous residents who have always gardened here; and by offering trainings, meetings and events that appeal to and are accessible to a wide segment of our community.*

The DEI working group is interested in hearing from other chapters that are trying to address diversity, equity and inclusion concerns. Contact Cynthia Chase at [cynthia.chase@multnomahmastergardeners.org](mailto:cynthia.chase@multnomahmastergardeners.org).

### **DEMONSTRATION GARDEN:**

Our Demonstration Garden in southwest Portland has been operating since June 23<sup>rd</sup> when we were allowed by OSU Extension to return from COVID-19 restriction with several rules. All participants must complete the OSU required video, sign papers, wear masks at all times while at the garden, have no more than 10 people on site, stay 6 feet apart while working and keep an accurate sign-up sheet of hours for each person present.



The sign up was created by our own Linda Goldser which is accessed online with the freedom to be at the garden 7 days a week and recorded accurately as to who was in attendance. Unfortunately, no visitors are allowed in the garden until the restrictions are lifted.

Since returning to the garden on June 23<sup>rd</sup> and through the end of October we have used 1653 volunteer hours with 23 regular gardeners and 13 who come now and then. We have donated 1147 lbs. of produce harvested between August 3<sup>rd</sup> and October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Our dedicated MG Demo Garden crew continue to work to prepare for winter here and some may do so through the next 3 months.

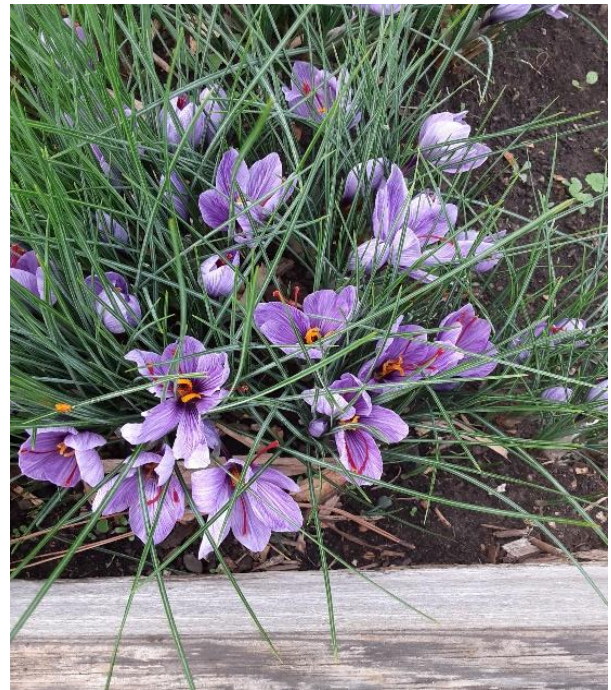


What our garden looked like when we first returned with permission from OSU. Rich Becker starting to clear the weeds from our veggie beds.

One unique plant we grew which put us in the local papers was tromboncino squash. We had a record length of 48" (4') of one squash. We also successfully grew saffron crocus and harvested some this year.



tromboncino squash – 48"



saffron crocus



Our garden is young, only 3 years old and many of our projects this year attack signage, boarder spaces to attempt to keep weeds at bay, increase the perennial beds to maintain backyard habitat and tables made for the purpose of cleaning produce.

We are experiencing security issues with 2 break ins that affected us directly and the result is we will be adding a steel storage unit this Fall.



Fall colors in our Nature Scape perennial bed.

Submitted by:

Marilyn Frankel, Rep. and Elaine O'Keefe, alternate Rep.

## **Tillamook County Master Gardener Association 4th Quarter 2020 Chapter Report to OMGA**

2020 Has been a uniquely quiet year for the Tillamook chapter. Our big accomplishment has been the use of the Tillamook Pioneer to showcase a virtual garden tour. It highlights four gardens that are example of the labors of four Tillamook Master Gardeners. Shown successfully on You Tube and viewed by thousands it has been a huge success for an otherwise uneventful year.

Our learning garden has had some attention this summer. We placed and removed a new soaker system in all the beds to keep some of our plants alive. Our greenhouse was idle but we had lovely dahlias in the triangle bed. We removed the bulbs and stored them this month for use next year. We have spent many days working (in small numbers and according to COVID-19 guidelines) weeding and cleaning the garden. Leaf removal is ongoing at this time.

Many of our members have kept busier than ever in their own gardens, flowers and veggies have been very successful this year. Pounds of food have been donated to the local food banks by members this summer.

Elections of next year's officers has been done virtually (after a change to our bylaws to allow on line voting) as have all our monthly board meetings. The use of Zoom has become very familiar to our members!

We are anxiously awaiting a new year, with hopefully the ability to get together again. We have all felt the lack of our ability to meet, eat, and garden together.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Betty Lyons  
Oregon Master Gardener Association Representative

## **Washington County Master Gardener™ Association**

### **4th Quarter 2020 Chapter Report to OMGA**

The challenges of providing Master Gardener services to the public continue in the midst of the pandemic. Washington County is still in Phase 1 with, unfortunately, a slightly increasing curve.

- Along with Multnomah and Clackamas County associations, we are staffing a remote Metro helpline to respond to client inquiries. We use Zoom, an inquiry management program, and a phone program that allows us to call and talk with clients from an OSU phone either through the computer or our own phone with the app installed.
- Chapter meetings continue on Zoom and we have noticed an increase in attendance by the public as well as members. We are considering meeting format changes after pandemic restrictions are lifted that may include some virtual presentations.
- Speakers' committee has developed schedule for next year. Links to our speaker presentations are posted to our Facebook and web pages. Recordings may be accessed, along with OSU Extension MG weekly webinars at <https://media.oregonstate.edu/channel/channelid/161357322>  
A positive consequence of having our Chapter presentations/meetings on Zoom is that we are able to choose from a wider range of possible speakers. It is much easier to have speakers join us for an hour if they do not have to travel for two!
- We are compiling a list of projects to engage members in WCMGA activities that can be done remotely or in the office. MGs could work on at home, on Zoom or at the extension office (with prior scheduling and COVID restrictions).
- We are continuing to promote donations through Amazon Smile, Fred Meyer, Bottle Drop, etc. This has increased importance as we are concerned about a possible decrease in membership because so many of our usual activities are restricted. We are anticipating a delay in having a plant sale until 2022.
- Maintenance work was approved for our WCMGA Learning Garden at Jenkins Estate using the OSU Master Gardener protocols for COVID-19 safety. Some work at our WCMGA Education Garden at PCC-Rock Creek is being performed, as possible, by the Landscape Technology Department to prepare the soil for a new PNW Pollinator Hedgerow.
- Grants are proceeding, where possible, on schedule. Where not possible due to access or group activity restrictions, we are very appreciative that our funders are being flexible and extending end dates.
- We revamped our website earlier and continue to maintain an active website and social media presence through Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/WashCoMGs/>)

Submitted by:  
Leslie Ray, Washington County OMGA Representative

## **YAMHILL COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION OMGA 4th QUARTER 2020 CHAPTER REPORT TO OMGA**

Life is very different because of the Pandemic and our not being able to meet and hold any meetings or social events or other activities. YCMGA conducts all of our chapter business by using Zoom for all of our meetings. The Education Outreach Committee has begun "Coffee Chats" every two weeks using Zoom. It gives us a chance to catch up with all of our MG friends and be able to talk about some of the problems we are having in our yards and gardens.

Our Demonstration Gardens at the Yamhill County Fairgrounds are open and we have been working hard renovating them so that they will look even better next year. Our new Rose beds are really looking great and are very showy with the new pergola that one of our MGs made for us.

Propagation is moving along well and we are carefully following the OSU COVIC19 guidelines. Helpers are limited to 6 people working on assigned days. The greenhouse improvements are becoming a reality with the new soil bin outside and new benches inside. Many thanks to all who worked hard to make this dream come true.

Garden to Table classes will resume this fall with trial classes and we are preparing to begin full classes in the Spring, if the risk of the virus infection subsides enough. McMinnville Community Garden has so far harvested 14,374 lbs. Of vegetables for the Food Bank.

Submitted by:

Polly Blum, Yamhill County OMGA Representative