



**Oregon Master Gardener Association
Third Quarter 2023
Chapter Reports**

<u>County</u>	<u>Submitted By</u>	<u>Website</u>
Benton County	Richard Taylor	bentonmq.org
Central Gorge	Eric Bosler	blogs.oregonstate.edu/cgmga
Central Oregon	Karen Simonet	extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/central
Clackamas County	Seamus Ramirez	clackamascountymastergardeners.org
Clatsop County	Elizabeth Schimpf	clatsopmastergardeners.org
Columbia County		extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/columbia
Coos County	Lorna Schilling	extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/coos
Curry County	Jeff Richter	extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/curry
Douglas County	Barbara Hamby	douglascountymg.org
Jackson County	Kathy Apple	jacksoncomga.org
Josephine County		jocomastergardeners.com/index.html
Lane County	Carol Salami-Goswick	extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/lane
Lincoln County	Kristi Kind	orcoastmga.org
Linn County	Ann Kinkley	linnmastergardeners.com
Marion County	Terry Sawyer	marioncoga.org
Multnomah County	Rich Becker	multnomahmastergardeners.org
Polk County	Helen McCann	extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/polk
Tillamook County		tillamookmastergardeners.com
Wasco County		extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/wasco
Washington County		washingtoncountymastergardeners.org
Yamhill County	Nancy Woodworth	ycmga.org

Benton County Master Gardener Association 2023 3rd Quarter Chapter Report

- BCMGA Field Trips
 - June
 - **Summer tours** start on June 14 at Joyce Eberhart's garden. Joyce is our "go-to" native plant resource. It was a wonderful display of landscaping with native plants along with two other gardens next door to Joyce's. She also arranged for participants to tour her sister's garden next door as well as another neighbor who has an amazing veggie garden.
 - July
 - On July 19 we had the opportunity to walk through the Inspiration Garden in Independence. This demonstration garden is part of the 7-acre Mt. Fir Park, formerly the property of the Mt. Fir Lumber Company. Inspiration Garden has been a project of the Polk County Master Gardener Association (PCMGA) since 2013 and has nearly two dozen different garden areas. The newest addition is the Peace Garden, which centers around a ginkgo tree grown from a seed that survived the bombing of Hiroshima. Other garden attractions include specimen trees, plants for pollinators, an Asian garden, roses, a recreated oak savannah, vegetable gardens and more.
 - August
 - On August 17, Master Gardener Fred Prah opened up his yard for drop in tours. Fred's yard had been a flat, monotonous palette of primarily poorly attended lawn. After reading books by Douglas Tallamy and Michael Douglas Pyle and learning about the mission of groups like the Xerces Society and the Institute for Applied Ecology, his gardening approach became much more focused.
- Fairgrounds Demo and Entrance Gardens
 - The Demo Garden team was very busy at the Benton County Fair in early August, recording 900 contacts during the 4-day run of the Fair.
 - Volunteers worked hard to groom the seven themed Entrance Gardens made available to fairgoers and received lots of good feedback.
- Joy of Gardening - July 7-8
 - Many BCMGA volunteers participated in organizing the silent auction
 - This year BCMGA is offered six \$100 scholarships to attend this conference. Three scholarships were for continuing MGs and 3 were for trainees. Recipients were selected by raffle.
 -
- New Greenhouse at Philomath High School
 - A new (16' x 8') greenhouse was installed on Aug. 26 at the Philomath High School propagation facility.
- Public Seed Library –
 - A public seed library was started inside the Benton County Library earlier this year. Donated seed packets from local nurseries were stocked, displayed, and made available to the public on a first come first serve basis. People are also encouraged to share their unused seeds with others. During the spring and summer, the Public Seed Library has hosted a series of gardening lectures. Handouts for these lectures can be found here: <https://www.bentonmg.org/library-lecture-series-slides-handouts>.

Submitted by:
Richard Taylor, OMGA State Representative
Benton County Master Gardener Association

Central Gorge Master Gardener Association 2023 3rd Quarter Chapter Report to OMGA

As with all Chapters the Central Gorge Master Gardeners are deep in the throes of summer. But other than weeding and thinning and trying to keep the Zucchini under control we don't lose sight of our Mission. Plant Clinic for CGMGA consists of "in office" two times a week, community "pop-up" tables at 3 local businesses each Saturday, special events such as the county fair and our very popular online portal. So far this year face to face contacts accounts for about 50% of the garden questions while our online venue has provided the other half of the inquiries.

A new community outreach event this year was a Tomato & Pepper Tasting. Held in the community room of the Hood River FISH Food Bank, the activity offered a wide variety of both tomatoes and peppers produced in the MG Demo Garden, which is onsite at the Food Bank, and from individual home gardens. This new event was attended by a nice mix of Master Gardeners and community members.

As usual work and education continues in all our demo gardens. Most notable this summer is that our large "Learning Garden" at the Mid-Columbia Ag Research and Extension Center is in the early stages of a major renovation. Septic issues from the Extension office building took out a large bio-swale and was a big part in motivating us to re-design a big feature of the garden. The bio-swale will return along with a couple of new features which will expand the use of the area into an "Outdoor Learning Center" for use by Master Gardeners and the entire community.

Our chapter members have taken some time for ourselves and enjoyed 3 "garden visits" this summer. Master Gardener's visiting each other's gardens in an informal, yet educational, format. We usually share a light potluck and always some of that social "glue" that adds to the cohesion of our Chapter. On to fall...as we harvest our bounty, put our gardens into winter mode, we look forward to some in-door times together, plan for next year's activities and to meeting new friends when classes kick off the next year.

Submitted by:
Eric Bosler, OMGA State Representative
Central Gorge Master Gardener Association

"If you have a garden and a library, you have everything you need."
Marcus Tullius Cicero



2023 3rd Quarter Report

Who was it that said, “A garden is never done”? Thank goodness! It relieves the stress of ever thinking it’s complete, it’s over. There’s always room to improve walkways, fit in one more plant, and even sit back and enjoy the view. This year was a year for improvements and renovations.

We are happy to report that the Alpenglow Demonstration Garden is now completely planted! Many volunteers planted about 60 natives- lots of penstemon, blanket flower, columbine, kinnikinnick, and other plants, still quite small but they will be sure to grow and become more established in the coming months and years. We also planted a Latin cultural garden which features tomatoes, tomatillos, corn, squash, cilantro, peppers, marigolds, dahlias, bougainvillea and more.

Hollinshead Park Waterwise Field Day, in conjunction with the City of Bend Parks and Rec was a huge success with over 200 attendees. There were raffles for water conservation items and demos on irrigation. The swale and the pathway rocks were all re-set, so they visually jump out. The day resulted in a magical transformation of the garden.

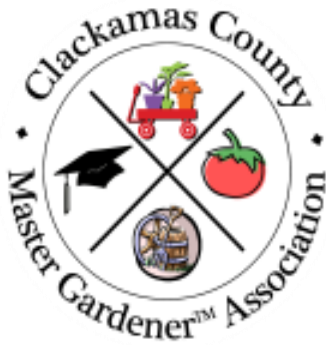
The June Garden Fair on June 3 included educational booths, mobile plant clinic, Central Oregon Insect Display, vendors, a plant raffle and COMGA Plant Sale. There was a total headcount of 136 customers that went through the drive-thru check-in table for plant pick up. Approximately 50 customers bought plants that were extras, that did not have a pre-order. Approximately another 50 individuals were out in the parking lot only, checking out educational booths, vendors & plant raffle. Total participants/contacts: 236.

The Home and Garden Show was held at the Deschutes County Fairgrounds. We had 141 people take the 4 classes offered. The pollinator display created a buzz (pun intended) at our booth and was popular with both kids and adults, 807 contacts. We highlighted the publication EM 9289, Enhancing Urban and Suburban Landscapes to Protect Pollinators. Another major success was the use of QR codes for our handouts. The handout can be viewed on-line, with direct access to the OSU website.

The High Desert Garden Tour was held in July, with 7 gardens hosting in the surrounding Bend area. Signage was strategically placed and a link to directions with a map made finding the gardens easy. 672 tickets were sold for the event. It was a busy and inspiring day on the streets of Bend!

Submitted by:

Karen Simonet, OMGA State Representative
Central Oregon Master Gardener Association



Clackamas County Master Gardener Association 2023 3rd Quarter Chapter Report

Clackamas County Master Gardeners have been able to return to many of the traditional events and activities that have been the mark of our educational services and community outreach in the past. We have modified and adjusted as needed with a strong focus on the well-being of our members and those we serve.

Feted as outstanding members this year, Kathy Krentz received the "Master Gardener of the Year" and Cheryl Bordon was noted with the "Behind the Scenes" award. Well-earned recognition.

Our chapter meetings were resumed in person with a Zoom component as well. Chapter members returned to serving on the Help Line, Speakers Guild, End of the Trail, and Hopkins Demonstration Forest. In addition to these, we provided volunteers for four major programs that serve the community and beyond with gardening support and resource sharing. These four service areas are now reflected in our new chapter logo created by Sharon Andrews. A brief summary of these includes:

1. Grow an Extra Row Giving and Learning Garden, or "GAER" is celebrating 19 years as a project with the Clackamas County Master Gardeners. We rent 9 garden plots and from April to mid-October raising a wide variety of vegetables. We have 32 garden beds that are each 25' long. All the produce is donated to local food pantries. So far this year we have donated 2318 pounds. Some of the poundage from spring crops were 249# of red and green cabbage, 148# of peas, 88# of broccoli, and 124# of lettuce. Summer crops we are currently harvesting are 88# of onions, 209# of summer squash, 463# of tomatoes, 44# off of 6 tomatillo plants. Our mission is to "Teach, Learn, and Give" and so far this year we have had 44 volunteers give over 1000 hours of their time to this project.

2. Hopkins Demonstration Forest with MG Native Plant Sale

This sale is about education and service and the net results of sales goes to improvements and ongoing projects at the Native Plant Garden at Hopkin's Demonstration Forest maintained by Master Gardeners. This year we can use \$603.00 towards the purchase new plants and signage.

Nine plants were donated for landscape improvements around the Molalla Log House restoration project. Chapter members were there to sell plants and educate people about the use of native plants in their landscapes. Over 300 questions were answered with reference material provided by Native Plants for Willamette Valley yards booklet.

3. The 10-Minute University

The instructing team delivered 19 weekly webinars, from January through May, to 5,200 live audiences. Recordings were posted to YouTube and have received more than 12,000 views. In addition, the team offered 8 hands-on workshops, beginning in March, to 117 gardeners. Topics ranged from Summer Pruning an Apple Tree to Making Soil Blocks. 10-Minute University classes were part of the Spring Garden Fair, serving 288 clients.

The 10-Minute University "Let's Grow Together!" webinars received the OMGA Search for Excellence Award. These webinars began in 2021, in response to COVID, and continued through 2022 and 2023. Total participation from live audience and video views have exceeded 51,000. While the majority of users live in Oregon and Washington, the average webinar attendance represents 6 countries and 24 US states. We are continuing to plan new webinars and topics for 2024.

4. Spring Garden Fair continues to be a major focus for our chapter. Over 120 vendors provided the public attending (nearly 9,000 attended for the two-day event) with a huge variety of garden plants and tools available. Master Gardeners hosted several booths with the opportunity for soil testing, classes from 10 Minute University instructors, new plant introductions, "Ask a Master Gardener", and a raffle to boot. Over 300

volunteers served during this event, with over 2,000 hours served. Both chapter members as well as some volunteers from the community make this a successful annual event.

We took a break from the usual chapter meeting during summer and enjoyed a “Progressive Tour” of 4 nurseries in the Canby area followed by a picnic lunch with time to chat and share. We look forward to another time to gather and connect socially with our End of Summer Picnic on September 11th.

As we resume our traditional events, we will host “Fall Into Gardening” on October 7th. An event held for public education, there’s soil testing, classes, displays, and an “Ask a Master Gardener” table.

Our chapter meetings resume in October and we look forward to excellent program speakers, book sales, seed sharing, and time to continue to learn and grow.

Submitted by:

Seamus Ramirez, OMGA State Representative

Clackamas County Master Gardener Association

Clatsop County Master Gardener Association 2023 3rd Quarter Chapter Report

Clatsop County Master Gardeners are having a busy and productive summer. After our very successful Spring Event & MG Plant Sale in late April, we are in full summer swing.

Starting in April and May, we have been holding our plant Clinics weekly. Astoria Sunday Market, on Sundays and the Seaside Market on Wednesdays. Astoria OHU Extension Office/Information Line Plant Clinic has been up and running Tues & Thursdays.

June and July were busy for the Clatsop County Master Gardeners. We worked on two different programs to support community members in South Clatsop County that are facing food insecurity. Cannon Beach Tomato Starts & Seaside Food Forest Initiative

1-Cannon Beach: The community was invited to our booth at the Seaside Farmers Market to plant seeds in a bucket to take home with care instructions.

2-Seaside Food Forrest Initiative: 40 children were taught how to plant seeds in recycled milk containers, also planting in clear glass to watch their beans and peas grow.

Big thanks to Andrea Kelly, Mary Jo Mosby, Mitra Rado and Janet Willoughby for initiating and leading these efforts and all the CCMGA members who came out to plant and support the projects!

3-Mini College: This year, 3 Clatsop County Master Gardeners attended the annual OSU event that It was a wonderful social & educational experience!

August & September The CCMGA Demonstration Garden Celebrated it's 25th year! Th celebrated during the annual Clatsop County Fair, held the last week of July to the first of August. There was a Plant Clinic during the fair, as well as the featured culling garden, vegetable beds, shade plants, herbs, vertical gardening, containers, straw bale garden, berries, ornamental trees and more.

4-The Alderbrook Learning Garden in Astoria is having a bountiful Summer! An educational tool, 100% of the food produced is donated to the Clatsop County Food Bank. Sept 5, A work party gathered and harvested the many hops grown on one of this garden's wooden fence. The hops were cut and donated to Astoria's Ft.

George Brewery as part of a local hops into beer event. More public events to come in the Learning Garden!

6-Sept 30th We hold our Harvest to Feast Event & Plant Sale! Winter plants, food processing demo's, bees & honey, 4-H exhibits, mushroom culture, silent auction, speakers, and more! I will cover this event in the October report.

Submitted by:

Elizabeth Schimpf, OMGA State Representative

Clatsop County Master Gardener Association

Coos County Master Gardener Association 2023 3rd Quarter Report to OMGA

Coos County Master Gardeners have been having a very good gardening season. The totals of donations are not in yet.

We have staffed a booth at the Coos Bay Farmer's Market weekly and the Bandon Farmer's Market monthly. There was initial trouble getting volunteers for Bandon, but the slots were filled, people came and were given gardening advice.

The plant clinic has had a few interesting problems and a couple donations of insects and spiders.

In the last half of May it was very cold in our area, but summer arrived and it has been a very productive season at the community gardens and in our area. This year is an extremely good year for apples, pears and peaches in our area.

We had a very busy table at the Coos County Fair.

Submitted by:

Lorna Schilling, OMGA State Representative
Coos County Master Gardener Association



Curry County Master Gardener Association

3rd Quarter Report, 1 September 2023



CCMGA Booth at the 2023 County Fair

Curry County Fair. July 26-29, CCMGA volunteers enjoyed the fine summer weather and festivities of the Curry County Fair and Expo in Gold Beach. On display at our booth were our recently acquired banners with our new logo and motto *"Growing Gardens and Gardeners."* Pictured are our Co-Presidents, Kelly Jacobsen and Debbie Richter helping-out on opening day. Hundreds of attendees had the opportunity to visit with many of our volunteers, getting gardening advice, and pitching in for our raffle to win some nice succulent tabletop arrangements. Raffle donations were applied to our Demonstration Greenhouse and Garden Project. Volunteers also hosted plant clinic and info booths on August 12th at Dragonfly Nursery in Langlois and August 13th in Port Orford.

CCMGA Demonstration Greenhouse and Garden Project. As reported earlier, our plans for a new demo greenhouse and garden are progressing splendidly. With MGs Debbie Carroll and



Ali VanOtterloo as project managers, and Julia Bott and Cindy Myers as grant managers, and other MGs on their committee, we have high hopes for this new facility at the County Fairgrounds and Events Center in Gold Beach, adjacent to the OSU Extension Office. A property lease and a building permit are in the works with the hope we can order the greenhouse kit soon. Our building fund is over \$80,000, including grants and donations

from members, community members and other local non-profits. We have more grants being considered at this time, and feedback is favorable. We hope to order the \$35,000 24' x48' greenhouse kit for a groundbreaking this fall, and achieve our \$155,000 project goal this year. During 2024, we will outfit the building with tools, equipment and supplies, transfer our annual plant sale operations from Gold Beach High School greenhouse, and start the exterior garden groundwork. We're really excited with the prospects of our new MG home!

Summer Picnic. August 6th, 20-25 members and spouses enjoyed a potluck and picnic at the beautiful home of MG Linnie O'Flanagan-Gorre overlooking the Chetco River and Brookings harbor.

Plant Clinics. Our weekly plant clinics for the rest of the season are no longer operating out of the OSU Extension Office in Gold Beach, and will continue with volunteers fielding online enquiries remotely from home.

School Garden Support. Our volunteers continue the ongoing support of the school gardens at Riley Creek School (Gold Beach), Kalmiopsis School (The Little Bear Patch, Brookings), and Brookings High School (The Bridge). A new hoop-style greenhouse was erected in August at Brookings High.



With Regrets. Our energetic and dedicated OSU MG Program Assistant, Laurie lee Bartlett has resigned recently and moved out of the area due to family obligations. Best wishes to her and her family. Accordingly, if you know someone who is qualified and might be interested in relocating to the beautiful southern coast, this position should be advertised on the OSU job site at any time. Curry Watersheds Partnership is also recruiting currently for youth education specialists in our local schools.

Submitted by:
Jeff Richter, OMGA State Representative
Curry County Master Gardener Association

Douglas County Master Gardener Association

2023 3rd Quarter Report to OMGA

Fall Training Session:

DCMG's eight week fall training session has begun. The first class was September 5 and will continue until October 24. There are three students per mentor, for a total of 30 students and ten mentors participating in this autumn course. All Master Gardeners are invited to attend the classes, where it is an opportunity to earn the ten hours needed to complete their recertification, if desired. Slated to speak are current Master Gardeners, as well as other experts teaching about xeriscape gardening; integrated pest management strategies; soil, compost and fertilizers; plant diagnostics and plant pathology, as well as several other pertinent topics.

Plant Clinic:

Summer has been a busy season for the plant clinic, as it has had more than 200 inquiries this quarter through phone calls, emails, and walk-ins. The clinic has had 80 inquiries this month and more than 100 in July. Many of the questions have focused on diagnosing plant problems, landscaping issues, identifying insects and gardening concerns, such as end rot on tomatoes.

Outreach:

The DCMG has planned a series of four summer classes, which were held in the Discovery Garden Pavilion and opened to all MGs and the public. The first class had 34 participants and included a tour of the Victory Garden, providing information relating to garden practices employed in the production of their bountiful harvest. Topics covered in this vegetable gardening class included planting times, successional planting, maximizing space and irrigation. Attendees also learned about the importance of good soil and composting amendments. Other classes scheduled are "Sustainable Garden Basics: Low Maintenance, Low Water Gardening," "Simple Shrubbery: What's Not to Like?" and "Garlic and Shallots: How to Keep Growing During the Winter."

MGs have been volunteering at the Roseburg Boys & Girls Club throughout this summer. The children have had opportunities to study the parts of a plant, gardening, and looking at bugs. They even enjoyed making Oreo Mud Cakes. Other classes taught include "All About Cabbages and the Brassica Family," "All About Roots," "All About Apples," "Succulents," "Pollinator Gardens," and "The Wonderful World of Summer Squashes."

The DCMGs were represented by volunteers at a booth at the annual fair in August. They fielded questions and concerns about gardening and landscaping issues. It was an opportunity for them to share information about the fall training session, too. Many visitors to the booth expressed an interest in the class and learning about how to be a better gardener.

Soil Lab:

The revamped Soil Lab and the new soil dehydrator has made soil testing more efficient, because it dries samples overnight, allowing for quicker results. The lab, which was moved from tight quarters in the OSU Extension Office to a larger space into the Discovery Gardens, has given our soil lab technicians more room to conduct the tests. To date, they have tested 82 samples brought in by MGs and the public, which is more than they did this time last year.

Victory Garden:

This year, DCMG's Victory Garden and MGs' home gardens have yielded more than 2,000 pounds of fresh produce and all of it has been donated to the local UCAN, sharing fresh vegetables with the community. Among this year's crop are zucchini, cucumbers, cabbage, peas, radishes, rhubarb, onions, carrots, beans, and tomatoes.

Greenhouse Business:

Those working in the greenhouses have been busy doing cuttings, cleanings, and planting starts, preparing for our next plant sale in spring, 2024. MGs are also propagating a variety of plants, shrubs, trees,

and sedums. The inventory of plants is constantly growing, and the variety is ever-changing. With an increase in the number of plants, the work area in the greenhouses have become cramped. Fortunately, funds have made it possible to expand the greenhouse and the added space is welcomed.

Submitted by:

Barbara Hamby, OMGA State Representative
Douglas County Master Gardener Association

2023 3rd Quarter *Garden for Life* Chapter Report

OSU Southern Oregon Research & Extension Center (SOREC):

We have a new Extension Center Director, Dr. Alec Levin. Previously, Dr. Levin was the Viticulturist at SOREC. He is an Associate Professor in the Department of Horticulture at Oregon State University. He is also a core faculty member of the Oregon Wine Research Institute, and serves as the chair of the Grape Genetics, Physiology and Management working group in the International Society for Horticultural Science.

Dr. Levin recently updated our Board on his plans for major improvements to the SOREC grounds. A farm owned by SOREC was recently sold and the proceeds from the sale will be put towards the cost of the proposed changes. Donations and grants will also be obtained to fund the changes. Included in the proposed changes are a teaching pavilion. Dr. Levin has asked JCMGA to develop goals for the new pavilion.

Association Activities & Governance:

- JCMGA was so pleased to see our past President, Lynn Kunstman selected as the OMGA Master Gardener of the Year for 2023! We are so grateful for her expertise and commitment to our association!
- We continue to develop our Native Plant Nursery and Propagation Demonstration Garden. A successful plant sale was held June 24th and another scheduled for September 16th.
- We are exploring translating various JCMGA materials into Spanish to reach more people in the Rogue Valley. Our Community Outreach Working Group has been tasked with this project.
- We are currently forming our annual Nomination Committee to seek candidates for positions on the Board of Directors for fiscal year 2024.
- JCMGA will hold its annual membership picnic on August 19th where we will give out awards and acknowledge significant contributions to the association this past year.
- We are also in the planning stages for our graduation ceremony for graduates of the 2023 Master Gardener program. The ceremony will be held November 4th.

Education & Community Outreach

- JCMGA participated in the annual Southern Oregon Lavender Trail July 24th & 25th. Margaret Clark, our Garden Education Mentor for the Lavender Garden, provided lavender cookies, lavender chocolates donated by Lillie Belle Chocolates, and lavender cheese donated by the Rogue Creamery for all the tour visitors. Our Lavender Garden is well established and includes over 80 varieties of lavender and more than 250 plants, many of which were donated by Goodwin Creek Gardens in Williams, Oregon. The garden is the only one in the Pacific Northwest registered with the Herb Society of America.
- We received a grant from a local nonprofit for construction of an ADA compliant walkway between our lavender garden and vineyard. We are now exploring the possibility of a wheelchair path through the garden itself.

- JCMGA has implemented public educational tours of our 15 demonstration gardens beginning with private tours with all the local garden clubs in the county.
- Earlier, JCMGA launched a “Plant a Row” campaign which asked Master Gardeners to plant an extra row of vegetables for Access, our local food bank. Several hundred pounds of produce have already been donated.
- We are planning a Fall Festival for the first time ever. The festival will be held October 14th from 9:00-2:00pm and will be a smaller version of our annual Spring Garden Fair. The festival will include vendors and plant sales and will be held on the Extension Center grounds.
- Registration is now open for our annual Winter Dreams Summer Gardens Symposium. This online education event will be held October 25 & 26 and November 3 & 4 from 9:00-4:30pm each day. The cost is \$30 for 14 excellent presentations. Here is the link for further information.
<https://jacksoncountymga.org/winter-dreams-summer-gardens-symposium/>
- We are hosting a Mosaic Garden Glass workshop September 15th after a great deal of interest was expressed by folks touring our demonstration gardens and observing some of our member produced mosaic glass art.

Submitted by:

Kathy Apple, OMGA State Representative
 Jackson County Master Gardener Association

Lane County Master Gardeners 2023 Third Quarter Chapter Report

It has been a busy summer in Lane County. After a very successful MG Plant Sale in late April, we are in full summer mode.

The Plant Sale was held indoors this summer for the first time in several years. Last year's sale was held outdoors under tents on a very rainy day. This year we avoided the heat at the Lane County Fairgrounds. The sales netted approximately \$23,000 and we had lots of customers. It is always interesting to note what sells out and what doesn't. Native plants were popular this year as were vegetables, however our bare root trees seemed to intimidate customers. Next year we will provide more educational material and support for folks interested in bare root trees.

It is the busy season for the Plant Clinic and Mobile Plant Clinic. To date, we've had about 850 cases in the Clinic and the Mobile Clinic has had over 1500 cases. Lane County is geographically large and diverse, and we are emphasizing outreach to other regions of the county in addition to the Eugene/Springfield area. Our Mobile Plant Clinic is a significant part of that effort. They have provided clinics at a wide variety of community events ranging from farmers markets throughout the county to the Eugene Symphony Garden tour.

The July LCMGA seminar saw a return to the popular public Plant Prowl in our demonstration garden presented by the Plant Diagnostics committee. On a lovely midsummer evening we highlighted taking a systematic approach to solving various plant problems. Yes, even the demo garden has plant problems.

The Compost committee has offered several workshops throughout the county, including resumption of a Worm Bin workshop.

One of the most exciting developments this summer is the formation of a new group focused on vegetable gardening. The Edible Gardening Group has given two public presentations this summer. They gave a Vegetable Gardening talk at the Lane County Fair, and they created a vertical garden in the Extension Demo Garden which was highlighted in a public presentation on vegetable gardening in limited spaces. The Herb Walk subcommittee is partnering with GrassRoots Garden, a fresh food provider for the local foodbank. Master Gardeners maintain and update the herb bed and use it for educational purposes. A periodic public Herb Walk starts September 2, 2023, and will introduce attendees to the herbs, their culinary uses, and give tips for planting and herbs care.

In August the LCMGA Board hosted a garden walk at the suburban home garden orchard of one of our members. We learned about varieties of apples, pears and plums that can grow happily together in relatively small spaces, water management, grafting fruit trees and the astounding growing and fruiting power of kiwi vines. It was a lovely warm summer day to socialize in the garden, enjoy lemonade, iced tea, snacks and fellowship with our MG friends.



Figure 1 Edible Gardening Group leader, Juliet Bender, next to Raised Bed Vertical Gardening demonstration.



Figure 2 July 2023 Plant Prowl led by Plant Diagnostics Committee members.



Figure 3 MG Carol Salami-Goswick waters in her Dwarf Cortland Apple Tree from the Plant Sale

Submitted by:
Carol Salami-Goswick, OMGA State Representative
Lane County Master Gardener Association

Lincoln County Master Gardener Association 2023 3rd Quarter Chapter Report

Lincoln County Chapter is currently on a good path and has settled into a new normal with some in-person events restored and blended in with the newer online opportunities for continuing education. A monthly newsletter edited by our coordinator, Evie Smith, contains notes of all Chapter activities and can be found on our website: www.orcoastmga.org

Our third Demonstration Garden located at the OCCC campus in Waldport is beginning to come together under the direction of co-coordinators Carita Edson and Laura Hauert with many folks pitching in to provide the labor for setting up and painting a storage shed, building a water collection system, and constructing raised beds, among the many tasks that will need to be done before the garden can be put into use. The two operational Demonstration Gardens (located on Oregon Coast Community College Main and North campuses) are hosting apprentice projects and other events, such as the Children's Fair recently hosted in Lincoln City and an upcoming showcase of apprentice projects in South Beach.

Several garden tours and events have been curated for the general membership to partake of over the summer to help build camaraderie and provide opportunities for socializing. The series will conclude with the annual potluck picnic and tomato tasting extravaganza later this month.

We are continuing to provide outreach with a help desk table at Saturday Markets and hosting a table at the County Fair, as well. Other opportunities abound for members to teach at workshops and help in school and community gardens.

The publicity committee chaired by Stormi Dykes has taken on the task of creating a unique logo for our Chapter. Some preliminary designs have been created and bids from graphic designers are being considered for tuning up and readying two designs to be presented to the general membership for a vote to choose the permanent new logo design. The committee is also working on a "go box" for tabling events that members can pick up from the office and take in order to have handouts, brochures and other useful information to aid in the effort of answering gardening questions.

We have had an office intern over the summer and we will also now begin enjoying the benefit of a newly hired Community Food Systems EPA 2, who will be spending 50% of her work time supporting the Master Gardener program.

It's been a great summer in Lincoln County!

Submitted by:
Kristi Kind, OMGA State Representative
Lincoln County Master Gardener Association



Linn County Master Gardener Association 2023 3rd Quarter Chapter Report

Our county is still without a program manager so extra effort to mentor the trainees has been a goal. Garden Labs to help trainees get required hours for certification were created. Rich Little spoke about: Entomology-Insects and Kelly Muller spoke about: Pollinators & How to Attract. Other classes were offered on How and What to plant for fall & winter harvest and Invasive Species.

We have upcoming BROWN BAG TALKS 12 noon TO 1 PM at the LINN COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE on Seed Saving, Bee in the Know, Year-round gardening, and Native Plants. The Demo Garden is open to the public 8 am to 8 pm this summer and fall. Albany Library Seed Swat will be held October 7 and October 28 and there were well over 200 kids for the Succulent Planting Day at the Albany Farmers Market. Mason Bee Cocoon cleaning classes have been set for the fall.

Several members toured Adaptive Seeds Farm in Sweet Home and the OSU Dry Farm Field Day. Our June Albany Garden Tour was successful – with perfect temperatures and a diversity of large and small gardens. Attendance was about 350 people.

A Mantis Tiller is a great little tool but no match for the Annual Rye Grain that was grown as a cover crop in the Demonstration Garden. Lesson learned; we will **not** use Annual Rye Grain as a cover crop again. Best cover crops were Austrian Field Peas, Crimson Clover and Hairy Vetch.



Submitted by:
Ann Kinkley, OMGA State Representative
Linn County Master Gardener Association

Marion County Master Gardener Association 2023 3rd Quarter Chapter Report

The Marion County MGA Store on our website is now open for business with many items for sale promoting Marion County Master Gardener Association. You can find short and long sleeve shirts, cups/mugs, water bottles, hats and more. We are also getting our garden area ready for our Fall Membership BBQ/Potluck Picnic on September 16th.

The MCMGA currently has 212 members with 95 active members and 37 trainees, with 4 trainees who have completed their requirements to graduate. We still have several Board positions which are vacant or will become vacant at the end of the year. These positions are: Secretary, Communications, Education, Member at Large, and OMGA Rep.

Marion County MGA has set up a Pollinator and Native Bulb Sale Symposium that is open to the public on October 21st at Louck's auditorium at the Salem Public Library. There will be two speakers for this event. Aaron Anderson from Xerces Society will do a presentation on Best Native plants for Oregon, and Dean Wentworth, Willamette University (retired), will talk on Gardening for Hummingbirds. Marion Soil and Water Conservation District has partnered with us and will be selling native bulbs.

The Marion Demonstration Garden parking area expansion is near completion. The larger parking has more than double our parking capacity and makes it much easier to turn around. Our Maintenance Team also constructed a short retaining wall which allows the Propagation Team to expand their area to accommodate an influx of plants as we prepare for the 2024 Plant Sale.

Submitted by:

Terry Sawyer, OMGA State Representative
Marion County Master Gardener Association

Multnomah County Master Gardener™ Association 2023 3rd Quarter Report to OMGA Board

Demo Garden (DG) Activities

The Pergola building permit passed final inspection from the City of Portland. We even had our first in-person meeting there. Since the city required a larger foundation structure than the pergola kit provided, we still need to fabricate a new surround for the base of the 6 supporting posts. We have designed and cut the pieces and they just need to be assembled. We have also purchased a retractable awning which is waiting to be installed.

One volunteer has designed a Chinese Dragon bed that uses different colors of lettuce, beets, and grasses to form the outline of a very artistic dragon shape. This bed needed overhead water to get established and we noticed an interesting feature. On our hotter days, in the morning, honey bees would show up and collect water from the lettuce leaves to take back to their hives to use as air conditioning.

With the raspberries and blue berries finishing up their harvests, the blackberries are still very productive. The Triple Crowns have been a big hit, and while many had wanted to plant Marion berries like we had in the old demo garden, the flavor and size of the Triple Crowns seemed to have won them over. The fact that they are thornless is also a big plus. The dry farm has come into production and is doing well in spite of the heat.

We have had issues with our root crops in our raised beds in the past, so we setup a comparison of 5 different soil mixtures planted with carrots. The best production and largest carrots came from a non-raised bed in plain native soil. This soil had been covered for 3 years with arborist wood chips, then dug up and shifted to remove the river rocks (~3" in diameter). The worst beds had carrots where the root hardly penetrated into the soil, and were just stubby little things with big green tops. These soils had been purchased from local landscape suppliers as garden soils. The problem is that the best and worst of these mixes came from the same supplier, just different years.

Events

We have hosted several garden tours for visitors, garden clubs, and a local school that were very successful. An Open Garden Event was held on Saturday July 7th, and was quite well received. The Dry Garden, Habitat, and Xeriscape areas generated a lot of interest – plus, the Willow Worm tunnel was a hit with the little ones.

Education

An Irrigation Workshop featuring the drip systems we use at the DG was held, and it was well attended.

Fund Raising

We did a review of our plant sale and have developed a list of changes and priorities for next year. We have dropped the online presale as being too difficult to manage, but will keep the advance registration slots signups. People will use SignUp Genius to register for 8 15 min. slots from 10am to noon, and then have an open sale from noon to 3pm. This will keep us from being overwhelmed in the morning and allow walk ups from those just passing by. We have also assigned a Project Manager to help coordinate and document the various tasks from setup, entrance management, plant restocking, cashiering, and takedown. Finally, we decided to redesign the layout to use 6' folding tables instead of 8' wooden tables to reduce the setup burden on our bodies. We aren't getting any younger, and the online MG training system has significantly reduced the number of younger intern volunteers from when we had in-person training where we got to meet and get to know the new interns before the volunteer recruitment process started.

Training

No progress on developing MG training as of yet. We were told that the new tri-county Assistant Professor of Practice for the Metro Master Gardner Program would need to be hired first. The good news is that 3 candidates have been selected and interviewed, and all of them are highly qualified for the position which should be fill by early September.

Submitted by:

Rich Becker, OMGA State Representative
Multnomah County Master Gardener Association

Polk County Master Gardener Association 2023 3RD Quarter Chapter Report

We are still working out the kinks in our new watering system at the Inspiration Garden. Our tours of the IG for other Master Gardeners during the conference were a resounding success. I think we had at least 40 Master Gardeners show up for the guided tours.

We are also doing educational sessions open to the public both in the garden and in the local library. Both have been very popular. There is a lot of interest in the public about getting educated on garden topics. As usual we continue to participate in local Farmers Markets with an educational booth during the summer. We hope to add the new Dallas Farmer's Market to our lineup for 2024.

We continue to develop our new plant propagation and mentoring teams. We hope to propagate some of our own plants for our plant sale next year.

Due to our very successful plant sale, we just authorized the reinstatement of a \$2,500 horticultural scholarship for a student in Chemeketa College's horticulture program. We had temporarily discontinued it during the pandemic due to low funds. So, we are very pleased to be able to reinstate this program.

Submitted by:

Helen McCann, OMGA State Representative
Polk County Master Gardener Association

Yamhill County Master Gardener Association 2023 3rd Quarter Chapter Report

This quarter has been particularly active, due to great weather and numerous interactions with the public.

Of course, July was the month when our state-wide convention, Joy of Gardening, was held in Corvallis. Wonderful speakers, workshops and tours besides re-connecting with MG friends from throughout the state. Our chapter was thrilled that our own Linda Coakley was the 2023 state's "Behind the Scenes" awardee. The competition is always stiff, so Linda's award is very much appreciated and deserved.

Public interactions have been quite varied, which keeps us meeting new members of the public who may not be familiar with our mission. In August, the Yamhill County Fair is held in McMinnville. Located there is our Education Garden, which we maintain throughout the year. We have a permanent area and, in the spring, we plant flowers in the picnic area in the spring so they are in their full glory for the fair. At the fair we have a booth for meeting the public, answering their questions and helping with plant problems. We have just created signage for this area so the public can learn about the plants they are observing. Further questions can be directed to us at our fair booth.

We are now learning about the native plants the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde are growing in their nursery. Their head gardener attended our MG training class a few years ago and is now our contact there. He gives us a tour of his gardens each year, explaining the tribal uses of each plant. The tribe's members are currently using these plants for ceremonies and educational purposes. We are always amazed how resourceful the tribes of the past were—not dependent on plastic!

The McMinnville Farmer's Market and Newberg Farmer's Market are always staffed by Yamhill Master Gardeners throughout the summer. Our Yamhill Heritage Museum's Harvest Fest is another public event in which we have a booth.

This time of year, is indeed a busy one for YCMGA.

Submitted By:

Nancy Woodworth, OMGA State Representative
Yamhill County Master Gardener Association