



OMGA 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Executive Board Meeting Agenda  
August 2, 2024  
3:30 PM

Attendance: Chris Rusch, Leslie Ray, Janet Magedanz, Missy Bright, Laura Strom, Eric Bosler

**Discussion: Joy of Gardening Conference evaluation results. 130 evaluations received.**

**Favorable results:** Variety of speakers; Quality of speakers; Venue; Networking and personal interactions and visiting with other MGs; Silent Auction; Bookstore; Awards; Snacks; Lunch; Tours; Dorms

**Comments during debrief**

Start later: Reasons for starting later: Travel; Set up time if we can't get in the day before; Breakfast in town

Change Badges:

Front: Name and county; Lunch; Bidder number for silent auction

Back: Classes on back.

At opening welcome: First timers; Trainee/Intern; County Coordinators

Check on OSU Mailing and Printing; ask Leslie for an Index number

Fragrance Free: Flyers, registration, emails

Parking: Include parking 10 days ahead on everything, send email when it's available

Dorms: Contact people immediately after they register to confirm they understand the details

Lunch: Get samples before confirming caterer

More time to visit with other MGs, longer breaks; ½ hour between classes

Presentations: Let presenters know to use sufficiently large fonts in their power points

Classroom hosts: meet with classroom hosts in advance to make sure they understand their responsibilities. Add interest statement to registration.

Tours: better coordination in meeting place; limit attendance as needed.

Message bulletin board/Networking bulletin board

Add chapter displays

Add classes in alternative subjects like garden art, journaling, food preservation

We asked a few Master Gardeners to share a testimonial about the positive experiences they had at the conference this year. I thought it would be particularly helpful in outreach and advertising next year. Here is what was given:

1. I am always excited to attend the Joy of Gardening conference (formerly known as Mini College). I've been many times before and always garner something new to

add to my “bag of tricks” as a Master Gardener. It was fabulous to learn about the different tools and efforts from OSU that support the Master Gardeners on the front line! Of particular interest to me was IPM AT HOME on the OSU website, which features a section called Solve Pest Problems or SPP. This tool walks you through diagnosing pest problems, creating replies in easy-to-understand terminology for the public and will make the response time to Plant Clinic questions that much quicker! I’m very excited to put it into action!

2. The July 2024 Joy of Gardening Conference was even better than last years and that’s saying something. I was pleased to see how well it was attended and as usual the keynote speakers were excellent. I especially liked Gail Langellotto’s talk “Ten Cool Things We Learned from Garden Research.” I can’t say I understood it all, but I found it fascinating and have deep respect for her knowledge. I enjoyed the variety of workshops and had a lot of fun being tempted by the number and variety of wares offered by the vendors. I even bought a new book on soils “Grow Your Soil” by Diane Miessler. And perhaps the best part is getting to meet and compare notes with fellow Master Gardeners from all over the state. I’m already looking forward to next year! Thank you for your hard work. Chris Berry, Lincoln County