



1st Quarter OMGA Executive Committee Meeting February 4, 2022, 2:00 pm via zoom

The Meeting was called to order by President Chris Rusch at 2 pm. Attending were President, Chris Rusch; Past Presidents, Sue Nesbitt and Eric Bosler; Secretary, Sharon Bordeaux; Treasurer, Janet Magendanz; Newsletter Editor, Ann Kinkley; Historian, Linda Coakley; Data Base/List Serve, Seamus Ramirez; and OSU Extension Program Coordinator, Gail Langellotto.

Chris requested that two items be added to the agenda: Longevity Awards and job descriptions.

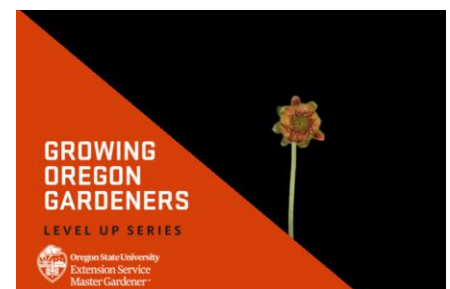
No changes were made to the minutes of the December 3, 2021 retreat and the 2022 goals were accepted as presented.

REPORTS:

OSU Extension Program Coordinator – Gail Langellotto

My updates:

1. Applications for the 2nd Cohort of the Master Gardener DEI Task Force are being accepted through the end of the month. Please share with those who might be interested in this opportunity, or consider submitting an application, yourself. <https://blogs.oregonstate.edu/mgcoordinators/2022/01/26/call-for-applications-cohort-ii-of-the-master-gardener-jedi-task-force/>
2. The second series of webinars for the 'Growing Oregon Gardeners: Level Up Series' have been published. <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/growing-oregon-gardeners-level-series-2022>
3. 339 people attended the recent movie screening (The Ants and the Grasshopper) and facilitated discussion that we hosted as part of OSU's annual Martin Luther King, Jr. week of service and reflection. High attendance at our events that align with our 'cultural connection' program priority shows that gardeners are open to and want these types of programs.
4. Garden Ecology Lab Ph.D. student, Aaron Anderson, will be defending his dissertation (focused on native plants for gardens and for bees, parasitoids, predators) on February 21st. He will be presenting his research to the public on that same day, at 11am. If anyone is interested in attending, let me know, and I'll send you the Zoom link. I am not broadly publishing the Zoom link, because I don't want him to be Zoom bombed. Most folks have seen Aaron's bee work (it has been the subject of our recent social media campaigns), but the parasitoid and predator work has yet to be widely shared.
5. LeAnn Locher and I are working overtime to get the 2021 Master Gardener Annual report completed and published.
6. I've confirmed costs for the Alumni Center with OSU (and have sent these ## to Chris). I am working with housing and dining on food and dorms. The dorm will be Bloss Hall. The meals will be Arnold Dining Hall. We can sell meal cards with a daily declining balance (they suggest \$10-\$13 per meal on the meal card). Or, I believe folks can just pay cash. I will confirm with Housing and Dining. The group gave me text about the dorms that can be used in the registration system. See below my email signature for that text.
7. MG Awards are once again due on May 15th. Make sure that your counties know to start thinking about who to put forward for county and statewide Master Gardener awards
8. [Call For Applications: Cohort II of the Master Gardener JEDI Task Force – OSU Extension Master Gardener Program News](#) The 32 DEI Task Force Members and ~10 OSU Extension Home Horticulture working group members participated in a total of 12 hours of engagement across 5 learning opportunities, organized as part of our overall commitment to DEI within the Extension Master Gardener Program. blogs.oregonstate.edu
9. [Growing Oregon Gardeners: Level Up Series 2022](https://extension.oregonstate.edu) extension.oregonstate.edu



Financial Reports – Janet Magedanz

Janet is still familiarizing herself with the financial statements and will present a full report at the March Board of Directors Meeting. Janet is obtaining bids for the 2022 membership cards and should have information next week.

Database/List Serve – Seamus Ramirez

Seamus is making changes to the roster and should have an updated one available soon. He has made changes to the "Send All" tab so that you can now reply to one person or choose to reply to everyone.

Mini College- Chris

Committee meetings for Mini-College are being held once a month on the third (3rd) Friday at 3 pm. The next meeting is on February 18th. Updates and questions:

- **SAVE THE DATE: 2022 Mini-College will be July 29th and 30th.**
- How early Thursday afternoon will OMGA have access to the center? Gail is checking on a time and if there will be a fee to use the facility on Thursday afternoon. The Silent Auction, Book Store, and Chapter Sales all need to set up on Thursday.
- The Garden Hilton has set a block of rooms aside for Mini-College attendees. There will be no penalty if we do not use all the rooms or if we have to cancel the event. The rooms are \$134 per night. The Garden Hilton has also made a meeting room available.
- The Keynote Speaker Friday morning will be Dr. Samantha Chisholm Hatfield, Department of Agricultural Education and Agricultural Sciences at OSU. Her topic will be Native American Traditional Ecological Knowledge in the area of climate change and the impact on indigenous ecosystems and indigenous food systems.
- Gail Langellotto will be the Keynote Speaker on Saturday morning. She will speak on the state of the Master Gardener program in Oregon.
- Richard Taylor secured the Omaha Room at Goss Stadium on Thursday night, July 28th, for OMGA Mini-College attendees to watch a Corvallis Knights baseball game. No-host food and beverages will be available.
- Sue Nesbitt, chair of the Silent Auction, is beginning to receive donations. Umatilla County has donated 2 fig trees. Ann Kinkley indicated Linn County will donate a Mason Bee basket.
- Tours:
 - Gail will arrange for a tour of the Oak Creek Research Center
 - Janet indicated Garland Nursery is amenable to a tour of their facility
- Richard is researching possible locations for the banquet.
- Richard has arranged for a marimba band to play for an hour prior to the banquet.
- Speakers:
 - Make sure we have new speakers and topics
 - List of prior and potential speakers will be provided to the committee
 - Janet will contact James Cassidy, OSU College of Agricultural Sciences. He speaks on soils and is very entertaining.
 - Janet committed to being a speaker.

The group discussed the fee for the 2022 Mini-College and decided we should see what the costs will be before deciding on the fee.

Newsletter – Ann Kinkley

Ann would like THE GARDENER'S PEN to advertise chapter sponsored events, share the history of the Extension program and the Master Gardener program, advertise OMGA events (like the Mini-College) and review the OMGA goals and what they mean to Master Gardeners. The due date for articles for the February newsletter is February 14th. The group also discussed having the counties send copies of their newsletters to Ann.

Historian – Linda Coakley

Linda has finished researching 2011, 2012, 2015, and is working on 2021. OSU ARCHIVES is interested in the OMGA history. Email for that department is specialcollections@osu.edu.

NEW BUSINESS:

Recruitment/succession – Chris

This item will remain on the agenda until vacant positions are filled, mainly the President Elect and Vice President positions. In the past, there were two Vice President positions – 1st VP and 2nd VP. In the future, there will be one Vice President position. The By Laws will be amended to reflect this change.

Job Descriptions – Chris

Job descriptions need to be updated. Each Executive Officer needs to update their job description. The goal is to update all descriptions, elected and appointed.

By Laws – Chris

The By-Laws will be reviewed during 2022 and updated as needed.

Sharing Sessions – Chris

Having sharing session among the chapters was discussed at previous meetings. One important criterion is that these sessions not be on the day of a board meeting. Chris contacted chapters to set up a plant sale sharing session similar to the panel we had a couple years ago and only two chapters responded. The committee discussed sharing other successful fundraisers, not just plant sales.

Orientation – Chris

Mandatory orientation/training for Representatives and Alternate Representatives will be held prior to the March 4th OMGA Board of Directors Meeting. **If the Representative and/or Alternate Representatives are not available for the meeting, another member of the chapter will need to attend.** This will be a Power Point presentation. The Representative Handbook can be found at <https://omga.org/omga-reps-handbook/> and can be downloaded and printed.

1st Quarter Board of Directors Meeting (March 4th) Agenda – Chris

Please send Chris any items you want included on the meeting agenda. crusch3837@gmail.com

Goals – Chris

There were no changes to the goals proposed by the members of the December 2021 retreat.

Oregon Master Gardeners Association Goals 2022

Goal #1

OMGA renews our commitment to being an organization that is culturally sensitive and supports diversity, inclusivity, and accessibility towards all our membership and the community at large.

Goal #2

OMGA commits to providing the leadership and support for a successful 2022 Mini-College event.

Goal #3

OMGA commits to partnering with OSU Extension in providing on-line continuing education for our Master Gardener membership with advanced horticulture skills training in 2022, including the Growing Gardeners: Level-up series and the Elevated Skills training for current Master Gardener volunteers.

Goal # 4

OMGA commits to supporting Chapters during these changing times in areas of recruitment and retention; as well as, OMGA supports the idea that all Master Gardener volunteers need to understand the state-wide “big-picture” for our program. OMGA can provide the opportunity for Chapters to share ideas, projects, and successful programs through quarterly “Sharing Forums” where all are invited to participate and contribute.

Goal #5

OMGA commits to improving OMGA recruitment by filling vacancies on our Executive Board and other important “heads of committees” positions. Most notable, our President Elect, Vice President and Treasurer positions remain vacant. If we want to remain relevant and viable as an organization, we need to be able to have a strong executive board to keep up with the needs of our organization.

Goal # 6

OMGA commits to reviewing, updating and revising our OMGA Executive Board job descriptions, the OMGA Policies and Procedures, and keep updating our website in 2022.

Longevity Awards – Chris

After discussion, the Executive Committee decided that OMGA will no longer do Longevity awards. This will become a chapter responsibility. The chapters could hang a poster at the Mini-College recognizing their long-standing members. This is to be discussed further at the Board of Directors meeting in March.

Business completed; the meeting was adjourned at 4:01 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		

OMGA Mission

We are committed to sustainable gardening through:

- Partnering with the OSU Master Gardener Program to promote sustainable gardening practices.
- Advocating for funding to deliver the Master Gardener Program across Oregon;
- Fostering quality continuing education of all Master Gardeners.