



**4th Quarter Board of Directors Meeting  
November 5, 2021  
Zoom and Telecommunications Meeting**

**Attendees**

-Rusch, Chris	Douglas County	OMGA President
-Bosler, Eric	Central Gorge	OMGA Past President
-Sue Nesbitt	Yamhill County	OMGA Past President
-Sharon Bordeaux	Douglas County	OMGA Secretary
-Linda Coakley	Yamhill County	Historian
-Ann Kinkley	Linn County	Gardener's Pen Editor/Representative
-Langellotto, Gail		OSU State Program Leader
-Richard Taylor	Benton County	Representative
-Anny VanNatta	Central Gorge	Representative
-Norma Benson	Central Gorge	Alternate Representative
-Sandi Bosler	Central Gorge	Newsletter Editor
-Anne Gehrig	Central Gorge	President-elect
-Dart, Janet	Central Oregon	Representative
-Evelyn Fox	Central Oregon	
-Amelia Wilbur	Clackamas County	Alternate Representative
-Nancy Bouse	Clatsop County	Representative
-Janet Willoughby	Clatsop County	President
-Karen Harte	Columbia County	Alternate Representative
-Sherry Kari Baum	Curry County	Representative
-Kish Doyle	Douglas County	Representative
-Phyllis McIntosh	Josephine County	Representative
-Mark Schallheim	Josephine County	Josephine Co Chapter President
-Ivy Kohler	Lane County	Alternate Representative
-Michael Christy	Lincoln County	Representative
-Elaine O'Keefe	Multnomah County	Representative
-Bill Leedy	Polk County	Representative
-Betty Lyons	Tillamook County	Representative
-Jake Lyons	Tillamook County	Alternate Representative
-Leslie Ray	Washington County	Representative
-Karen Graham	Washington County	President
-Polly Blum	Yamhill County	Representative

## Welcome – Chris Rusch

President Chris Rusch called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm with a land acknowledgement honoring the indigenous people who originally occupied the lands (For a copy of the standard land acknowledgment contact Chris).

## Agenda

There were no additions to the agenda.

## Approval of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Board of Directors Minutes

Chris moved and Leslie Ray 2<sup>nd</sup> the approval of the September 10<sup>th</sup> Board of Directors meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

## State Program Coordinator – Gail Langellotto

### Updates from OSU Extension

- [Dr. Ivory Lyles](#) will start his tenure as Vice Provost of Outreach and Engagement, and Director of the OSU Extension Service, on September 30<sup>th</sup>.
- [OSU's vaccination requirement](#) does not apply to volunteers, but to faculty, staff, and students.
- The [COVID-19 Safety Training for OSU Extension offices](#) is being updated. It had been required for volunteers, participating in face-to-face programs and projects. I don't yet know how it will be rolled out or required, in the future. But, as staying safe in the workplace is a high priority, I would hope that this training will be put to good use within the Master Gardener Program, and across all Extension programs.
- OSU has updated their [guidance for in person events](#).
  - OSU-managed, indoor, face-to-face programs and activities can proceed, where registration (day of or pre-registration) occurs.
  - OSU-managed, outdoor, face-to-face programs and activities can proceed, where registration (day of or pre-registration) occurs.
- Where MGs might be participating in events not managed by OSU:
  - employees and volunteers are expected to follow OSU policy and OHA public health recommendations (regarding face coverings, for example), but we can't impose our guidelines on events and activities that are managed by community partners.
  - we can opt not to participate in community partner events, in the interest of public health and safety.

### 2022 Master Gardener Awards

- Nominations for county and statewide Master Gardener awards are due on May 15<sup>th</sup>, every year.
- The 2022 nominations forms will be posted online. This will make it easier to track nominations, as they are submitted. The current system of sending them through email makes it difficult to manage, given the amount of email volume that Gail receives.
- Please make sure that your county Master Gardener groups knows that they should start discussing potential nominees WELL IN ADVANCE of the May 15<sup>th</sup> deadline. I would suggest putting it on the agenda in January or February of each year, making final decisions in March of each year, and then using April to write up nominations.
- Communicate with your Master Gardener coordinator throughout the process. Double check and cross check that everyone is on the same page, when it comes to the name(s) that will be submitted for awards.

### 2022 Master Gardener Training

- Counties are currently planning for recruitment of 2022 Master Gardener trainees, and delivery of the 2022 Master Gardener training classes.
- Many/most counties are planning for hybrid (online and in person) training options, that allow greater flexibility and opportunity for participation. The online options are also a safe option, given instructors' and students' (or potential students') concerns about COVID. Your specific county program can share the details of their training series.
- New in 2022: the statewide Master Gardener program office is developing:
  - a module that goes over the statewide policies and expectations, related to volunteerism with OSU and in the Master Gardener Program. This module is intended to serve as an orientation for new Master Gardener students, but will also serve as a good reminder/update for continuing Master Gardener volunteers. The module is required for all new Master Gardener trainees, and

recommended / required (we haven't settled on this, yet) every 2-3 years for continuing MG volunteers. This module will include information on:

- What does it mean to be a MG: Representative of the University; Recognition of advanced training and study; Expectations for superior customer service and support
- Required Paperwork: Code of Conduct, Conditions of Volunteer Service Form (every year), PD, OSU College of Ag Sciences CAREs document.
- Our commitments to protecting children.
  - Criminal History Checks (every two years?): Why they are required. What happens during the Criminal History Check Process.
  - Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse: an abridged training from the Office of Youth Safety
- Volunteer Service Hour Requirements: What counts as volunteer hours? How to record volunteer service hours. Why the volunteer hour reporting is important.
- A module that grows the community education component of the Master Gardener Program. Master Gardeners learn sustainable horticulture from Oregon State University and extend this information to local communities by serving as volunteers community educators. The Volunteer Community Educator Curriculum helps prepare new and continuing volunteers for this role. It will be required for new trainees, as well as for recertification of continuing Master Gardener volunteers. We anticipate offering a menu of options that individuals can participate in to satisfy this requirement, most of which are one hour or less, in length.
  - Master Gardener volunteers who are active on the statewide or on local diversity, equity, and inclusivity committees can apply their work in these groups towards meeting the training or recertification requirement.
  - OSU Extension's DEI training for volunteers (4 modules, about 1 hour of total time, in length: Introduction, Equity, Inclusivity, and Conclusion)
  - Recipes for Collaborative Communities course (from the Elevated Skills Training Series that was offered in 2021, through Thinkific)
  - Broadening Outreach with Community Partnerships (from the Elevated Skills Training Series that was offered in 2021, through Thinkific)
  - [Abra Lee's Culture of Gardening Keynote](#): 'The Work is In Our Hands'
  - Webinar from OID: to be scheduled by and delivered through the statewide office.
  - OSU's Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Celebration Keynote or associated events
  - Events organized by the Master Gardener DEI Task Force Events committee

#### Dates to Remember

- **Ongoing, Second Tuesday of Each Month:** [Level Up, Growing Oregon Gardeners Series](#). Remaining classes for 2021 include: native plants (September), climate change (October), and garden soils (November). The series will return in January of 2022.
- **September 12-17, 2021.** International Master Gardener Conference: September 12-17, 2021. Registration has closed, but perhaps I will see some of you there?
- **September 25, 2021:** [Fall Master Gardener BioBlitz](#): One fall day to document garden biodiversity in Oregon. Join us with your camera on September 25, 2021 to capture the insects, birds, wild plants, and other wild organisms in your garden or a nearby community or public garden space.
- **September 30th:** [Extension Master Gardener Photo Contest](#) Winners will be announced on October 25th. See our blog for details.
- **Save the Date: November 10, 2021:** The Extension MG DEI Task Force Events Subcommittee is hosting a screening of the film 'Gather', at 7pm on November 10th. A 30 minute panel discussion will follow, featuring [Dr. David Lewis of OSU](#). More details will be forthcoming. Please share this Save the Date with Your Volunteers.
- **May 15, 2022:** Master Gardener Awards nominations are due.

#### Announcements

- **Culture of Gardening Blog.** If you and your Master Gardeners have not yet seen the new 'Culture of Gardening' blog, please take a look. We have been receiving a lot of positive feedback from diverse communities, who are happy to broaden their understanding of diverse identities and cultures . . . and how these identities intersect with plants and gardening.
- **Master Gardener Photography Contest:** Please make sure to communicate with your Master Gardeners colleagues about the fun opportunity to participate in our first ever photography contest, currently open for submissions, through October 25th. Now is a great time to capture in photos the bounty of the summer harvest, the beauty of our demonstration gardens, and all of the hard work MGs are putting in in the community.
- **Recruitment Materials: Priorities, Values, Mission, Vision One Pager (double-sided):** You can learn more about the Master Gardener Program [on our website](#), and can share this information with prospective Master

Gardener volunteers who want to know more. We also have a [one-pager \(double sided\)](#) that can be used to talk about our program.

- **We will be calling for applications for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Cohort of the Master Gardener DEI Task Force.** The call for applications will go out in early 2022, with new members joining the cohort in April 2022.

#### **OMGA Treasurer's Report – Chris Rusch**

Chris presented current financial statement. Current bills have been paid. There have been no significant changes to the financials.

#### **Recruitment and Succession – Chris Rusch**

We still need a Vice President and Treasurer for OMGA. Please convey this information at your chapter meetings and if anyone is interested contact Chris Rusch ([crusch3837@gmail.com](mailto:crusch3837@gmail.com)).

#### **Database/List Serve – Chris Rusch for Seamus Ramirez**

Chris reported for Seamus who has asked that all chapters submit their updated lists of officers and chair persons as soon as possible. He would like to send out an updated contact list in early 2022.

#### **Historian – Linda Coakley**

Linda is finalizing the 2015 historical information. She thanked Marcia Sherry for her help.

#### **Newsletter – Gardener's Pen – Ann Kinkley**

Ann reported that the new Gardener's Pen will report on all aspects of the Master Gardener program. It will be shorter and published 3 times a year (fall, winter, spring). It will include articles from chapters, upcoming events, and reminders. The deadline for submissions for the winter newsletter is the end of January.

#### **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion – Gail Langellotto**

Gail reported that during the upcoming year there will be (1) a field school on "Cultural Literacy" and that (2) training on diversity will be required for Master Gardeners. Both are in the planning stages. More after the first of the year.

#### **Old Business**

##### **Retreat – December 3, 2021 – Chris Rusch**

The retreat will be held on December 3, 2021 from 2:00 to 4:00 via zoom. Three items on the agenda are: (1) the renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding between OSU and the Oregon Master Gardener Association, (2) the OMGA Goals for 2022, and (3) 2022 Mini-college. Please forward your additional agenda items to Chris Rusch ([crusch3837@gmail.com](mailto:crusch3837@gmail.com)).

#### **New Business**

##### **Dues – Chris Rusch**

Discussion of OMGA dues were discussed. After discussion by the attendees, the following were decided and unanimously voted on by the attendees:

- 1) Dues from the chapters will be reduced to \$5.00 per member
- 2) Payment of the dues will be changed to:
  - a. Dues submitted on-time
  - b. If requested, dues payment delayed to the end of the year
  - c. If requested, dues waived if a chapter is unable to pay

New trainees would be exempt from paying 2022 dues as it is included in cost of class.

##### **Mini-college Report – Chris Rusch**

Chris has volunteered to chair 2022 Mini-college. It will be an in-person, on-site event to be held on the OSU campus. The dates available are June 17-18 or July 29-30. Options discussed were to have sessions outside, more educational tours and more workshops. A zoom meeting for all those interested in working on the 2022 Mini-college will be held mid-December.

### **2022 Budget – Chris Rusch**

The updated budget emailed to the executive board members and representatives was reviewed. Ann Kinkley motioned and Janet Dart seconded to approve the budget. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Executive Committee Positions for 2022 – Chris Rusch**

New Executive Committee members are Linda Coakley (Historian) and Ann Kinkley (Gardener's Pen Editor). The positions of Vice President and Treasurer remain vacant. President Chris Rusch, Past Presidents Eric Bosler and Sue Nesbitt, and Secretary Sharon Bordeaux have volunteered to remain on the Executive Committee for 2022. The Executive Committee will be actively searching for volunteers to fill the positions of Vice President and Treasurer for 2022. Master Gardeners interested in becoming a members of the Executive Committee can view all the OMGA Job Descriptions at [omga.org](http://omga.org).

Business complete, the meeting was adjourned at 3:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sharon J Bordeaux  
OMGA Secretary

Oregon Master Gardener Association Meeting Schedule 2022		
Executive Committee	Educational Forum	Board of Directors
Friday, February 4	TBD	Friday, March 4
Friday, May 13	TBD	Friday, June 3
Friday, August 5	TBD	Friday, September 9
Friday, October 7	TBD	Friday, November 4
Annual OMGA Retreat December 2, 2022		