

DOUGLAS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS
Chapter Meeting
February 29, 2024

We all sang "Happy Birthday" today to Sarah Davis who is now 11 years old, another Leap Year Baby, along with Julie Stanbery, who is off celebrating her special day on the road.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Andrea Collins at 10:00. There were 42 in attendance, including Vice-President Andrea Collins, Past President Nancy Fuller, Secretary Bonnie Courter, OMGA Rep Patrice Sipos, Treasurer Dawnetta Loomis, and Membership Kay Livermore.

Agenda Approval: Add "Secretary" to agenda under Officer Reports

Minutes Approval: The minutes were approved as posted.

OFFICER REPORTS

Secretary - Bonnie Courter: Just a reminder that if you are a chairperson, please review your job description in the Policies & Job Descriptions found under "Documents" on the website and let me know if there are any changes. The deadline is April 1.

Past President - Nancy Fuller: It was snowing and sticking at her house this morning.

Membership - Kay Livermore: We have a total of 216 members now. She also has OMGA cards to give out for a discount at Territorial Seed Co. There will be also some in the Plant Clinic drawer and in the mailbox outside the Eastside greenhouse.

OMGA - Patrice Sipos: She showed a draft flyer for Joy of Gardening 2024 Conference. Almost all classes have been put together. The conference is July 12-13 at the OSU campus in Corvallis. Registration will begin April 1.

Treasurer - Dawnetta Loomis:

- Fred Meyer Rewards - \$31.06 received so far. Please register to take part.
- Vendors Booths - we've exceeded what we expected so far - over \$3000.

Vice-President - Andrea Collins:

Ann Severson gave an excellent CE presentation on "Greenhouses on a Budget" before the meeting. The next CE will be by Leo Grass talking about different watering techniques.

Plans for our summer potluck meetings so far: Anna Kircher and Sara Davis have volunteered to host (months to be determined), and Patrice Glasscock will host in August. Carpooling will be necessary at all locations due to parking limitations.

President - Julie Stanbery: Not present - her report:

- Thanks to everyone who helped me celebrate my youth at the Celebrate 2024 party. Those were the two best birthday cakes *ever!!!!*

- Reminder that for now we still must use paper timesheets. All volunteers are encouraged to turn in hours on a regular monthly basis.

MG Program Coordinator - Logan Bennett:

- This Saturday at the Discovery Garden, he is giving a class on growing mushrooms.
- Spring Into Gardening is the next Saturday, March 2, and is filling up pretty fast.
- Will be doing composting in March. Ed Barrett will send out a specific date for that, and he will need helpers.
- Logan now has his own official MG badge.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Black Apparel - Andrea Collins: Black apparel, including sweatshirts, are available to order. She will send out the order form again through Shirley soon.

Blue Bags - Dawn Shumack: 20 bags were turned in for February. We've made \$814 so far this year. The new location for the scanner tag is near the middle of the bag, not the top, per request from the BottleDrop folks.

Community Outreach - Dawn Shumack:

Please let Dawn know of any outreach events you do, so the info can be captured on the spreadsheet for Logan. Also put it on the back of your timesheets.

Sky Stefanich has volunteered to be on the Outreach team - thank you Sky!

Recent events:

- February 15th - Pavilion Series, class on starting peppers
- February 18th at Secret Wine Society, class on vegetable gardens

Upcoming events:

- March 2nd - Discovery Garden - class on growing mushrooms
- March 21st - Pavilion Series, class on starting tomatoes
- April 2nd - Rainbow Garden Club tour of Discovery Garden, greenhouses & Victory Garden
- April 19th - Discovery Garden tour for 3rd graders from Fullerton grade school
- May 20th - Container Gardens at Open People Connections in Roseburg.

Four volunteers are needed to help with the April 19th tour for Fullerton grade school - Julie Burchstead and Sarah Davis have volunteered so far - Thank you!

Discovery Garden - Julie Stanbery: Not present - her report:

- Very successful pruning sessions - thanks to those who come to work and learn.
- Final pruning session is for the Japanese Garden March 6, 1-3pm. There will be work days in March to spread chips, etc. - days to be announced.

Facebook - Barbara Horst: Not present - her report:

Here is the Facebook report for the last 28 days:

We have 2,743 followers.

Our posts have reached 13,311 people.

989 people engaged (liked or commented on) with our posts.

We have 51 new followers.

Most liked posts:

Pepper seed class 9,856

Plant sale vendors 4,724

Spring into Gardening 1,698

Greenhouse West - Joy Keeling: They are busy planting, seeding, transplanting, and cleaning. Some new MG's and the core group are working and doing an excellent job.

Greenhouse East - Bonnie Durick: Plants are looking really good for this time of year. We are up-potting all starts for the 2025 Plant Sale. Ann Severson wanted to thank Gloria, Linda, Jan and Stefani for helping with the succulents.

Hallmark - Dawn Shumack:

- Garry Gerlach was sent a card wishing him a speedy recovery from prostate surgery.
- Dave Clark was sent a "thinking of you" card.
- Cheryl Caplan was given a "thank you/best wishes on your move" card, as she is moving out of State.

Insect Committee - Diana Woodward: Not present - her report: We have only met once this year, our next meeting will be on March 4th. We will continue to work on our drawers and insect notebook.

Newsletter - Bonnie Courter: Submissions are due this Saturday, March 2.

Nominating Committee - Gloria Cettina: Every year we elect a new Board. April-May we will take nominations and present the names to membership, then vote on the new Board in July. She is calling Board members to see if they will continue on for another year or step down.

Plant Clinic - Chris Rusch: Not present - her report:

The Plant Clinic is starting to become busy; interesting garden questions continue to come in. The Plant Clinic is one of our DCMG programs that reach out to our community to help people solve a wide range of gardening and landscape questions. We are lucky to have a great team this year with Leo Grass, Gerry Crane, Chris Rusch, Ken Parry, and Doralee Hayden. Our training for the new class is ongoing. Trainees can sign up for their volunteer hours by calling, emailing or visiting the Plant Clinic. There are many openings available.

The Plant Clinic will continue our winter hours for March. We will staff the clinic on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 1-4 PM.

Plant Sale - Karin Seder: We need more boxes. Also need garden-related raffle items. We need "shadows" to learn the raffle, checker, and publicity chairperson positions. Committee chairs will meet again March 20 in the Annex and on Zoom. MG's can now sign up online to

work at the sale. Toni Rudolph mentioned that Diana and she are retiring from Raffle. Bring raffle items on Friday at set up, making sure they're ready to be displayed.

Publicity - Cheryl Caplan:

- Plant Sale - she ordered 6 new banners and Bean's barn banner made at Prints Charming with our official logo on them. She will mark them with sizes and store in the "attic".
- Cheryl is moving to Longview, Washington. She hopes to join Master Gardeners up there. We need someone to replace her. She brought her folders and large notebook with thumb drive and gave to Andrea to hold for her.
- She brought the Plant Sale flyers to distribute around the community and at Spring Into Gardening, and Shirley will send out a PDF of it to members.

Bonnie Courter presented her a card from all of us made by Dawn Shumack, thanking her for her excellent service to DCMG and wishing her the best on her move.

Soils - Gloria Cettina: The materials we ordered that have been backordered since the fall are not going to be available. We are researching other business options so we can do soil testing. Hopefully by next month we'll have something in place. Might be totally revamping our testing.

Spring Into Gardening - Chris Rusch: Not present - her report:

Mark your Calendars for March 9, 2024! We have almost 70 people registered, well above our expectations! We have some amazing classes in store. 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. Thanks to all the volunteers that have already signed up to help. We will meet Friday, March 8, at 4 PM at the Phoenix School for set-up. Saturday volunteers will need to arrive at 7:30 AM. I will be sending out an email to all volunteers on Friday. If you want to help with the event, please contact me. Thanks everyone!

Swinger Bars - Kay Livermore:

Members who have swinger bar updates for January:

100 hours: Sarah Davis

1000 hours: Earnest Amabisca

5500 hours: Chris Rusch

Members who have year bars or updates through December 2023:

5 years: Christian Andino, Sylvia Andino, Julie Bell, Debbie Bishop, Cheryl Caplan, Jennie Compton, Darrell Dollens, Larisa Dollens, Jack Finney, Gordon Fleig, Chuck Goodin, Dawnetta Loomis, Brian McCrea, Robin Oki, Kim Pleich, Larry Rich, Bobbi Schneider, Mary Ann Shea, Jan Turley, Jan Wildey

10 years: Anne Bacon, Ivor Chapman, Kish Doyle, Bonnie Durick, Karen Glatz, Bruce Gravens, Kathy Hart, Steve Hart, Marsha McLain

15 years: Beth Brown, Carol Dalu, Neal Meyer, Tami Morin, Barbara Robinson, Gale Robinson, Toni Rudolph

20 years: Janet Bitter, Jean DeCato, Debbie Fenzl, Doug Holloway, Jon Thran

Trash to Treasure - Ann Severson: Lots of donations are coming in. \$5200 is the goal for her and Logan to perform something special. Ann knows we will exceed that. Leave donations at the greenhouse or her home. June 1 is the sale (come at 8:00), set up is May 31 at 10:00. We

will need many truck drivers at 8:00 Friday to transport the donations to the Community Center. No signups beforehand - just show up. We will have a table for "high end" donations this year.

Vermicomposting - Dawn Shumack: Steve Hart replaced the hinges on the bins. I ran short on food for the worms. There are plastic containers with lids inside the bins - please place your food waste in them.

Victory Garden - Carolyn Ruzicka: Last Tuesday was the first work day. We had 2 new trainees join us. We weeded and prepared beds for the onions and planted lots of them. Cabbage should be ready in 2-3 weeks. I will send out emails when we will work again.

OLD BUSINESS: This from Julie: "Do the members agree that the garden tour guides from the League of Women Voters and the musicians on site will have access to the bathrooms? I recommend that the MG volunteer who is working the event keep the bathrooms locked until needed by a volunteer. The concern is that the bathrooms will be overwhelmed by public use if left open during the day."

After some discussion, everyone felt we should provide a porta potty for everyone on the tour. It was also suggested we have a little stand next to it with MG information to distribute.

NEW BUSINESS: None

SHOW AND TELL:

Kay Livermore - has a red daisy blooming at her new house. She has a picture of it to identify. Dawn Shumack brought some bulbs to give away.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Executive Meeting, March 13 at 10:00 at the Annex

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 11:02.

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie Courter, Secretary