

DOUGLAS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS
Chapter Meeting
November 16, 2023

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 10:03. There were 35 in attendance, including President Julie Stanbery, Vice-President Andrea Collins, Past President Nancy Fuller, OMGA Alt Rep Chris Rusch, Treasurer Dawnetta Loomis and Secretary Bonnie Courter.

Agenda Approval: The agenda was approved as posted.

Minutes Approval: The minutes were approved as posted.

OFFICER REPORTS

Past President - Nancy Fuller: Nancy encouraged everyone to come out to the Discovery Garden as there are flowers still blooming.

Membership - Kay Livermore: Not present. Dues can now be mailed to her new home address now: 1461 NW Moritz Ct. Roseburg, 97471. After January, dues go from \$10 to \$20.

OMGA - Chris Rusch:

- They had a Zoom meeting last week with 32 attending. Interviews for the new MG Program Coordinator ended. There are two candidates that are finalists - one from Idaho, the other from Washington state. The position should be determined in a couple of weeks. The full time position is more acting as a team builder, devoted only to Master Gardeners.
- July 12, 13 will be the 2024 Joy of Gardening conference at OSU. Lots of speakers are being lined up. Focus will be on gardening with climate change in mind.
- They are still looking for a secretary for OMGA.

Treasurer - Dawnetta Loomis:

- Fred Meyer rewards - she will put a blurb in the Newsletter on how to participate. Our account number is IR390. Once registered, DCMG will get a small donation anytime you shop at Freddy's.
- Receipts are due December 15. Bring any expense forms into the Plant Clinic, mail them to her, or put in the box at the greenhouse. Checks will be mailed to you. Please cash your checks!
- She is still looking for a shadow to replace her as Treasurer for next year. It takes about 15 hours/month.

Vice-President - Andrea Collins: Kudos to Gerry Crane on her excellent presentation on cardiac health through gardening. Our January speaker might be by Logan. We have ideas for Continuing Ed for the next couple of years, thanks to Logan.

President - Julie Stanbery:

- Photo copies: The machine at the Extension office can only turn out so many copies before it malfunctions, so we can't roll over our monthly quotas. If you're in need of copies for the Plant Sale or Community Outreach, try to parse it out, so it's not all at once - otherwise use ESD or Staples.

- Logan, Julie, Andrea Collins, Patrice Glasscock, Gloria Cettina and Patrice Sipos met to come up with ideas to stimulate MG's to stay involved, especially after the holiday break. They decided to have a February 4, 2024, gathering, which will have an educational component with a guest speaker. This will be a potluck and social time together. They are looking at venues like the Sutherlin Community Center. More information will follow.

MG Program Coordinator - Logan Bennett:

- The first MG Trivia competition took place recently. 60 MG's participated. There will be another in December, and will be Douglas County based, presided over by Logan.
- He is working on getting participants for Spring into Gardening.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Julie asked committee heads to send their reports to Julie, Bonnie, and Andrea if they don't plan on attending a meeting.

Awards Social - Ann Severson: The Awards Social will be held on a Saturday afternoon the first part of October 2024, and Ann is looking at other venues - possibly at Umpqua Community Center. The theme will be "Bee Cuz of You!"

Blue Bags - Dawn Shumack: 15 bags so far in November.

Community Outreach - Dawn Shumack: Nothing to report.

Discovery Garden - Julie Stanbery:

- We had a successful work day recently. Our new MG's showed up along with lots of veterans who put out loads of mulch.
- Still need a toilet crew, one or two volunteers.
- Reversed the latch on the Tea House and made it a locking latch, using the same key.
- After today, no tractor loads of wood chips until further notice, but okay to take by the bucket or to hand fill your own trailer.
- Another work day will be in early December to put more chips out, but no regular work days during the winter months.
- January-February we will start pruning classes that will take place in the afternoons, and not on Tuesdays. We take separate parts of the garden to do each time.

Facebook - Barbara Horst: Not present - no report.

Greenhouse West - Carol Bolt: We need more volunteers as we're only halfway through cleaning. We will work Tuesdays and Thursdays after Thanksgiving til caught up. Steve Hart put up a covering over the shade plants ahead of putting in a new watering system in the expanded area.

Greenhouse East - Ann Severson: Had a lot of new students coming out, but can always use more help. Lots of weeding needs done. Succulents are looking great - many new varieties.

Hallmark - Dawn Shumack: Speedy recovery card sent to Joy Keeling for a torn meniscus, and to Roselle Benesh for foot surgery.

Insect Committee - Diana Woodward: We had a new student come last time who had some great pictures of insects to identify. No more meetings til February.

Newsletter - Bonnie Courter: Contributions for the Newsletter are due Tuesday, November 28, and for the January Newsletter, Friday, December 29.

Plant Clinic - Chris Rusch: Things have slowed down - only two calls yesterday. Training for the new MG's is continuing. We're open only 2 days a week, Monday and Wednesday, through January. Chris is working on compiling data for the year. We had about 900 contacts.

Plant Sale - Karin Seder: Please continue to collect sturdy boxes. We need someone to coordinate the raffle for the 2025 sale who could shadow the present coordinators now. They are contacting all committee heads to confirm they will work at the same position for the 2024 sale.

Publicity - Cheryl Caplan: Not present - no report.

Soils - Patrice Glasscock: We are taking care of samples we have and training students. Testing is on hold until December or January, waiting on backordered chemicals to arrive. We did 136 tests for the year.

Spring Into Gardening - Chris Rusch: This will be March 9 at the Phoenix Center, for MG's and the general public. Lots of new topics will be offered. Logan will be keynote speaker on garden soils. We need volunteers so let Chris know if you'd like to help.

Swinger Bars - Kay Livermore: Not present - no report. Vicki is picking up hours today. When tabulated, she will send the hours to Kay for results. Reporting our volunteer hours to OSU proves how valuable our service and our chapter is to the MG program.

Trash to Treasures - Ann Severson: We made \$4700 which is over my goal for the 2023 sale. In 2024 my goal is \$5200, and if we meet that goal, I will wear a crazy costume. I'm always taking donations. May 31 is setup, and June 1 the sale. Any used towels and blankets can be donated to Saving Grace.

Vermicomposting - Dawn Shumack: Bagged food scraps are very welcome - lift the worm bin lid and put the bag inside the box. No meat, citrus, onions, peppers or dairy.

Victory Garden - Carolyn Ruzicka: The garden was put to bed on October 31. The following week, they brain stormed about what worked well, what didn't. They've started ordering seeds already. The total poundage for the year from the Victory Garden was 8,428 pounds, 1,617 from home gardens, and 43 from the Easy Access garden, for a grand total of 10,088 pounds donated - much more than last year's totals.

OLD BUSINESS: Budget Vote - Dawnetta made a motion to accept the proposed 2024 budget. Elva Sellens seconded. The vote was taken and it passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS: Black apparel purchase - Discussion ensued about stockpiling aprons and hats for purchase by MG's. It was suggested that instead we take orders before the Plant Sale and again during the new class in the fall.

SHOW AND TELL:

Diana Woodward: Her son's food truck, "Woodward BBQ", is on Harvard in front of the old Grocery Outlet, serving lunch only. She also brought a leaf from a big beaf maple that measured 14"X17".

Dawnetta Loomis: She brought a large, oblong orange and green squash, wondering what kind it was. It was a volunteer. Logan looked it up and said it's an Okosin winter squash.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Julie reminded everyone that the Extension office will be closed next week, Wednesday through Friday, for the holiday.

Executive Board Meeting, January 10, 2024, 10:00

Continuing Ed (9:00) and Chapter Meeting (10:00), January 25, 2024

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 11:09.

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie Courter, Secretary