

The Gardener's Pen

Oregon Master Gardener Association Summer 2023

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News for all Master Gardeners in the state of Oregon

JOY OF GARDENING JULY 7-8

Register soon for our summer conference. Last year's event was a great way to meet fellow master gardeners and earn those important educational hours! *See page 2.*

SPRING PLANT SALES

Many of our chapters spend months growing hundreds of plants to sell to the public every spring. People from around the state look forward to it every year! Check out the list on page 4.

GOOD GARDEN BOOKS

In this issue we've included a couple of great book reviews that your fellow master gardeners think you will want to read. You will find their recommendations on page 3.

Goodbye Gail, and thank you!

Our hardworking Master Gardener Statewide Coordinator, Gail Langellotto, will be transitioning to a research and teaching position at OSU on July 1. She shares she will be focusing on her research and "pursue some novel opportunities in hydroponics, insect husbandry, building-integrated urban agriculture and environmental microbiomes." Which means, thanks to Gail and her colleagues, we will have interesting and informative new data that we can use to help educate the citizens of the state as we share the research at our educational events. So while we'll miss her as our organization's leader, we look forward to reaping the benefits of her expanded research. Best wishes, Gail!



Riley Creek School Garden in Gold Beach

the
JOY
of Gardening

Presented by

OMGA™

THE OREGON MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION

Two days of research-based classes
on edibles, ornamentals, and pollinators.

For new and experienced gardeners!

Bookstore 🌿 Awards 🌿 Silent Auction

FRIDAY, JULY 7
SATURDAY, JULY 8



CH2MHILL ALUMNI CENTER
725 SW 26TH ST.
OSU CAMPUS, CORVALLIS, OR



In cooperation with
and support of
Oregon State University
Extension Service
Master Gardener

<https://omga.org/mini-college-2023/>
REGISTRATION OPENS ON MAY 15

Questions? Contact us at 2023joyofgardening@gmail.com



Good books for gardeners

154 gifts were given

to the Statewide Master Gardener Endowment Fund on the OSU Damn Proud Day, April 26. Challenge gifts jump-started the fund and made a great impact. As a result, \$12,000 was available to purchase a bulk order of **Seed to Supper** booklets, saving the program money and providing supplies for **at least two years.** This was the first year the Master Gardener Program was invited to participate. Thank you to all who donated!

Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants

by Robin Wall Kimmerer. Reviewed by Donna Leveridge-Campbell, Coos County

Braiding Sweetgrass has so much to offer and I believe other gardeners would especially appreciate this book, as I do. As one who loves her children and also loves her garden, Kimmerer lists some “loving behaviors” and makes the case that “The land loves us back... She provides for us and teaches us to provide for ourselves. That is what good mothers do.”

Kimmerer speaks from multiple perspectives as an Indigenous woman, a mother, a gardener, a botanist and professor of plant ecology and from many other aspects of herself. She explains scientific and indigenous knowledge in an easy-to-read, poetic style. She integrates mind, body, emotion and spirit and shares “healing stories that allow us to imagine a different relationship, in which people and land are good medicine for each other.” This gives me hope.

The author addresses many of my own concerns, moral dilemmas and feelings of guilt as a relatively ignorant and clumsy human on this Earth, trying to decide what to do - or not do. Kimmerer shares her journey toward greater understanding of her place in the world and the roles of humans in the web of life. “The most important thing each of us can know is our unique gift and how to use it in the world.” I believe this is a hugely important book for our times.

The Scentual Garden:

Exploring the World of Botanical Fragrance

by Ken Druse. Reviewed by Terry Wagner, Washington County

In this delightful garden-centric book, Druse has given us an entrancing way to more fully enjoy our experiences in the garden world. What we usually find in plant descriptions regarding smell is the word “fragrant.” If you would like to get beyond this non-illuminating description, this is the book for you. The author has divided familiar and unusual garden plants, shrubs and trees into 12 categories of scent: Animalic, Balsamic/Resinous, Floral/Sweet, Forest, Fruity, Heavy, Herbal/Green, Honey, Indolic, Medicinal, Rose and Spice. His book also gives us a view into why plants smell (it’s not for our benefit), how to get the most out of the many fragrances, and how to capture scents while we are exploring the plant world. The combination of words and photographs will likely touch a part of your brain where smell is evocative of memory and emotion.



Spring garden shows and sales

A major fundraiser for most chapters, the plant sales and educational events around the state are also good publicity for the master gardener program. Future MG's see the fun and dedication and want to learn more! Look for sales here:

April 29: Columbia, Lane,

May 5-6: Marion, Yamhill

May 6: Benton, Coos, Douglas, Jackson, Tillamook, Washington

May 6-7: Clackamas, Josephine,

May 12-13: Polk

May 13: Central Gorge, Clatsop, Curry, Multnomah, Wasco

May 19: Umatilla

May 20: Lincoln,

May 26-27: Klamath

June 3: Central Oregon

For details see: <https://bit.ly/44QxHtE>



Good Things Happening

Chapters are teaching up a storm! Garden tours, (Albany, June 17) classes and demonstrations in the gardens (NW Portland on Saturdays) and many online classes. Gardening for the birds, Dwarf conifers, Venerable veggies, mason bees, raising chickens, native plants, growing garlic, Growing Gardeners Kids' Corner, learning ECCO for Plant Clinics, a new Spanish program on Radio Tierra... More listings at: <https://tinyurl.com/86xeshjz>

Projects approved for

Master Gardener volunteer hours:

Oregon Season Tracker, Vegetable Variety Trials, Forest Pest Detectors, eButterfly, iNaturalist, Oregon Native Bee Atlas, The Hazelnut Project, Project Budburst, Great Backyard Bird Count, Hummingbirds at Home, Community Collaborative Rain, Hail & Snow Network, A Tree's Life. Sign up at: <https://bit.ly/3I7kpyX>.

Check out the Polk Co MG Inspiration Garden in Independence. Seven acres have been developed with over 25 themed sections of botanic specimens demonstrating horticultural practices for home gardeners.

<https://bit.ly/3W1SMNq>



See you at the conference July 7-8!

The Oregon Master Gardener™ Association is a statewide, 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose purpose is to enhance and support the OSU Master Gardener™ program.

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