



2nd Quarter OMGA Executive Committee Meeting May 7, 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; Historian, Linda Coakley; Data Base/List Serve, Seamus Ramirez; and OSU Extension Program Coordinator, Gail Langellotto.

Welcome – Chris

Chris called the meeting to order at 2 PM and welcomed everyone.

Agenda – Chris

There were no changes to the agenda.

Approval of Minutes – Chris

The minutes were approved as presented.

REPORTS:

OSU Extension Program Coordinator – Gail Langellotto

1. **MG award nominations** are due on May 15th. This year, we switched to an online form for nominations (https://oregonstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cZVockHZoBglwyO), mostly to make things easier to manage on my end. I love managing the MG awards, but my time is really, really tight these days. Having the online form helps me know that everything will be in one place (instead of having to track nominations coming in through email . . . when I get 100+ emails a day during the week) or USPS mail. It's also easier to set word limits ~ and to directly copy and paste written text into the posters and the press release that we create for nominees. But I know that several MGs have been confused about where/how to find the nomination form. Many are going to the OMGA website, which has a good overview of the nomination process (and the old forms) . . . but not the link to the survey. Next year, I would love to work with the webmaster to update the awards section of the OMGA website. I also need to get the OMGA awards committee together, to review nominations for statewide awards. Note that the list of statewide award winners on the OMGA website (also needs to be updated): https://omga.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/State_Oregon_Master_Gardener_Award_Recipients_2019.pdf to include Barbara Davidson as statewide MG of the Year in 2020 and Michael O'Loughlin as Statewide Behind the Scenes winner. Susan Albright and Chris Rusch need to be added as 2021 statewide MGs of the Year, with Sue Ryburn as the statewide Behind the Scenes awardee. Together with Eric Bosler, Tobie Habeck, and Jim Liskey, these folks will form the 2022 MG Awards Committee. Note that for the past few years, both Tobie and Jim have declined to participate or have not responded to requests to participate on this committee. Tobie is no longer an active MG, and I'm not sure what has happened with Jim. I know that he had been having health issues, but hope that these have resolved.

So far, I have: County MG of the year nominations for Benton, Lane, Lincoln, Linn, Multnomah (3), Polk. I have County Behind the Scenes for Lane, Linn, Polk. I have Statewide Behind the Scenes for Linn. No other nominations. PLEASE try to get your nominations in on time.

2. The MG Coordinators are in the process of **evaluating how the 2022 MG training classes have gone**. Most counties used a combination of online lectures and in person workshops for their 2022 training . . . in large part to set up COVID-safe learning environments. Keep in mind that we were planning the 2022 MG training classes in August/September of 2021, when we still weren't sure if COVID restrictions would be in place, or not. Thus, the online delivery of lectures were a bet-hedging strategy, of sorts. But they also helped us deliver courses during a time when our current slate of

faculty instructors is at an all-time low, due to recent retirements and resignations. We'll start planning for the 2023 trainings in the late summer, early fall. While we have seen benefits of the hybrid delivery, there are also some issues that we can address and improve.

3. We had our first meeting of **Cohort II of the MG DEI Task Force**, in April. We have 42 members, from 19 counties, including 6 staff. We in the early stages of determining our annual priorities and training needs for the 2022-2023 work year. Potential priorities include (suggested by program staff, as well as MGs):
 - a. Seed to Supper as a program to broaden reach to communities that have not historically had access to or benefited from OSU Extension
 - b. Programs, Events, Special Projects, and Communications about DEI in the Extension Master Gardener Program
 - c. Working with community partners to broaden reach and impact at the local level
 - d. How to work with Master Gardener Associations and Chapters, to bring a focus on DEI to Chapter projects
 - e. Case studies of how to plan and deliver programs that are accessible and inclusive
 - f. How to developing Land Acknowledgements in a way that respects local tribes
4. Evaluation data on the outcomes of education programs, plant clinics, who and what the demo gardens are used for, what projects chapter is working on, socials held by the chapter, trips, etc.

Financial Reports – Chris

Janet was unable to attend the meeting. No financial report was submitted.

Database/List Serve – Seamus Ramirez

Data continues to be updated. Chapters are submitting changes in a timely manner.

Historian Updates – Linda Coakley

Linda reported that she has completed reviewing and compiling information for 2021 and is now working on 2017.

OMGA Newsletter – Chris

Ann will do a newsletter in June. She will include Level Up class information, Mini-College update and OSU Master Gardener Annual Report.

Mini-College Report and Update and Decisions – Chris

Chris reviewed the plans for the upcoming Joy of Gardening Mini-college. Committee chairs are working to finalize plans. Chapters are encouraged to become involved; chairmen are needed for tours, chapter sales, dorms, decorations, and greeters/hostesses.

- a. Plans for the Thursday evening Corvallis Knights baseball game have been finalized.
- b. The awards dinner will be held at the alumnae center – after reviewing the options, it appears Mexican food is the most cost-effective option.
- c. Space is available for chapters sales. There is no cost for the space and all proceeds go to the chapter.
- d. The registration website should be available soon.

Attached is the power point Chris presented.

Grants – Chris

Committee chairs for Grants, Due by May 15th, are:

Search for Excellence – Sherry

Extension Educator - Chris

Karl Carlson – Barbara Casteel

Forms are located at omga.org/documents-and-forms

NEW BUSINESS:

Recruitment/succession – Chris

Mini-college a place to look for new people. At the next Board of Director meeting discuss how to reach out to people for new executive board people.

Job Descriptions – Chris

Chris noted that 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, during 2022.

By Laws – Chris

Chris would like The By-Laws reviewed during 2022 and updated as needed.

2nd Quarter June Board of Directors Meeting Agenda – Chris

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

At the 2nd Quarter Board of Directors Meeting, we will discuss having the 3rd Quarter meeting in person.

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.

Power Point – Joy of Gardening

2022 Joy of Gardening Conference

OMGA 2022 mini-college

Our yearly gathering, the OMGA Mini-College will be held at OSU on July 29-30 (Fri-Sat). Plan on coming and invite your friends and family to join you. You won't be sorry!

Housing

Hilton Garden Inn: \$134.00 per night

Block is reserved under "Master Gardener Conference"

OSU-Bloss Hall: \$35 per night, linens are \$10.50

Food: Breakfast (a la carte) will be available in Arnold Dining Hall

Schedule:

Thursday, July 28, 2022

2 PM OMGA Board meeting, University Room
Hilton Garden Inn.

6:30 PM Corvallis Knights Ball game at Goss Stadium located behind the CH2M Hill Alumni Center.

Keynote Speakers

Friday, July 29

Dr. Samantha Chisholm Hatfield

Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK), climate change impacts, Indigenous ecosystems, Indigenous food systems

Saturday, July 30

Dr. Gail Langellotto

Oregon Master Gardener Program

Friday evening

Awards Dinner at the Alumni Center

5:30-6:30 Social Hour with music
by Ancient Ways Marimba Band

6:30 Dinner and Awards
Presentation

Other activities:

- Send a friend raffle
- Silent Auction
- Book store
- Chapter Sales

Committee Chairs Still Needed:

Tours
Chapter Sales
Decorations
Dorms
Greeters/Hostesses

Grants

OMGA offers several grants to our Chapters.
The deadline for applications is May 15.
The applications are available on our website. <https://omga.org/documents-and-forms/>

Grants

Here is a brief overview of the grants we have available:

- The Karl Carlson Memorial Fund serves to enhance and supplement the OSU home horticulture program. This can help fund your many projects tied to educating our community about sustainable gardening practices
- The Marje Luce Search for Excellence Program recognizes outstanding work by Chapters in community service, innovative projects, youth programs and much more.

Grants

- Extension Educator Grant supplies fund to help OSU Extension agents and program assistants enhance their ability to deliver education programs to the public.
- Send-a-friend mini college scholarships are used to help fund one or more of a Chapter's Master Gardeners attend mini-college, who might need financial assistance to do so.