

DOUGLAS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS
Chapter Meeting
October 26, 2023

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 10:17. There were 35 in attendance, including President Julie Stanbery, Vice-President Andrea Collins, Past President Nancy Fuller, Treasurer Dawnetta Loomis, Membership Kay Livermore, and Secretary Bonnie Courter.

Agenda Approval: The agenda was approved as posted.

Minutes Approval: The minutes were approved as posted.

Introduce Guests: Welcome to new trainees.

OFFICER REPORTS

Past President - Nancy Fuller: Nancy welcomed new trainees and encouraged them to come out and help at the Discovery Garden.

Membership - Kay Livermore: We have 242 members. The DocuSign forms were emailed out last week and 102 MG's have signed them already. Please sign as soon as possible. Kay is now accepting 2024 dues - they are \$10 if paid by January 1, \$20 after. She will be moving in 3 weeks, so give dues to Kay directly or place in the Plant Clinic drawer. Kay will send out a notice through Shirley once she's settled into her new address so you can send them to her by mail.

OMGA - Patrice Sipos: Not present - no report.

Treasurer - Dawnetta Loomis:

- She sent out the 2024 budget which is balanced. Any changes, see her. This will go into the Newsletter this month. At the November chapter meeting, we will vote to approve the 2024 budget. 2023 off-budget funding expenses will roll over to 2024 and appear on the budget once it's approved.
- Compost bin - \$500 was added to the budget. Our new budget will separate it out so we can see what we are making selling the compost. We need to increase our \$1/pail price for compost as we use a lot of fuel and resources to make that soil, and that money is having to come from other sources. She suggested charging \$3/pail and \$12 for a tractor load, which is half a scoop. Pay Ed Barrett directly. This should pay for itself eventually. There was a consensus to increase what we charge.
- Porta Potty - Since the water was shut off at Extension during the beginning of class, a porta potty was delivered, and the cost was \$483. Since it was for our class, we said we would pick up that cost as a non-budgeted item. **Kish Doyle made a motion that we go ahead and cover the \$483 bill. Toni Rudolph seconded it. The vote to pass the motion was unanimous.**
- She also has some reimbursement checks for people.
- Dawnetta is still looking for her replacement as treasurer, hoping to have that replacement work with her until she "retires" next year.

Vice-President - Andrea Collins: Great presentation by Bruce Gravens this morning on growing garlic and shallots. Next month the presentation will be by Gerry Crane, a retired RN, who will speak on cardiac issues in gardening.

President - Julie Stanbery:

- Julie acknowledged the mentors present and thanked them for their service. She also recognized mentors who brought their trainees to the meeting with gift bags. Two trainees who came without mentors also got gift bags.
- Volunteer hours are done by October 31, so get your time sheets turned in to Vicki McAlister by **November 15**. If they are not turned in, you still get cumulative hours, but it doesn't show on the report to OSU. Time sheets can be turned in to Westside Greenhouse, the Plant Clinic, or mailed to Vicki directly.

MG Program Coordinator - Logan Bennett:

- Last Sunday, he had a meeting with all the heads of County granges. They are interested in education programs this next summer, so he will be coordinating those.
- Tuesday was graduation for our new students. The class was a big success.
- Today Shelby Filley will be at the Discovery Garden between 12:00 and 4:00 to take samples of forage and would love help from MG's. Friday she will be doing botanical compositions all day at the Extension Annex, from 9:00-4:00. This counts toward payback hours.
- Logan has met with others to discuss Continuing Education classes, and they are planned ahead now for two years.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Blue Bags - Dawn Shumack: 16 bags were turned in this month.

Community Outreach - Dawn Shumack: No new events. Around 25 people have been attending each of the Pavilion series classes. If interested in helping with outreach, contact Cheryl Caplan, Leo Grass or Dawn.

Discovery Garden - Julie Stanbery:

- We are in need of a new "toilet crew" to team up with Rebecca Taylor. See Julie if interested.
- Had 2 new trainees who want to work in the Entry Garden with Lynn Foster.
- There will be a workday November 9, 9:00-12:00, to clean it up for winter - spread chips, pick up hoses, take out blackberry vines. We will turn off Umpqua Basin water to the Discovery Garden this week.
- For new trainees who would like to work on a Saturday, she has a project in mind, so contact Julie.

Facebook - Barbara Horst: Not present. She needs someone to back her up for a couple of months.

Greenhouse West - Carol Bolt: Not present - her report: They are transplanting and cleaning plants for winter. Will be working Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Greenhouse East - Bonnie Durick: We welcome anyone to come out and help with propagating (200 starts done recently), pruning and root pruning. Bring gloves, fork, pruners, and a kitchen knife. Workdays are Tuesdays, 9:00-12:00. Ann Severson will be out there this Saturday for the last time if anyone wants to help out.

Hallmark - Dawn Shumack: She sent out two cards: one to Martha Sinkula whose husband passed away and one to the family of Stormy Speaker who passed away. Let her know of anyone needing a card.

Insect Committee - Diana Woodward: Still going through drawers and identifying insects. They will meet the first Monday in November, then won't meet till February.

MG Training Course - Patrice Glasscock: We had 30 students graduate last Tuesday.

Newsletter - Bonnie Courter: Submissions are due this Saturday, October 28. For the December Newsletter deadline, it will be **Tuesday, November 28**. The January Newsletter deadline will be **Friday, December 29**.

Plant Clinic - Chris Rusch:

I want to thank everyone who worked in October at our Plant Clinic!! We were busy with over 100 contacts in October. In November, the clinic will be open only on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Our training for the new class began in October. Class members can still sign up for their initial orientation. We are lucky to have had a great team this year with Leo Grass, Doralee Hayden, Ken Parry, Diane smith-Lewsadder, and Chris Rusch.

Publicity - Cheryl Caplan: Not present - no report.

Soils - Patrice Glasscock: They have 4 regulars, and some new trainees are signed up to learn how to do testing. 130 samples came in so far this year.

Spring Into Gardening - Chris Rusch: Mark your calendars for March 9, 2024, our Spring Into Gardening seminars for the public. This is a terrific community education event where we can bring our OSU Extension program on sustainable gardening to our greater community. It is also an opportunity for MG's to get recertification hours by attending classes. If you want to help with the planning, please contact me.

Swinger Bars - Kay Livermore:

October 2023 Swinger Bar Report

Members who have swinger bar updates for August and September:

Two 2022 trainees completed their 60 payback hours:

60 hours: Bill Horton and Jewels Reeves

100 hours: Sandy Anderson, Ellen Porter

200 hours: Beth Brandon, Teresa Grosenbach, Dawn Shumack, Linda Witbeck

300 hours: Judy Ode

400 hours: Sylvia Andino, Ellen Campbell, Gloria Cettina

500 hours: Lynn Foster, Patrice Glasscock
750 hours: Dawnetta Loomis, Carolyn Ruzicka
1000 hours: Diane Smith-Lewsadder
2000 hours: Sharon Bordeaux
3500 hours: Fred Alley

Vermicomposting - Dawn Shumack: At 12:00 on Tuesday, October 31, she will reestablish one of the worm bins, giving a short demo on setting it up from scratch. Anyone is welcome to come and participate. Also Lane County Extension office is having a worm composting class in Eugene, November 4, at 10:00. It should be about 1.5 hours long. Cost is \$50, and you will come home with a worm bin and worms. Register online - she sent out a link by email.

Victory Garden - Carolyn Ruzicka: Not present - her report:

We will be putting the garden to bed for the winter next week. This week all the vines were pulled down. Next week will be a final cleanup and planting the cover crops. The total poundage for the year was **10,088**: 8,428 from the Victory Garden, 1,617 from home gardens, and 43 from the Easy Access garden.

OLD BUSINESS: Garden Tour - The Discovery Garden is all set up to be part of the June 8, 2024 Garden Tour, sponsored by the League of Women Voters, and will be great publicity for us.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

SHOW AND TELL:

- Diana Woodward brought 2 nests from her pond tules made by red-wing blackbirds.
- Judy Mercer said she had 2 separate people visit her recently, and she took them to see the Discovery Garden - they were "blown away"!
- Julie Stanbery has some older pamphlets from North American Fruit Explorers and 4 old reference books to give away.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Executive Board Meeting, November 8, 10:00
Continuing Education, November 16, 9:00
Chapter Meeting, November 16, 10:00
No meetings in December.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting is adjourned at 11:19.

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie Courter, Secretary