



Oregon Master Gardener Association
4th Quarter 2021
Chapter Reports

County

Submitted By

Benton County

Richard Taylor

Central Gorge

**Anny VanNatta
Norma Benson**

Central Oregon

Janet Dart

Curry County

Sherry Baum

Douglas County

Kish Doyle

Jackson County

Kathy Apple

Josephine County

Phylis McIntosh

Lane County

Vicki Harrison

Lincoln County

Michael Christy

Linn County

Ann Kinkley

Multnomah County

Elaine O'Keefe

Tillamook County

Betty Lyons

Benton County Master Gardener Association 4th Quarter 2021 Report

Insights Into Gardening/Gearing Up for Gardening 2022 –

- Insights Into Gardening is a popular, one day gardening conference held in February on the Oregon State University campus. Gearing Up for Gardening is a free weekly series of gardening talks held at the Benton County Library during January and February. Unfortunately, with the uncertainties of the pandemic and restrictions on large indoor gatherings, these two traditional events organized by the Benton County Master Gardener Association will not be held. Let's hope for their return in 2023!

Association Member Meetings –

- Our October member meeting program presented a panel of our committee chairs. Each committee chair discussed the activities and accomplishments of their committees to inform and attract volunteers, especially newer members, to join their efforts. The slate of board members for 2022 was presented to the membership for a vote and was approved. The new and returning board members are listed below.
- Our November meeting is typically a graduation ceremony for new Master Gardeners who have completed training, along with recognition of award winners for 2021. This event is still being planned.
- The December meeting will be a Greens Party, held at the Benton County Fairgrounds. Members will bring greenery, build wreaths, and other decorative displays for the holidays.
- In January, the Yamhill County Extension Agent, Heather Stoven, will speak on organic pesticide use.

BCMGA Board Members for 2022 –

- President – Jana Tindall
- Past President – Deb Kern
- President Elect – Mary Mellard
- Secretary (sharing position) – Cynthia Roler & Wendi Gale
- Treasurer (sharing position) - Lynne Trimpe & Paula Lupcho
- VP Programs—Janet Magedanz
- Members at Large—Alan Taylor, Fred Prahl, & Frank Garcia
- OMGA Rep – Rich Taylor
- Alternate OMGA Rep – David Mandel

Submitted by:

Richard Taylor, OMGA State Representative
Benton County Master Gardener Association

Central Gorge Master Gardener Association 4rd Quarter 2021 Chapter Report

Parkdale Bicentennial Memorial Garden is in the upper Hood River Valley. It's splendor and richness, is even more extraordinary this year with the addition of the Blue Star Memorial By-Way Marker, to honor our service men and women. This garden is created and maintained by the Parkdale Garden Club, Parkdale Grange, and CGMGA Master Gardeners.

On October 10th, around 70 people attended the dedication ceremony of the Blue Star Memorial By-Way, a tribute to Armed Forces of America. The marker, made possible by the National Garden Club, Parkdale Garden Club, and private donations, is placed next to the Garden's Flagpole. A Social at the Grange followed the ceremony.

We just celebrated our Learning Garden (begun 2002), which has been a struggle to maintain with only a few dedicated volunteers. We have survived with new leadership of Joanne, and her core group of volunteers. It has become clear that dividing and delegating the responsibility of upkeep & ongoing development of the 11 individual theme gardens, will increase participation and decrease the amount of clean-up falling to a few. This end of the season event brought together many people who love the garden and sparked new creative ideas, including the use of QR technology so anyone can access identification and detailed information about individual plants and techniques.

On November 10, we will participate in our annual CGMGA Recognition Event, indoors and socially distanced, at a historic, local venue.

We are thrilled to be welcoming a new class of Master Gardener trainees for 2022!

Submitted by:

Anny VanNatta, OMGA State Representative (with Norma Benson, Alternate Representative)
Central Gorge Master Gardener Association



Fourth Quarter 2021 Report to OMGA Board of Directors

Here in Central Oregon, we are putting our gardens to bed for the winter.

Membership: We continue to hold monthly Board meetings via Zoom. We were able to celebrate our Master Gardener of the Year (Nathalie Smith) by holding a surprise drive-by celebration outside her house. And in the true Master Gardener spirit, Nathalie gave us a tour of her native garden.

Community Education: We held an extremely successful free Zoom Webinar in early October: "Putting Your Garden to Bed." Two Master Gardeners gave short presentations: one on vegetable gardens and one on perennial gardens. This was followed by a lively question and answer period. We had almost 200 registrants, with over 100 attending live. All registrants were sent a recording of the presentation. This was our most attended Webinar this year, in part because Zoom had given us a temporary upgrade to 500 participants (our license is for 100 participants).

Plant Clinic: We held live Plant Clinics through the beginning of October, with one shift per day from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. While we didn't get as much walk-in traffic as we did pre-Covid, we handled many phone calls. The OSU Extension office will handle any Plant Clinic questions throughout the winter.

OSU Extension Service Demonstration Garden in Redmond: The last official workday was October 19, when the garden was put to bed for the winter. In addition to the usual garden maintenance this year, we planted numerous shrubs and trees in the garden area surrounding the new extension office building that finished construction in 2020.

Community Gardens:

Hollinshead and Discovery Park: The gardens were closed for the season over the weekend of October 16-17, 2021. Both coordinators reported a successful season, with few complaints from the gardeners.

Waterwise Garden: There is no specific closing date for the Waterwise Garden; usually it closes with our first snow (although if we have a low snow year, we will have periodic workdays throughout the winter). The water has been turned off for the season. Once the ground freezes, a layer of mulch will be applied to protect the plants over the winter. Our number one goal next year is community outreach.

Board Retreat: We held a Board Retreat in early October to introduce new members of the Board, and to set goals for 2022. We discussed our motto, “Teach, Support, Promote”, and how these tenets guide our plans. Our priority will be community outreach. We also hope to recommence in-person events for our Master Gardener members to re-introduce the social aspect of our group. Hopefully, we can hold some outdoor events when the weather warms up.

From all of us in Central Oregon, we wish you a happy holiday season.

Report submitted by:

Janet Dart, State Representative
Central Oregon Master Gardener Association

Curry County Master Gardeners Report 4th Quarter 2021 Chapter Report

Curry county is currently in the process of hiring a new MG Program Assistant. Ongoing interviews and introductions are happening.

In preparation for next years plant sale, Master Gardeners are taking cuttings and growing plants to sell at the sale in the spring. There is continued work on the green house.

The Curry County Master Gardeners continue to work with the Grade school in Gold Beach. Programs are being introduced to Kalmiopsis Elementary School in Brookings.. As the rain approaches many of our activities slow down.

Submitted by:

Sherry Kari Baum, State Representative
Curry County Master Gardener Association

Douglas County Master Gardener Association 4th Quarter 2021 Chapter Report

Douglas County has ended another successful gardening season. Our Victory Garden harvested 9,278 pounds of food. A number of our master gardeners grew and donated another 823 pounds and the Easy Access Garden added 121 pounds. A grand total of 10,222 pounds of fresh fruit and vegetables were given to local food banks and senior groups.

We are currently hosting a modified eight-week Master Gardener Training class that will graduate 18 new students and one transfer MG on November 16. It has gone well and the students are very enthusiastic.

Our long time Horticultural agent Steve Renquist will be retiring in December after serving Douglas County for over 20 years. He will be missed but will leave with an Honorary Master Gardener badge.

Submitted by:

Kish Doyle, OMGA State Representative
Douglas County Master Gardener Association

Jackson County Master Gardener's Association 4th Quarter 2021 Chapter Report

Board Governance

The Board of Directors continues to meet via Zoom on a once-a-month meeting schedule.

- The Board adopted a slate of candidates for election to the 2022 Board of Directors. Elections will be held in late October with election results announced in November. A new Board Member orientation will be held in December.
- A graduation ceremony via Zoom will be held for graduates of the 2020 Master Gardener program on October 14, 2021.
- Jackson County is under an extreme drought. All water has been shut off at the Southern Oregon Research & Extension Center. JCMGA members are working to create a rain catchment system to support water resources for next year. Current demonstration gardens are surviving at this time due to lower temperatures and remaining moisture in the soil.
- JCMGA donated a large number of native plants under propagation to the Valley of the Rogue for restoration along the Rogue River.
- JCMGA held its annual membership meeting on September 10, 2021 highlighting all organizational activities of the past year.
- Study groups specific to succulents and native plants are ongoing.
- The Plant Clinic has continued to operate online through the pandemic and recently resumed in-person services.
- Plans are underway for our annual Spring Garden Fair in 2022 which has not been held for the past two years. The Fair will be held outdoors to accommodate Covid protocols.
- Revenue continues to be generated through the bottles & cans recycling, donations through Amazon Smile, the Grange Co-op dividends, and sales of the Rogue Valley Garden Guides.
- The Board approved hiring a local bookkeeping firm to support the Treasurer.

Education & Community Outreach

- The annual education day "*Winter Dreams Summer Gardens*" is schedule for three half days in November and will be held virtually.
- The Master Gardener Program will be a hybrid program for 2022 with modules used online in lieu of live speakers. Class size will be limited to 25.

Submitted by:

Kathy Apple, Alternate Representative
Jackson County Master Gardener Association

Josephine County Master Gardener Association 4th Quarter 2021 Chapter Report

It's been an unsettling quarter for our Chapter here in Josephine County. There were negotiations to move our extension office that have gone on since January, that ended suddenly in September. The new quarters became unavailable. We will remain at our present location for the near future, but a permanent home will still be sought. So, we'll continue to operate the plant clinic, tend our demonstration garden and continue our greenhouse and perennial programs, but the future is still uncertain. Unsettling indeed.

Danielle Knueppel our new Master Gardener Coordinator is now onboard and has become a quick study on how we function in these Covid-19, Delta confined days. We all look forward to classes and new trainees coming in February. Plant clinic is on winter hours and we're using the opportunity to reorganize our clinic library.

Our website continues to evolve. Our school gardens and library program are on hold.

Meetings are again via. zoom and we've managed to put together a slate of candidates and hold an election. The results will be tabulated at the end of October. Our usual celebration of our members achievements that would normally take place in November, has been postponed until we can meet together, share a meal and truly celebrate. So, we here in Josephine County are truly looking forward to a new Master Gardener year.

Submitted by:

Phylis McIntosh, OMGA State Representative
Josephine County Master Gardener Association

Lane County Master Gardener Association 4rd Quarter 2021 Report

Even though we have had many activity restrictions, Master Gardener Volunteers have found creative ways to continue our mission!! MGs have already reported over 5400 volunteer and education hours this year, as of early October.

In the month of October, the Plant Diagnostic Committee facilitated the last Show and Tell plant problem virtual presentation for 2021. Beginning in February, these one-hour Zoom meetings each had two or three Master Gardeners share a local gardening issue with audience participation help in researching the diagnosis and recommendations for treatment.

Our virtual Summer Celebration recordings, and seminars, can be viewed at this link on the Lane County Master Gardener YouTube channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCcqWh7lwUQhJWCkd1b9jLQ>

Using Covid-safe restrictions of masks and physical distancing, free compost demonstrations have resumed with a limit of 20 participants.

We also held several Soil Collection events and resumed pH soil tests with volunteers working on a solitary basis to test and send the results to clients.

Throughout the year, our Facebook Tip of the Week has kept the local gardening community engaged with timely local gardening tips, backed up with research links.

A hybrid format of a worm bin composting class will be held November 6. The classroom portion of the workshop will be online, and participants will pick up their worm bins and worms later in the afternoon that Saturday at the Extension office in Eugene.

Our Plant Clinic continues to function both remotely and in person at the Extension with physical distancing and masks. Since early September, we have transitioned to using the ECCO program for client cases. Since mid-September, 183 cases have been logged into ECCO by Lane County MG's!

Submitted by:

Vicki Harrison, OMGA State Representative
Lane County Master Gardener Association

Lincoln County Master Gardener Association (LCMGA) 4th Quarter 2021 Report to OMGA Board of Directors

Board members are Co-Presidents, Sharon Busby, Cathi Block; Co-Past Presidents, Pam McElroy, Kristi Kind; Co-Vice Presidents Greg Kurtz, Lynne Holland; Secretary, Rebecca Hooper; Treasurer, Alanna Miklic; State Representative, Michael Christy; Historian, Kharizma McAnulty. **NO CHANGE**

We have continued to host our monthly board meetings via Zoom. **The position of Master Gardener, Agriculture, and Forestry Program Coordinator is vacant. Currently down to two final applicants. CHANGE**

Membership	2021	2020
Certified/Active	39	56
Lifetime	8	9
Associate	38	35
Student Trainees	10**	22 + 1 online
Total	95	122

% recertifying = $(39/56) \times 100 = 70\%$

Student trainees continuing from 2021. **NO CHANGE

LCMGA Master Gardener Classes/Other Local Events:

The statewide recommendation for training for the 2022 year is still being worked out. We will work towards graduating apprentices from 2020 this November. There is ongoing discussion about logistics for 2022 training. **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 to be fluid. Some weeks taking on a virtual 'adopt a week' plan. Other weeks 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 2022 year.
 - **Our in-person Plant Clinics are open- observing all standing COVID guidelines. NO CHANGE**
 - Renee Johnson continues to conduct ECCO training events for those that continue to work our plant clinics. ECCO is developing into the go to plant clinic support tool for our Master Gardener's. **NO CHANGE**

Community Education:

-Winter/Spring Virtual Round Tables: UPDATED

- The Winter/Spring round tables are being developed at this time. More to follow. **NO CHANGE**

Demonstration Gardens: NO CHANGE

- **Oregon Coast Community College (OCCC) - Lincoln City – NO CHANGE**
 - **NOT OPEN** to the public. Not accessible to MGs on weekends. Maintenance only.
- **Yaquina Bay Lighthouse and School Garden-Newport – NO CHANGE**
 - **NOT OPEN** to the public.
- **Oregon Coast Community College (OCCC) - South Beach – NO CHANGE**
 - **NOT OPEN** to the public, not accessible to MGs on weekends. Maintenance only.
- **Yachats Demonstration and Community Gardens- OPEN – NO CHANGE**
 - Community beds are open to the public.
 - Currently meeting weekly for maintenance and growing.

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. Zoom meeting of interested parties are conducted every other month identifying both scope and additional meeting times. This is an ongoing effort led by a local government partner- the City of Newport- interested in increasing community garden opportunities. **NO CHANGE**

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

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 only works with the Yaquina View Elementary School. Plans are to expand the program to an additional school pending COVID restrictions. Currently our LCMGA MGs are not able to work directly with this project because of COVID restrictions. The USDA and the Whole Kids Gardening Foundation grant funding was approved for the school garden program. LCSD School Coordinator works with the Yaquina View Elementary School and Newport Middle School. COVID guidelines for garden volunteers are in the process of being developed. **(Attached local newspaper article- sadly we are still not active with this effort. NO CHANGE**

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

Report submitted by:

Michael Christy, OMGA State Representative
Lincoln County Master Gardener™ Association
lcmgaorrep@gmail.com

Linn County Master Gardener Association 4th Quarter 2021 Chapter Report

Mason bee cocoon cleaning classes will be held via zoom with a question-and-answer session to follow. There is also a video that can be watched at any time. On November 5 there will be a training session regarding the kind of information MG Rich Little is gathering for his research. Linn Co. MGA continues to make bee boxes of various sizes to sell each spring (see photo below) which are moderately priced, the optimum design for mason bees (many sold at stores are not designed well and encourage predators and infection) and contribute to our chapter's operating funds. There are 811 subscribers to the *Bee Notes* publication. <https://linnmastergardeners.com/bee-notes>

Current board members have volunteered to call the members from this year and last year's roster inviting them to participate in 2022. Personal contact can be very helpful in encouraging MG's who are struggling to stay involved.

Our demonstration garden at the Linn Co. Fairgrounds (next to I 5 in Albany) produced more than 500 pounds of produce to donate to local groups. It was helpful to be able to bag up the produce in smaller quantities when delivering it to the organizations (Fish and St. Mary's Soup Kitchen). Some herbs were grown specifically to put in the bags.

The online plant clinic has been going very well. We now have an online data base, ECCO, which will be used for this purpose. Elizabeth Records will organize a training session for those interested in helping out with ECCO.



Submitted by:

Ann Kinkley, OMGA State Representative
Linn County Master Gardener Association

MULTNOMAH COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION 4th QUARTER 2021 REPORT

Just like everyone else, the Multnomah County chapter has had to seriously curtail activities all year. Despite COVID restrictions, however, we have persevered. Here are a few highlights:

- The dedicated MG's who led and worked in the Demonstration Garden had a successful growing year, despite changing access restrictions and a historic heat wave. They harvested and donated an impressive amount of fresh produce, closely monitored test plots, and are currently planning for next year. Unfortunately, our annual Harvest Gathering traditionally held at the Demo Garden was cancelled again this year due to COVID concerns.
- Our Educate! committee is exploring new ways to provide gardening education to our community in the COVID environment. They've worked collaboratively with community partners on a seed giveaway program, with more projects to come.
- The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) group continues to meet regularly. They are exploring ways to open the chapter to people who have historically been overlooked, excluded, or made to feel unwelcome. They are seeking ways to increase participation of BIPOC community members in the upcoming 2022 MG training class. We are all learning as we go.

Submitted by:

Elaine O'Keefe, OMGA State Representative
Multnomah County Master Gardener Association

Tillamook County Master Gardener Association 4th Quarter 2021 Chapter Report

This year has been very slow because of the restrictions placed on us because of the Covid pandemic. We have had meetings all year via Zoom, and have become very good at using it. Socialization has been at a minimum as has also community involvement.

Our learning garden did well this year despite the limited involvement of many members due to the virus. The hardy few who worked it most, Linda Stephenson, Barb and John Casteel, Sarah Ostermiller, Wendy Kunkel, Vickie Wight, Bob Allen and others kept the weeds at bay and veggies growing. In spite of the limited workers, we were able to donate 209 pounds of produce to the food bank. In October the garden was put to bed for the winter just in time for the rains to start seriously in Tillamook.

Submitted by:

Betty Lyons, OMGA State Representative
Tillamook County Master Gardener Association