



OMGA Q3 Board Meeting Sept 5, 2025, 3:30 PM Zoom

Agenda Item	Discussion/Notes		Discussion Leader
Welcome, Agenda Review	Chris opened the meeting @3:30 Reps introduced themselves and gave a quick summary of activities in their counties. President - Chris Rusch Pres. Elect - Vacant Vice-president - Leslie Ray Treasurer - Patrice Sipos Secretary - Cary Wasem-Varela Past President - Eric Bosler Historian - Linda Coakley Newsletter - Not present Database/List Serve -not present Advocacy - Dennis Quenneville OSU Prog Coord - Dr. Leslie Madsen	Benton Co. - Shelby Schuppe Central Gorge - Eric Bosler, Mary Corl Central Oregon - Karen Simonet, Bonnie O'Hern Clackamas - Barb Seekin Clatsop - not represented Columbia - Karen Harte Coos - Mary Dixon Curry - Julia Bott Douglas - Patrice Sipos Jackson - Colet Allen Klamath - not represented Lane - not represented Lincoln - Trish Riley Linn - not represented Marion - Lee McKenzie Malheur - not represented Multnomah - Rich Becker Polk - Becky Jay Tillamook - Wendy Kunkel Umatilla - Cary Wasem-Varela Wasco - Dana Greyson Washington - Deb Hansen Yamhill - Cindy Kinnamon, Dennis	Chris Rusch
Agenda Review & Additions	Silent Auction, nominations for executive board, and 2026 dues Karen moved to approve, Becky Jay seconded, none opposed. Motion passes.		All
Approval of the March min.	Minutes are on the website. Becky Jay moved that the June minutes be approved. Karen seconded. None opposed. Motion passes.		All
<u>Reports/Information</u>			
OSU Extension Program coord. Report	• Thanks to all volunteers who manned the tables at the State Fair. • Working towards establishing some revenue to expand statewide resources and keep Barrett on staff. • Three courses are currently being updated. Some of the materials are in need of pedagogical updates and to make them more engaging. • Working Groups: ◦ Dig and Divide - continue to discourage people from using plants/roots propagated from home gardens (too much liability) ◦ Awards - working on definition of MG and what they do • OSU Extension is working on a new onboarding process for employees		Dr. Leslie Madsen



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	University is rolling out a new platform called "Volunteer Hub" to onboard new volunteers (sex offender reports) and also to sign paperwork digitally. It will not replace VRS and will most likely only need to be logged into once per year. Ideally, ready by Nov. Program coordinators will notify MGs when it is released.	
Q3 Financial Report YTD Highlights	- We made money from the Joy of Gardening conference this year. Our goal is not to make money but to teach so as long as we break even, it is a win. - Almost all expenses for the year have been paid except for taxes that OMGA pays for chapters.	Patrice
OMGA 2026 Budget	- Patrice walked us through the proposed budget (fees and other expenditures compared to income). - Costs have increased for many items so the budget for 2026 will need to be updated to reflect that. - She will send this out to everyone so members can look it over before it is finalized.	Patrice
Quickbooks	- Quickbooks now offers online service through their own servers. One big downside is that you cannot do your books if you lose internet connection. People in rural areas might have an issue. - The more chapters we have using it, the less it will cost each chapter per year. - Patrice would like to meet with chapter treasurers and presidents to answer any questions about Quickbooks, probably via Zoom in November. - Chris and Shelby suggested we wait until next year. Chris suggested we discuss this at the retreat and plan for Patrice to talk to treasurers early in 2026.	Patrice
Database/List Serve	Missy emailed the roster out through the ListServe OMGA Roster 2025 Shelby included the link in the meeting chat. Here is a link to the Google Sheet that is the 2025 OMGA Roster. <-Click on those words. There are several tabs across the bottom: Chapter Officers: This is the main roster that I maintain. Please look over the information for your county and be sure it's accurate. Our OMGA emails are sent by default to Presidents, OMGA Reps, and Alternate Reps. If anyone else would like to be on the distribution, I'm happy to add them. Please send me let me know or have them contact me. OMGA Officers etc.: Besides the OMGA Officers, here you'll also find the other assorted 'Friends of OMGA' OSU Personnel: These can change at any time. I don't maintain their info because OSU Extension does. :) Please visit the extension office website for the county in question if you'd like to find local Coordinators and other related faculty and staff.	Missy (via email)



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	• Chapter-Extension websites: If you know of any changes here, also please let Missy know. • Notes are mostly for Missy. If you're not familiar with Google Sheets, the BEAUTY of it is you don't HAVE to download anything. And as soon as I make a change, you have it. You can just bookmark the page, or come back to this email and click on it again, and you'll always have the latest and greatest. You can still download the file if you're more comfortable doing so. You can save an Excel version or a pdf (File-> Download...and then pick what you'd like). If you need any help, please reach out to Missy. outsideastoria@gmail.com	
Newsletter	No report today.	Ann
Historian	Linda sent out requests for pictures of the state MGs and only received one. She would like to include the pictures in the next newsletter. Chris shared that pictures are available in the conference booklet she sent out.	Linda
Awards & Grants	Chris shared the information and it is updated on the OMGA website. https://omga.org/awards-and-grants/ 2025 EEG Awards 2025 Carl Carlson Awards	Chris
Website Comm Report	Updated Home page is included below. There are many updated resources included. Work continues on organization and any information you feel is helpful, send it to Leslie and she will make sure it gets included. If any of the information is confusing or looks wonky, please let Leslie know that as well.	Leslie



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Joy of Gardening	Evaluation results from the conference - across the board, comments were very positive with no complaints about the facility/location. A lot of work went into the planning and it paid off. • What did you like about JOG: Excellent presentations, variety of topics, great organization, networking, good facility/location • What would you like to see changed/improved: Move date to winter, more chocolate, longer lunch, shorter breaks, advanced classes, buy now for the silent auction, allow purchase of lunch on site, signage at entrance. • Session ratings: All sessions/presenters averaged scores of 3-4 (good-excellent). Only one received a score of 2.9. • How did you learn about the conference: MG email, website, friends. Chapter meetings, newsletter • Other comments: 3 day conference, longer breaks, better dorms, fragrance free, seed swap, cut sandwiches in half. • Suggested topics: irrigation, container gardening, rain gardens, herbicides The 2026 conference will focus on the 50 year anniversary of Master Gardener. Everyone will be invited to participate in the planning committee, first planning meeting probably in October. Chris has already reserved the same location for 2026.	
Advocacy	Dennis Quenneville will take over Laura Strom's place on Advocacy. He was having computer issues and had to leave the Zoom call. Laura did a great job advocating for MG and securing funding. Chris thanked Laura for her work over the past 2 years for advocacy for OSU Extension on behalf of OMGA.	Chris
<u>New Business</u>		
In person meetings	There have been a lot of requests for in-person meetings in 2026. We will vote on in person meetings at our November meeting. Please talk to chapters about building a travel expense into 2026 budgets.	Eric
Joy of Gardening - Silent Auction	Silent Auction 2025 Report pdf Silent Auction 2025 Report docx	All
Nominations for 2026	Slate of OMGA Executive officers for 2026 presented was: Chris Rusch: President; Shelby Schuppe: President elect; Leslie Ray: Vice President; Patrice Sipos: Treasurer and Cary Varela: Secretary. Patrice Sipos moved, second Eric. All approved. Final vote at the November meeting.	
Next OMGA Mtg	Executive meeting October 3. Board meeting Nov. 7 and retreat Dec. 5	