

Clatsop County OMGA Report Q2 2024

Hello from the *currently* sunny Oregon Coast! We just came out on the other side of a big June rainstorm and are enjoying the sunshine and the forecast for a nice weekend.

Highlights of recent and ongoing projects:

Spring was a time of garden prep for many of our site projects, including the Alderbrook Learning Garden and the Gray School Community Garden, as well as pruning and fertilizing established projects such as at the historic Flavel House Gardens. A new path was installed at our Demonstration Garden at the county fairgrounds too.

We have held more public events with the improved weather. “Flowers to Pots” had twelve attendees and the “Fun and Games Day” resulted in 75 pots that children were able to participate in planting and take home. Both of these events were at our Flavel House Gardens.

Volunteers have identified six *Viola adunca* plants at the Yeon House, the specific food of the Oregon Silverspot Butterfly. Work parties have been identifying other plants with field botany lessons. Our market seasons are underway, with the first Sunday Market in Astoria yielding 121 questions from the public that were answered on site or through our Plant Clinic. One market was cancelled due to weather. Not a lot is less certain than the weather on the Oregon Coast! Seaside markets start June 19th.

A new project this year is in Seaside along Highway 101. Newly named the Seaside Railroad Garden, the old community raised beds were ripped out and completely replaced, with new lumber, gravel, and soil in all. We obtained generous donations of compost and shrimp and fish amendments from local businesses. Clatsop County Master Gardeners have four raised beds that have been planted for demonstration and journal shall be kept with results to compare against the other two gardens we maintain. This should be an interesting study in the differences in the microclimates we experience in Clatsop!

Our first Seed to Supper after the pandemic was a huge success, with excellent attendance and engagement for the entire 6 week course! We are looking forward to next year.

Our Spring Plant Sale was also a success. It was decided to purposefully scale back our offerings and times, which simplified the day of the event and reduced stress on all. We only sold nursery-grown plants and did not have vendors or speakers (feedback last year was that it was difficult to hear the speakers anyway). We are still waiting for all expenses to be submitted for reimbursement before further review.

Curry County Master Gardener Association Report May 2024

Winter Seed Distributions

Three seed distributions were held in late February and March. In addition to getting seeds, these were wonderful opportunities for visitors to ask Master Gardener volunteers gardening questions. At the plant clinics, 12 MG volunteers answered many questions about gardening in general, as well as some specific inquiries about what was causing damage to people's plants.

Between Brookings, Gold Beach and Port Orford, over 100 people stopped by to pick up seeds. More than 1,000 seed packets were given away, benefiting more than 400 people. Approximately 800 seed packets were left at the Port Orford and Brookings Libraries for further distribution; gardening books and tools are also available at the library. In addition, the Gold Beach Community Center distributed approximately 100 packets of seeds. Photo credit: Kim Foster

2024 Training Class

It was an exciting 2024 Master Gardener Training Course, in part to the very engaged class and in part to NOAA storm and flood warnings issued on three of our in-person class days. The other training days were bright and sunny and the students' willingness to be inside on a rare sunny day shows their commitment. They are also a crazy bunch, as you can see in the photo.



Photo Credit Cindy Myers

This class brings great geographical representation across Curry County, including people from Brookings, Pistol River, Gold Beach, and from Port Orford. Youth garden programs are also getting a boost as the class includes the new-to-gardening horticulture teacher at Pacific High School and three Curry Watersheds Partnership Youth Education Program staff.

This class brings a variety of skills and lots of enthusiasm for the program; welcome to the 2024 CCMG Class!

April 14: Earth Day at The Curry Library (Gold Beach)

Master Gardener volunteers joined the festivities with two activities. The children's activity offered kids a chance to make an origami seed packet and fill it with seeds of their choice. Working with older youth and adults, we refurbished a planted area at the library. This was a wonderful opportunity for

Master Gardener volunteers to demonstrate how to plant shrubs and to talk with the community about their sustainable gardening.

Annual Plant Sale

Our Annual Plant Sale was held on Saturday, May 11. Another successful event.
Photo credit Julia Bott



Welcome Paul Maree

In April, Paul Maree joined the OSU Extension staff as Curry County's Master Gardener program EPA. Paul has experience working with youth and adult volunteers here and abroad. He also recently moved to a new home and is busy putting in his own home garden with the assistance of his wife and 2 young sons. Here he is at a recent Head Start activity. Photo Credit Kim Foster

Submitted by Julia Bott, Curry County Master Gardener Association

Jackson County Master Gardener Association, Second Quarter Report to OMGA June, 2024

It has been a very busy spring with 55+ people enrolled in the new Master Gardener class. Many of them signed up for Practicum which was scheduled every day of the week for 14 weeks and some days had two sessions. This schedule was designed to help accommodate those working and who wanted to take Practicum along with the Master Garden Class as well as creating the plant inventory for Spring Garden Fair.

The Classes of 2023 and 2024 have provided JCMGA much-needed lift, not only in numbers but bringing volunteers, skills, and talents to our organization. The following activities speak to the fact that our band width is beginning to widen, as we are taking on new projects.

- Our new class of 2024 is strong, enthusiastic, and fun. Our expectations are high for this group as they were for the class of 2023. So far, we are not disappointed with either class. Some outstanding folks have come our way. One of the highlights of both 2023 and 2024 class was the idea created by Grace, our coordinator for the Plant Family presentations. The class was divided into 10 Families of plants. Each family team researched their group of plants, divided the work and created the presentations. The results were informative, creative and delightful. We saw some very talented people in these presentations. Our 15 Demonstration gardens are in great shape, each garden now has a GEM, students and work being performed weekly. Saturday May 25th Artists were invited to come, draw, paint, photograph or just enjoy. I stopped by for a few minutes and observed people enjoying their day creating their own beauty among our lovely gardens.
- Spring Garden Fair, the first weekend in May, was interesting. It Rained all day the first day and turned SOREC into mud and rivulets running everywhere. It was also cold. Our outside volunteers looked like drowned dogs. The expectations were that we would not do well sales wise and it would be very slow going with little turnout. These tough Southern Oregonians surprised us all. They came, bought and carried away many, many plants and products from our inside vendors. At the end of the two days and ½ price sale day we grossed close to what we did last year. Due to the field that we used for parking at SOREC will not be available next year. The Spring Garden Fair will be moving back to Expo.
- SOREC/Extension, expansion and the County's need to get rid of the old building affectionally called the Creepy Old House due to asbestos. This work will affect JCMGA. Along with the old building there are three other structures and possibly another that Master Gardeners use that will have to be replaced. We see this as an opportunity but there is a great deal of work and planning to be done.
- Once again, we have invited the Garden Clubs to visit our Demo Gardens at SOREC. Tours started in Mid-May through the end of June. So far it has been a slow start but we're hoping that numbers will increase as we move into June. The Medford Soroptimist came on May 29th and in the words from Janine Salvatti "they were the best group so far, engaged, fun and really enjoyed the gardens.
- Our new program, *Friends of the Gardens*, started on April 1st. We expect this program will help to maintain our Demo gardens, bring new friends and gardening enthusiasts into our JCMGA sphere. We have had interest in the program when talking to people at some of the community events we have attended in the past couple of months. On the 29th of May, while working with my team in the Herb Garden. Grace, our OSU Coordinator brought two newly signed up friends around to meet us and they will be helping in the gardens.

- The Joint Field Trip with JCMGA and Josephine County Master Gardeners went very well. The two counties went to the Troon Winery in the Applegate Area together on May 15th and the weather cooperated. It was a glorious day. This is a nice way to get to know our neighbor's. Thanks to our wonderful OSU Coordinator Grace Florjancic, now doubling for both counties, was able to put this together and is planning another Field Trip later in the year. Troon Vineyard is Demeter Biodynamic Certified and Regenerative Organic Gold Certified, making it one of only two wineries in the US to have the latter certification. They also have a large native plant garden with many South Oregon Native Plants.
- Our Winter Dreams Summer Garden Symposium continues on track per our timeline. We have a great lineup of presenters, topics of interest and hope many Master Gardeners from OR, CA and WA will join us in mid to late OCT.
- Our second retreat of 2024 on May 24th was well attended with 20 people. The Goals that we set in January for 2024 were reviewed and progress checked. There were also discussions about what the Ad Hock Building Committee had accomplished so far. This created much discussion and more ideas which will be rolled into the committee to follow up on.
- Also discussed was the potential for a wider distribution of the Winter Dreams Summer Gardens Zoom Recordings. There were many ideas and concerns which will need to be addressed.
- At the very end of the meeting someone noticed that OMGA was not one of the Goals being discussed in our strategic plan. It led to a wider discussion and sparked some ideas that I will take to OMGA. Two examples of what OMGA has done for us were cited: 2023 JOG the panel discussion regarding some of the issues that many Chapters were experiencing. Second was the Excellent sales results by one of the Chapters will be a 2024 discussion. There was more but time limited the discussion.
- The Grant that Kendyl Berkowitz as a new student brought to JCMGA last year to make the Lavender Garden pathways ADA compliant with new wheelchair access is complete. It is beautiful and easy to navigate in a chair or walking. We are so grateful for this outstanding addition to this beautiful garden. JCMGA will be on this year's Lavender Trail coming up in mid-June.
- Kendly Berkowitz and Grace Florjancic worked together and received another Grant. The program is called Cultivating Companions: Growing Connections Through Plants. Cultivating Companions is a free seven-week program. It takes place at several of the county's smaller rural libraries to bring older adults together in less populated areas. Learn how to grow indoor plants, use them for art and cooking, and make new friends. The line up of activities are as follows:
 1. Loneliness, repotting plants, and houseplant care
 2. Stem and leaf cuttings
 3. Poetry and floral design
 4. Microgreens and growing herbs from seeds
 5. Flower pressing, making cards, and making bookmarks with pressed flowers
 6. Insect pests and pest repellent
 7. Tea party and dried herbs

The Oregon Health Authority is funding the Grant.

Linn County 2nd Quarter report, Ann Kinkley representative

Our 10th annual BEEvent Pollinator **conference** was held March 2. There were about 300 attendees and a link to watch the videos after the event was sent to all who purchased tickets, even if they were not able to attend. The videos were painstakingly captioned by hand to ensure accuracy. The speakers from across the nation were:

- Our Friend the Pollen Hog: ecological impacts of honeybees and how gardeners can mitigate them. Dr. James Hung;
- The ABCs of Hornets & Bees: What do you see in your garden? Dr. Heather Mattila;
- Update on Current Research on Honey Bees, Dr. Ramesh Sagil;
- Pollinator Conservation in Pollinator Habitats, Dr. Gail Langelotto

Mason bee houses constructed to our specifications were offered for sale as well as packages of cocoons ready to be released once the weather warms up. We have many master gardeners from the Willamette Valley and beyond who attend; some have come annually.

Training for our new master gardeners (20) included opportunities for continuing education for certified MGs. They included: pruning workshops in the demo garden and elsewhere; Growing Gardeners talks at the Albany library. An especially helpful one was a presentation to update MGs on current issues in our area. This in-person event provided information about invasive species, noxious weeds, pesticides and other relevant topics. The speakers were from the OSU Extension field crops program, Linn Soil and Water Conservation District, and the Oregon Department of Agriculture.

New projects were approved this quarter including establishing a new community garden in Sweet Home and a proposal to host a festival in the fall which would cover fall gardening including cover crops, fall/winter crops etc. This would be a family event. Sheryl Casteen is proposing to have a 90-minute open forum once a month in Lebanon for gardeners to ask questions. Each forum will have a theme. In addition, seeds were purchased in bulk and packaged to hand out at all our Farmers Markets.

Albany Farmers Market are Saturdays - 9am - 1pm; Brownsville Thursday Market is 3-7 pm; Lebanon Farmer's Market are Thursdays 2-6 pm. and Sweet Home Farmer's Market is Tuesdays 2-6pm. In addition we approved a new co-operative program with the Master Food Preservers at the Millersburg Farmers Market.

Hope Grows Here is an OSU program that teaches women who have experienced cancer, to learn about gardening with the help of Master Gardeners. We are participating again this year. There will be a tri-county plant clinic in Monroe, Junction City and Harrisburg; and there was a Growing Herbs class in Scio.



Our 23rd annual Garden Tour will be June 15 and all are invited. Tickets can be purchased at:

<https://www.linnmastergardeners.com/event-details/albany-garden-tour-through-the-garden-gate>.

Multnomah County Master Gardener™ Association

2nd Quarter Report to OMGA Board - June 2024

Demo Garden (DG) Activities

The new shed was purchased, delivered, and constructed by a dedicated construction team. Choosing what color(s) to paint is the main remaining issue, then building shelves, and deciding what goes in the now existing 2 sheds. The moisture meters in the dry garden have stopped working, so we've done some research on various types of such meters, purchased some, and are now evaluating them. Any info. from other chapters on their utility would be of interest. We have built an ADA raised bed demonstrating olla watering techniques, and ease of access.

Events

We have supported 3 workshops for the new interns so far: Soils, Propagation, and Irrigation this year. The interns have been very enthusiastic about the workshops, as these were the first intern-intern, and intern-MG interactions they have had since starting training.

As part of the revised Metro area 2024 MG Training, we held a Training Resource Fair and Volunteer Opportunity Fair where we promoted volunteer opportunities for the Incredible Edibles Plant Sale, the MC Demo Garden, and upcoming meet-and-greet events for the chapter. It was well attended with the new interns showing a great deal of interest. This is important because the Metro area training is still self-paced on-line modules with little opportunity for the interns to get to know each other MGs. While it was successful as a social event, we will need to look at better ways to recruit volunteers in the future as while the interest was there, translating that into actual volunteering was limited. Fixing MG training will remain one of our top priorities in the coming years.

We are also collaborating with several groups that are interested in planning a restoration of the Portland Public School's (PPS) abandoned arboretum that is just east of our Portland Parks & Recreation leased site. The Wisdom of the Elders Group has already funded some cleanup projects by removing blackberry and other weeds. We are proceeding in an advisory role for now. Most of the trees in the arboretum are non-native, but some donated Oregon White Oaks have been planted in one of few open areas.

Education

Our Zoom series, "Come Learn at the Demo Garden," included presentations on:

- 1) Incorporating Edibles into Your Yard and Garden
- 2) Birds at the Demo Garden

We participated in an Earth Day celebration at the Learning Garden Labs (PSU) with an MG Clinic, and handed out mason bee houses and donated seeds.

We have sponsored sessions at the Demo Garden hosting 2nd – 5th elementary classroom field trips. Activities included introduction to the "Tree of Life" concepts for connecting our activities with the circle of life in the garden, demonstrating the special windowed planting box for viewing soil and roots, and a scavenger hunt designed to get the students interacting with the DG plant and animals.

Fund Raising

Our main fundraiser, the Incredible Edibles Plant Sale, was held on May 11th, and was very successful in netting about \$11K for the chapter, but also successful in terms of a stress-free social event helping with team building and moral support that has been waning since the COVID years with no monthly in-person meetings. We tried a new timed entry model where we allowed 100 households (identified using colored wrist bands) per half-hour for the first 2 hours. This cut down the crowds in the plant sale area, helped avoid long lines that backed up into the sale plant sale areas, and allowed those awaiting entry to visit our information fair and food vendors. The information fair included Oregon Bee Atlas, East Multnomah County Soil and Water Conservation District, Joe's Victory Garden signs, Feed the Masses, and Concentrates products. They could also bring their gardening question to our most active MG Plant Clinic of the year, sit and listen to music, or enjoy the kids booth activities. These booths were complemented with a series of short talks including container gardening, chef presentation on food prep ideas, peppers, herbs and brassica growing tips, and gardening with pollinators.

This year marked the most organized sale yet and we are looking on how best to expand the sale in coming years. We will likely continue the timed entry model next year with no internet pre-sales, given its success this year.

2nd Quarter Master Gardener Chapter Report 2024 - Polk County

Here are remarks from our President, Plant Sale Chairman and our Inspiration Garden Leader:

From our President Bob Weir:

PCMGA continues to make progress on its goals.

Substantial progress has been made in new website development.

We were pleased to receive OMGA financial scholarship assistance to help send members to the Joy of Gardening Conference.

We completed our primary fundraising plant sale, adding approximately \$30 000.00 in income to our budget.

We have an excellent cohort of new trainees, making good progress towards becoming Master Gardeners.

Plant Sale Chairman Tina Palmer:

The Plant Sale committee has been busy for the past 5 months working towards the plant sale that was held on May 10th and 11th. In March the greenhouse at the Inspiration Garden was cleaned and a second row of concrete blocks were placed under each of the growing tables to raise them from 8 inches to 16 inches to make it easier for people to work with the plants on those tables. In early April 167 trays (18 pots or 6 6-packs per tray) of seeds were planted to grow many of the vegetables for the plant sale - winter squash, summer squash, lettuce, kale, broccoli, Bok Choy and cucumbers.

Signs from last year's plant sale were updated with new dates and cleaned so they would be ready to put up a month before the plant sale. More yard signs were ordered as the stock was getting fairly low on those. The large street signs were placed around Polk County in early April and yard signs were picked up by chapter members to be placed in yards around Polk county also during the month of April. Ads for the plant sale were placed in the Itemizer Observer, Unique periodical and the community newsletters. May 7th-9th was Fun Week set up at the Polk County Fairgrounds with many veteran and trainee Master Gardeners helping to set up tables, place plants and do general set-up for the plant sale.

The plant sale was held Friday May 10th and Saturday May 11th and was a huge success. Most plants were sold with some of the remaining plants being donated to the Dallas Youth Garden, Polk County 4H, Vernonia Children's Camp, and Ella Curran Food Bank. Large road signs were taken down a week after the plant sale and yard signs have been collected and stored for use next year. The Plant Sale committee is now tying up the loose ends of this year's plant sale and getting ready to start the process again for next year's sale.

Inspiration Garden Leader Becky Jay:

As we move into summer, Inspiration Garden gets ready for its many visitors and programs that meet in the garden.

The vegetable beds are planted with hopes the deer don't eat the new shoots as they emerge from the soil. Our deer visitors enjoy fresh pea and bean sprouts as well as tender new rose leaves and tulip blossoms. We are trying to finish putting wood chips on the Riparian Trail now that the flooding season of the creek has passed. The major project all summer is, of course, weeding and other maintenance tasks to keep the garden pleasant for walkers.

The Independence Library has three kid oriented programs scheduled in the Garden, as well as other groups who contacted us for tours. And there are other tours that do not ask for a Master Gardener tour guide.

We received the Xerces Society grant of native plants that our president applied for in the spring and are looking forward to 40 trees and shrubs arriving this October. We were awarded plants for a Hedge row.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Hill Polk County Rep

Wasco County Master Gardeners - Q2 2024

COMMUNITY PROJECTS & OUTREACH



Plant Sale

With 686 members from the community coming through, our annual day-before-Mother's Day plant sale is our most successful community outreach. The plants were again grown in the NORCOR greenhouse, with help from the NORCOR youth both in the greenhouse and at the sale. Mother nature and good planning led to a particularly lush and well received crop. Additional funding came from 10 participating vendors, many selling food that kept hungry buyers plant shopping longer. Raffle prizes, generously donated by local businesses and master gardeners added to the

excitement. We basked in the glow of a well-run event on a sunny day.

The DIG (Dalles Imagination Garden)

From ground zero in March, The DIG beds are maturing quickly. This year there is greater emphasis on growing more food crops to ramp up food bank donations.

Sorosis Rose Gardens Rebounds

January's multi-day arctic temperatures coupled with wind chill caused extensive winter burn at Sorosis Veteran's Memorial Rose Gardens exposed hilltop site. Assertive deadwood pruning in March revived the now significantly shorter rose bushes. Fortunately, only few roses required replacement. Volunteer efforts are going strong to keep the garden fertilized, weed-and-pest free and looking their best. A June 23rd work session will be followed by an al fresco pizza party with BYO lawn chairs.

Plant Advice Clinics & Other Events

This year's plant clinics venues include three farmer's markets —The Dalles, Tygh Valley and Grass Valley as well as Home Depot, and the South Wasco Garden Expo in Maupin, and phone call and email follow-up to garden advice queries.

- **The Dalles Farmers Market:** Plant clinics—1st and 3rd Saturdays, 8:30 am -1 pm.
- **Plant clinic hours at the OSU Extension office** officially kicked off this Tuesday, June 4th, noon-1 pm, though calls and emails are managed year-round.
- **Grass Valley Farmer's Market:** Master Gardeners are staffing 2nd Saturday Sherman county's Grass Valley Market Plant clinics, starting this Saturday, June 8th.
- **Tygh Valley:** 4th Saturday 9-1 pant clinics start June 22nd

- **South Wasco Garden Expo, Maupin:** This year's event attracted over 200 visitors on Saturday March 9th—double 2023. Master Gardener volunteers ran a seed exchange with planting instructions; the packets flew out the door. Enthusiastic gardeners eager for advice on a variety of topics were pleased to get their questions answered.

2024 Outreach: Gardening How-Tos & Harvest Fest

June 1st marked the first day of 2024 The Dalles Farmer's Market and our first foray into presenting there. Remaining presentations return at The DIG 3320 Klindt Drive, The Dalles. Presentations start at 9 am on Saturdays, done by 10 am.

June	July	August
1st Container Gardening		3rd Growing Herbs
8th Making Soil Pots	13th Cherries! How Sweet. 20 UPcycled	17th Plant Based Dyeing
		24th Gardening with Limited Mobility
29th What BUGS You?!	27th All About Wheat	31st Come Share the Harvest!

OMGA: JOY OF GARDENING (JOG) & 2023 CHAPTER AWARDS

Anni Kappys-Lively, winner of our 2023 chapter's Behind the Scenes award, will attend this year's Joy of Gardening in Corvallis. Nancy Lingo won 2023's Master Gardener of the Year.

MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM

2024 Master Gardener Classes Completed, Volunteer Work in Full Swing

The Master Gardener 2024 training course sessions completed on April 9, 2024, with a mix of class lectures and hands-on. Fruit tree and rose pruning were both in-field. Next up: more learning by doing. Volunteers have until Halloween to complete their hours.

MORE INFO

Check our website for issues of [our newsletter, The Dirt](#) or follow our [Facebook page](#).

2nd Quarter Master Gardener Chapter Report Washington County Master Gardeners

The last quarter has been busy for our county!

We kicked off the growing season with a chapter plant sale – our propagation committee was busy last winter – we had several thousand well-priced plants for sale. A last-minute rainstorm threatened our outdoor event, but the wonderful staff at Portland Community College let us relocate to under their pole barn – the crisis was averted! Despite the torrential rains, we surpassed our budgeted goal.

We have two education gardens, and the teams have been working on our public events. The first open garden event was Saturday, June 1st, and held at the WCMGA Education Garden at Portland Community College Rock Creek. Hands-on activities and information regarding “Invertebrates *and* Vertebrates” were featured.

A new project for our Learning and Education Gardens is DarkSky. We have used grant funding for Sky Quality Meters which measure sky glow and we report it to DarkSky Oregon. It is an effective means to measure light pollution, part of a five-year program to determine the amounts and areas of light pollution, both natural and artificial. The mission is to “diminish light pollution for the health, safety, and well-being of all life”. This project was the result of WCMGA members seeing a presentation by the Bird Alliance of Oregon and Dark Sky Oregon and then deciding to participate by installing light meters in our gardens.

We have new Master Gardener interns working with us now. A Volunteer Opportunity Fair was held in April and the interns attending expressed an interest in all the projects that were presented. It is nice to see them working alongside us again!

WCMGA is working with our county’s classroom teachers to present topics of interest to their students. The first teacher request came in last month and two of our Master Gardeners met with Middle School students to discuss the topic they requested – it was on lichens! Activity boxes have been assembled on several subjects. They contain not only a teaching outline, but there is also an activity for the students to have an opportunity to do some hands-on learning.

Debra Hansen

Washington County

2nd Quarter Master Gardener Chapter Report 2024 - Yamhill County

March 16 was our annual Spring Into Gardening public education event. We had a number of special speakers who will also be speaking at Joy Of Gardening this July. Linda Brewer, Bruce Cravens and Darren Morgan all did presentations on relevant topics. This was a full day workshop attended by both the public and Master Gardeners. Spring Into Gardening is not a fundraiser and we proudly broke even. All the committees involved in hosting this event are very aware of their budget and are conservative in their spending.

April was spent focusing on our May plant sale on May 4 & 5. The greenhouse has been busy since February seeding and nurturing our plants. Our greenhouse is not heated so the weather was a big factor for our success. Rain, and cold dark days slowed down their development, but we finally did get sunny days which gave the plants the boost that they needed. By sale day, they were robust and blooming. The turnout from the public was steady and profitable. We always learn from each sale and our wrap-up meeting covered many suggestions for improvements for future sales.

Our Education Outreach Committee arranged two very interesting classes for our chapter. Anna Ashby, who is the Head gardener at the Allison Inn & Spa in Newberg did a presentation on vegetable gardening. Her greenhouse supplies many in-season vegetables for the dining room at the Allison. Her tips and experiences with pests and the weather gave us ideas on how we can apply her knowledge to our home gardens as well as our Master Gardener greenhouse. Our other class was on dahlias. The speaker, John Stables, owns a local plant nursery that grows and sells dahlias. As with Anna's class, this was attended by a large number of members.

Our Education Garden benefits from the profits we made from the May plant sale. It is located at the Yamhill County Fairgrounds. We have a variety of plant beds labeled with information about the theme of the bed as well as information for the public to take home with them. There was a very old retaining wall around one of the beds that was removed by our volunteers and replaced with a new wall. The improvement was overwhelming. One of our members has an excavator and trailed it to the garden and proceeded to pull out the old pavers. Then he and other MG's had the work of leveling the ground, transporting pavers to the location, laying them in place, four pavers high. This was done on a very rainy, cold day. They were on their knees, for hours, installing these pavers. Needless to say, this chapter has members who are so generous with their time and skills.

Submitted by: Nancy Woodworth, Yamhill County OMGA Rep.