



July 2020 Calendar

Mon., July 6, 9:00-Noon

Victory Garden Crew

Tues., July 7, 9:00-Noon

Discovery Garden workday
Greenhouse Crews

Wed, July 8, 10:00 (Zoom)

Executive Board Meeting

Thurs., July 9, 9:00-Noon

Victory Garden Crew

Mon., July 13, 9:00-Noon

Victory Garden Crew

Tues., July 14, 9:00-Noon

Discovery Garden workday
Greenhouse Crews

Thurs., July 16, 9:00-Noon

Victory Garden Crew

Mon., July 20, 9:00-Noon

Victory Garden Crew
Greenhouse Crews

Tues., July 21, 9:00-Noon

Discovery Garden workday
Greenhouse Crews

Thurs., July 23, 9:00-Noon

Victory Garden Crew

Mon., July 27, 9:00-Noon

Victory Garden Crew

Tues., July 28, 9:00-Noon

Discovery Garden workday
Greenhouse Crews

Thurs., July 30

Chapter Meeting (10:00 by Zoom)
Victory Garden Crew (9-12)



The President's Post

Nancy Fuller

WOO-HOO!!!! In case you haven't heard, we can now work in the Discovery Garden and the greenhouses! Steve submitted a request to OSU for us to work and they said "yes". It has been a long three months! Thank you, Steve!!

Many of us returned to the DG and greenhouses this past week and it felt good to be out there. All the gardens look great. Butterflies are flitting from flower to flower, bees are happy, too. The osprey nest in River Forks Park that can be seen from the Rock Garden has two birds sitting in it. Many other bird species were out singing a "welcome back" to us.

We welcome our 2020 graduates out to the gardens and greenhouses. They will have great opportunities to put their education to work. Though we can't be in the plant clinic as yet, nor can we do community outreach at the farmers' markets or other venues, we'll welcome our graduates whenever they choose to work with us.

This month we have important chapter duties. We will elect the officers for 2021 and we will vote to accept the revised Policy and Procedures and the revised Bylaws. The July chapter meeting will be held on Zoom which has become an easy, frequently-used method to gather for meetings and classes. (Please see the article on how to connect with Zoom elsewhere in this Newsletter.) We will need a minimum of 25 members to attend the meeting in order to have a quorum for passing the revisions to the Bylaws and the Policy and Procedures. I encourage every member to try to attend this meeting on July 30, 10:00. The pending revisions have been sent out to you for review through an email from Jen Bailey.

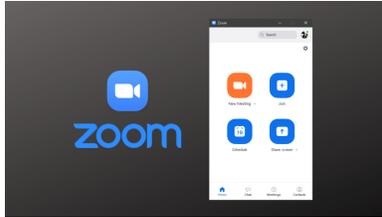
Nominations for 2020-2021: **President** Julie Stanbery; **Vice-President** Diana Woodward; **Secretary** Bonnie Courter; **Membership Chair** Kay Livermore; **OMGA Representative** Barbie Hamby; **Alternate OMGA Representative** Kish Doyle; **Treasurer** (Yet to be determined.). Cheryl Caplan has agreed to take the Publicity Chair position for the coming year.

I'm hoping that by August we may be able to have an in-person chapter meeting. Steve will let us know when OSU approves that type of gathering.

In the meantime, I hope to see many of you out at the DG and greenhouses. Enjoy the beautiful weather we've been having, and stay safe and healthy.

A Zoom Tutorial

Nancy Fuller



For those of you who haven't yet used Zoom to attend a meeting or a class, here are some simple steps to use in joining a meeting or class.

1. Go to [zoom.com](https://zoom.us) and download the app to your smartphone or tablet or laptop or computer. Zoom will work on any of these devices. Do this a few days before the scheduled time and day of the meeting or class you want to join. You will need to set up a username and password.
2. You will receive an email from Steve Renquist with the link to join the meeting. There will be a meeting ID number that you may need to enter in the program in order to join. It will be in the information that Steve sends. If you are going to join by phone only, there will be a number you can call to join.
3. In the Zoom app, there are tutorials you can review on how to use the app. They are very helpful, so please try to review some of them.
4. If you don't do any of the app's tutorials, you can still join the meetings easily. Just follow the instructions that are on the screen after you click on the link to join.
5. Once you have joined, in the bottom left of your screen, you'll see a symbol for a microphone and a video camera. Click on them to allow the rest of the attendees to see and hear you. Normally in a meeting, the attendees keep their microphones muted until they want to speak. If you keep the microphone open, there will be echoes to every speaker's voice. A click on the microphone symbol will either mute it (a line is drawn through it) or open it. If your device doesn't have a camera, you can still join by voice only.
6. When the meeting is over or you have to leave before it is over, there is a "leave meeting" button in the bottom right of the screen. Click on it to leave and you'll see a second button that says "leave meeting" – click on it and you'll have ended your session. After you've ended your session, you can then close the app.

Treasurer's Report

Toni Rudolph
5/28/2020-6/22/2020

INCOME

Donations	\$1,324.83
Interest	<u>\$4.64</u>

TOTAL INCOME

\$1,329.47

EXPENSES

OMGA Dues	\$1,547.00
Newsletter Printing/Postage	\$52.46
Utilities - Electricity	\$552.60
Utilities - Water (2 mo.)	<u>\$254.47</u>

TOTAL EXPENSES

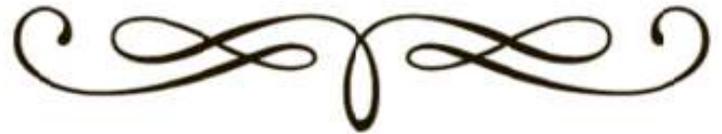
\$2,406.53

Breakdown of our accounts at 6/22/2020

NWCC - Checking	\$1,431.06
NWCC - Reserve	\$5,005.10
NWCC - MMK Savings	<u>\$31,991.58</u>

Ending Balance

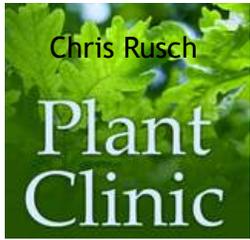
\$38,427.74



What is a donation for tax purposes?

A donation of cash or goods to a non-profit is deductible IF you do not receive anything in return. Example:

- If you write a check for \$100 and receive plants worth \$25, you can count \$75 as a donation.
- If you contribute items to the Trash to Treasure Sale, you can count the value of those items as a donation.
- BUT if you write a check for \$75 and receive plants worth \$75, there is NO donation. If you purchase an item at the Trash to Treasure Sale for the asking price, there is NO donation. When you get something for the money you give, it is NOT considered a donation for tax purposes.



We are keeping our fingers crossed and hoping our Plant Clinic will be open this month!! If all goes well, we will be opening our Plant Clinic in July. With all of the OSU guidelines and restrictions, we will most likely not be able to return to our program of

old, at least for this year. At our first phase of opening we will be answering questions by the phone and emails, but not visiting with the public. Our staffing will be limited to just one person at a time. Hopefully this is not our “new normal”, but just a temporary setback to our program. We will begin our training program again as soon as it is safe to do so.

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. It is unfortunate that we have not been able to reach out to our community this planting season as we usually do.

These are very trying times for everyone. Enjoy your time at home in your garden! Volunteer in the Discovery Garden and Victory Garden and greenhouses when you can. Stay safe everyone and see you all on the other side of this.



Some Recent “Ask an Expert” Questions Answered

Is it too late for fruit covers?

Question: Would I be wasting my time and effort to cover apples with “footies” this late in the Oregon growing season (mid-June)? Some of my half-dozen trees have apples the size of a half dollar.



phillyorchards.org

Answer: Typically the bags would have been put on earlier, about 6 weeks after bloom and before the codling moths are laying eggs. It is possible that some of the fruit you would bag have already been “stung” and have codling moth larvae within the fruit. You could try to bag fruit that don't exhibit stings. Even if you missed bagging before the 1st generation, you would be protected from the next generation of insects later in the summer.

Here is more information about codling moths and bagging fruit: [Pests in Gardens and Landscapes - Codling Moth\(link is external\)](#) (Heather Stoven, OSU Small Farms, Community Horticulture)

Black slime in my barkdust, is this a concern?

Question: We had new tanbark laid down in our backyard and have been finding black tar looking patches after it rains. We clean them up...then it rains and new patches of it show up again. Have you seen this before or have any idea what it is??? Three more patches of the stuff this morning after last nights rain. I've sent pictures and also have saved the globs should you need them to help with identification.



Answer: This is a slime mold, which is a non-pathogenic fungus that feeds on organic material, not uncommonly large, freshly applied batches of organic matter like bark dust. They tend to appear and disappear equally quickly. They are really a curiosity more than anything to worry about. There seems to be a lot of this as I've had three Ask an Expert inquiries on this same topic this week. I include a link to a [short discussion of slime molds from the PNW Disease Management Handbook\(link is external\)](#). (Neil Bell, Horticulture, OSU)

July Garden Calendar



Maintenance and clean up

•If you want a green lawn, water frequently during periods of heat and drought stress. Irrigate a quarter inch four to six times per week from

June through August. Measure your water use by placing an empty tuna can where your irrigation water lands.

•Mound soil up around the base of your potato plants. Gather and eat a few "new" potatoes from each hill when plants begin to flower.

•To reduce evaporation, water vegetable and flower gardens in the early morning. Water the soil rather than leaves to reduce disease. Water deeply and infrequently to encourage root growth.

•Pay careful attention to watering and feeding hanging baskets of flowers or vegetable plantings during extended periods of hot weather.

•Weed and fertilize rhubarb and asparagus beds. A mulch of compost or rotted cow manure works well as fertilizer. Water deeply to develop crowns for next year.

•Mulch with paper, plastic, sawdust, etc. to conserve soil moisture.

•Stake tall-growing flowering plants such as delphinium, hollyhocks, and lupine. Stake tomatoes as necessary.

•Make compost of lawn clippings and garden plants that are ready to be recycled. Do not use clippings if lawn has been treated with herbicide, including "weed-and-feed" products. Do not compost diseased plants unless you are using the "hot compost" method (120 degrees to 150 degrees F).

Planting and propagation

•Beets, bush beans, carrots, cauliflower, broccoli, lettuce, kale and peas planted in midsummer provide fall and winter crops.

•Dig spring bulbs when tops have died down; divide and store or replant.

Pest Monitoring and Management

•Control hollyhock rust by sanitation, picking affected leaves, or spraying with a registered fungicide. Read and follow label directions.

•Watch for cutworm damage in garden. In July, climbing cutworms become a problem and large portions of foliage will begin to disappear on established plants. Use barriers, remove by hand, use beneficial nematodes when soil temperature is above 55 degrees F, or spray with Bt-k according to label directions. Spider mites can become a problem on ornamental plants, vegetables, and fruit plants during hot, dry weather. Watch for dusty-looking foliage, loss of color, and presence of tiny mites. Wash infested areas with water or spray with appropriate pesticides. Continue monitoring raspberry, blackberry, blueberry, cherry and other plants that produce soft fruits and berries for spotted wing drosophila. If the fly is present, use an integrated and least-toxic approach to manage the pests. Learn how to monitor for drosophila flies and larval infestations in fruit.

•Late July: Begin to monitor for early and late blight on tomatoes. Correct by pruning for air circulation, picking off affected leaves, and/or treat with approved fungicide.

•Mid-July: Spray filbert trees for filbert worm, as necessary. Spray peach and prune trees for peach tree borer, and peach twig borer, as necessary. Third spray for codling moth in apple and pear trees, as necessary.

•Cover blueberry bushes with netting to keep birds from eating the entire crop.

•Monitor camellias, holly, and maple trees for scale insects. Treat if necessary.

•Monitor rhododendrons for adult root weevils. Look for fresh evidence of feeding (notching). Try sticky trap products on plant trunks to trap adult weevils. Manage root weevils with beneficial nematodes (if soil temperature is above 55 degrees F). If root weevils are a consistent problem, consider removing plants and choosing resistant varieties.

In the Garden

Julie Stanbery

Well, spring has come and gone and our beautiful Gardens remind us that plants will grow with or without our help!



As we come back to the HLC, we find lots of projects, clean-up and tasks that still need our attention. Our loyal veterans know how much they are appreciated for all the hours they donate to our educational projects.

Today, I want to recognize our new Master Gardeners who have stepped up to help us in a big way. **David and Diana Campbell** have found their place working in and supporting the Victory Garden. **Becky Carlson** has been helping clean up the Helleck Hall garden and is Elva's new #2 compost tea brewer. **Bill Truesdail** brought his weed-eater to the site and went to town on all the road ditches, pipe lines and overgrown grass patches he could find. **Roselle Benesh** and **Kendra North** have been volunteering in the west and east greenhouses, helping to keep our plants happy. **Terril Lowe** has joined the herb garden and has made some great new labels for that area as well as tamed the "wilderness". Speaking of taming a mess, **Chris Sauser** has agreed to help me try to control the big island in the butterfly garden, and **Terrie King** is the new head of the daylilly bed. She is also the volunteer who cleaned up the entire parking strip, weeds and limbs and garbage! **Kathleen Donovan** is a welcome addition to the rock garden team.

Our days in the garden are much more than weeding or deadheading; it is our time to come together for the good of our chapter and our community. It is the perfect setting to develop life-long connections with good people. Thanks to all of you for your support and friendship.

Reminder: The irrigation schedule for the Discovery Garden is Mon./Wed./Fri. mornings for the rest of the summer.

See you in the garden!!

Ask Fred "The Tool Man" Alley

(This will be a recurring Newsletter feature)



During the last several years I have honed my tool maintenance and cleaning/sharpening techniques. My request for tool renovation continues to grow as well as questions on how and what the Master Gardener can do themselves to keep their garden tools in good shape.

While I was at the Discovery Garden the last several Tuesdays I have received one common question:

Question: Fred, my hand clipper and shearers are still sharp and good condition, but what do you use to get the sticky build-up off the cutting edge?

Answer: That sticky build-up on your cutting blade will occur over time, making each and every successive cut less clean and effective. It's like cutting a hard boiled egg in half with a knife used previously to spread your peanut butter. It just sort of smashes the egg. Making a cut on your prize rosebush with a cutting blade covered with built-up gunk will likely smash and bend the rose stem.



The simple solution is to use a piece of double "0" steel wool with a few drops of "Goo-Gone" and continue to clean the cutting blade. The more and longer you rub and

clean, the cleaner the blade becomes, evidently to a fine steel luster. The cleaning will slightly dull the cutting edge, so you will need to make several passes with a coarse then fine diamond-coated file. Do this process each time you put your tool away and you will absolutely enjoy your next pruning session. It is best when storing your clippers/loppers/shearers that you wipe down the tools with a fine oil like 3-IN-ONE Multi-Purpose Oil. When you next use the tool, wash it with hot soapy water to remove the oil before pruning.



Bylaws and Policies Update

Jen Bailey

The membership will vote on the proposed revisions to the Bylaws and Policies at the July chapter meeting. The full text can be found on the web site.

In light of COVID-19, these changes are proposed to the Bylaws:

- Meetings may be held virtually through online technology.
- The quorum for chapter meetings is reduced from 25 to 20.
- Voting may be done electronically through email or virtual meeting technology.

Before COVID-19 hit, we proposed to increase travel reimbursement for the OMGA State Representative and State Rep Alternate from \$100 to \$150 to cover the cost of meals and one night's lodging for OMGA quarterly meetings more than 150 miles away. For the foreseeable future, OMGA meetings will be virtual, but this policy revision is still recommended.

Diana Circle, the Awards Chair, and her committee are proposing a new Awards policy as follows:

AWARDS

Swinger Bars

Swinger bars attached to the OSU Master Gardener badges recognize members' contribution of hours of service and years of membership, as recorded by the Hours Data Coordinator. The Awards Chair is responsible for issuing swinger bars.

An apprentice receives a 60 hours swinger bar after completing 60 hours of payback, with a minimum of 28 hours of clinic time. The Extension agent must approve exceptions to the 28 hours clinic minimum.

Members exchange their swinger bar in January as they reach 200, 300, 400, 500, 750, 1000 hours of service, and every 500 hours thereafter.

Members receive a longevity swinger bar for five years of membership, and every five years thereafter.

Historical Records

Activities coordinators and event planners must provide the Award Chair with a list of volunteers' participations.

- one accumulative historic file from the beginning of membership to present
- one current file of activities to be used for recognition

Recognition of Volunteer Participation

The Awards Committee provides local recognition throughout the year and at the annual awards banquet.

OMGA State Nominees for Master Gardener of the Year & Behind the Scenes Awards

The Awards Committee chooses qualified nominees to be submitted to OMGA for the State Master Gardener of the Year and the State Behind the Scenes awards, using the selection criteria and nomination forms provided by OMGA. Nomination forms for the state-wide awards are due to OMGA by May 15th.

OMGA criteria for State Master Gardener of the Year award:

- Numbers of years as MG
- Numbers of hours of volunteer service
- Support of MG educational mission
- Leadership within the association, state or local
- Impact statement
- Comments from OSU Extension Agent

OMGA criteria for State Behind the Scenes award:

- Numbers of years as MG
- Numbers of hours of volunteer service
- Support of MG educational mission
- Behind the scenes contributions
- Comments from OSU Extension Agent

Douglas County Master Gardener of the Year & Behind the Scenes Awards

The Awards Committee chooses qualified recipients to receive the Master Gardener of the Year and Behind the Scenes awards for our county, using the selection criteria listed below. Selection is made in September for year-end activities and awards presented at our annual

awards banquet. These recipients will be submitted to OMGA by May 15th for recognition at the state level as a county winner.

Criteria for County Master Gardener of the Year award:

- Multiple activities (the MG experience a little of everything)
- Veteran members who have been around and earned the honor
- Recertification (currently just a guideline not a requirement)
- Candidate approved by OSU Extension Agent

Criteria for County Behind the Scenes award:

- Multiple activities
- At least 5 years membership
- No major leadership positions (never an officer on the executive board)
- Candidate approved by OSU Extension Agent

OMGA Longevity Recognition Awards Diana Circle

The purpose of the OMGA Longevity Award is to honor and thank Oregon Master Gardeners who have been loyal and dedicated volunteers for 20, 30, 40 or more years. Too often these amazing volunteers are taken for granted. These awards are one way to say, “THANK YOU”.

The work of these volunteers makes an educational difference for neighbors, schools, and communities. The projects on which they have worked are outstanding.

These Master Gardeners will be recognized at the OMGA’s Educational Event Awards Banquet during Mini-College and featured in The Gardener’s Pen Newsletter.

Each Oregon MG who completed Master Gardener Training 20+ years ago and who has continuously paid their dues is eligible to receive this award. All award recipients will receive a certificate. The 20-year members will receive a “Twenty Years of Service” orange service bar for their badge, whereas the 30-year and 40-year members will receive a unique recognition pin.

In the future, a “Wall of Honor” will be developed for the OMGA website listing all the Oregon Master Gardener Longevity Award winners. OMGA and Douglas County Master Gardeners hope this small token will help demonstrate our appreciation of these valuable volunteers.

The purpose of DCMG Awards Committee is to honor our wonderful volunteers. We wish to recognize the following members for their years of service to our local program. You are very much appreciated. “THANK YOU”!

MEMBER NAME & YEAR JOINED

Jeffrey Havener	1998
Philece Humphrey	1997
Judith Huntley	2001
Betty Ison	1989
Richard Johnstone	2000
Tasha King	1996
Sam Lee	1989
Marianne Major	1998
Jack Machulies	2001
Barbara MacPherson	1996
Shirley Purcell	1998
Roger Sawyer	1993
Kathy Shayler	1997
Julie Stanbery	1992
Linda Thames	2000
Judy Weaver	2000
Myra Weber	2001



Proposed Budget for 2020-2021

CATEGORY		Budget covers 6/2000 - 5/2021	
INCOME			
Money Market	31,992	Kiosk - Donor Board	0
Not available to use	-1,000	Maintenance - DG	300
Checking Account	1,068	Mulch & Gravel	0
Reserves	5,005	Orchard	0
TOTAL INCOME	37,064	Ornamental Garden	0
EXPENSES		Pavilion	0
Management & General Expenses		Perennial Border	0
Awards & Banquet		Raised Beds (Dahlia/Lily)	0
Awards	112	Rock Garden	0
Banquet	224	Shade Garden	0
TOTAL Awards & Banquet	336	Signage	0
Conferences		Straw Bale Garden	0
Chapter Meetings	0	Sun Garden	0
OMGA International	0	Xeriscape Garden	0
OMGA Quarterly Meeting (Host)	0	TOTAL Discovery Garden	300
OMGA Travel	239	TOTAL PSP Expense	1,610
TOTAL Conferences	239	HLC Horticultural Learning Center	
OMGA Dues - 2021	1,574	Annual Pumping Expense (diver)	300
Grants/Gifts/Scholarships		Eastside Greenhouse Maintenance includes \$2000 for	2,660
4-H Donation	0	Eastside Greenhouse Supplies	27
Gifts - Hallmark postage and cards	50	Garbage Dump Fee	210
Gifts - Miscellaneous	0	HLC Fire Extinguishers	60
Gifts - Officer Gifts	0	HLC Maintenance - fuel tractor and lawnmower	347
Grant Purchases	0	HLC Orchard	0
Scholarships - Mini-College	0	Toilet Supplies and Repairs	50
TOTAL Grants/Gifts/Scholarships	50	Tree Trimming Professional	0
Administration		Victory Garden	236
Bank Charges	0	Victory Garden Signage	0
Check Print Charges	50	Westside Greenhouse Maintenance	269
Historian	0	Westside Greenhouse Supplies	163
Hospitality	35	TOTAL HLC - Expense	4,322
Liability Insurance	505	Special Events	
Newsletter Postage & Printing	284	Plant Sale (PS)	
OMGA Search for Excellence	0	Advertising	1,200
Postage for Exec Board	80	Contributions - PS Volunteers	0
Supplies/Copies for Exec Board	150	Exhibit Fees	3,400
TOTAL Administration	1,104	Next Year's Seed. (SEEDS)	800
(PSP) Expenses/ Program Service Project		Next Year's Supplies - PS	1,000
Advanced Training		Plants	
Continuing Education	0	Plants - Eastside	300
Spring into Gardening - received a grant to cover cost	0	Plants - Westside	300
Winter Program		Supplies	2,000
New Class - Supplies	20	Vendor Costs	0
Speakers	650	TOTAL Plant Sale	9,000
TOTAL Winter Program	670	Propane - Tanks	
TOTAL Advanced Training	670	Eastside Greenhouse #1 75532	1,000
Clinics and Office		Eastside Greenhouse #2 MO327516	925
Farmers' Market - Canyonville	0	Westside Greenhouse #3 49518	775
Farmers' Market - Roseburg	0	Westside Greenhouse #500 48450	400
Insects	10	TOTAL Propane Tanks	3,100
Library	0	Bake Sale	75
Plant Clinic and Office Supplies	30	Compost Tea	150
Soil Testing	450	Taste-Off	0
Website	150	Tee Shirt	0
TOTAL Clinics and Office	640	Black Apparel	0
Community Outreach		Trash-to-Treasure - room rental	350
DC Fair Outreach Booth	0	TOTAL Special Events Expenses	12,675
Printing Materials 4 Outreach	0	Utilities	
Speakers Bureau	0	Electricity - 82346502 - HLC	4,400
TOTAL Community Outreach	0	Electricity - 81156829 - Pump	300
Discovery Garden		Water - Pitchford/Heleck Hall meter # 30015613	900
Butterfly Garden	0	Water - River Forks/Caretakers meter # 69151311	100
Children's Garden	0	TOTAL Utilities	5,700
Compost - Biochar - Vermiculture - Worms	0	Expense Approved not Budgeted	
Easy Access (Container Garden)	0	DC Fair Sign	0
Entry Garden	0	Spring into Gardening	0
Herb Garden	0	Discovery Garden (DG)	0
Hummingbird Garden	0	Greenhouse - Eastside	0
Iris Garden	0	Greenhouse - Westside	0
Irrigation	0	Horticultural Learning Center (HLC)	0
Japanese Garden	0	TOTAL Expenses Approved not Budgeted	0
		TOTAL EXPENSES	27,610
		NET INCOME	9,454

Plant Proverbs for the Prudent

Steve Renquist

I have saved a rather lengthy list of gardening quotes over the years that I have connected with. I thought I would share them with you as an educational piece but also as a lifestyle piece.

1. Never go into the garden without a pruning shears or knife. *This simple statement lets you know that it is okay to prune a plant or dig a weed out at any time of the year. Summer pruning can be to repair a broken limb or to deadhead roses, and other flowers.*
2. All gardens, even small ones, should have big plants. Surprisingly they make a garden appear bigger by providing depth and height. *This concept refers to giving a garden backbone or a backdrop.*
3. Plan your garden well in advance. Learn as much as you can about each plant before you plant it. *Planning a garden in advance will keep it from looking disjointed. If you just keep adding plants to an existing landscape without coordination, it will fail.*
4. The idea is not to copy nature but to give the feeling of nature. *This is especially true for a tree-filled yard with understory plants or a meadow with wildflowers.*
5. Do not be a perfectionist. With a large garden it is the broad impression that counts. *This is really true for those people who need the perfect lawn. Only people with a 10' square lawn should attempt a perfect lawn. If the trees, shrubs, and flowers of your landscape are well-placed and growing nicely, no one will be looking at the lawn.*
6. Never knowingly plant an invasive species. *Enough said.*
7. If daffodils and tulips are in the right place they will become unobtrusive after blooming. *I like having spring bulbs in areas of the landscape that dry out in summer. I will remove the dried tops once they have gotten crispy.*
8. Anyone who is gardening has to be cruel and decisive. If something doesn't work, rip it out or at least move it. *I have noticed that the longer you leave an odd-looking combination of plants, the harder it gets to redo them.*
9. Using fewer species of plants but in bolder groups is more restful to the eye as well as easier to manage. *This goes back to planting a large variety of plants together looking very disjointed with no pattern or repetition to tie them together.*
10. Having a flower garden is like having a two-year-old - beautiful moments punctuated by tantrums and torture. *The torture comes in the form of maintenance, cutting back, staking or tying up, dividing, etc.*
11. One mistake people make is always trying to be original. If it's good, copy it. *One of the benefits of traveling a lot over the years to visit wonderful gardens is to see how others landscape, use combinations of plants, train plants, and combine plants with hardscapes.*
12. Flower gardens are not only beautiful to look at but provide an amazing habitat for beneficial insects. *Even though I like growing vegetables and fruits more than flowers, the beneficial insects that help my food crops need flower gardens to provide them full season habitat and food.*

Good Gardening!

Here's what your MG friends have been up to...

DIANA WOODWARD

This is a wood birdhouse I got last fall at the OMGA Silent Auction. I hung it in my yard and it's now occupied by a mother wren and two babies!



And here's the new rock garden in my yard. I hope to enlarge it as time goes on. Kish Doyle and



new graduate Kathleen Donovan assisted in the project.

KISH DOYLE



Taking a break from gardening, I visited my nephew at his Idaho ranch and found this two-week old kid goat. My dog Max wants a new playmate!

KATHY HART

Our granddaughter, 21-month old Olivia, was busy planting seeds. The next generation of future Master Gardeners!



BONNIE COURTER



Like Vicki McAlister, I've been on a trapping tear, only for gophers. Kill count is now **21!** Determined to save my lovely onions this year.

LENORE DRAKE



Tulip Magnolia from my yard.

NANCY FULLER

Enjoying all the wildflowers - like finding little gifts out in the meadows.

The pink flower is common centaury (*Centaureum erythraea*).



The blue flower is harvest brodiaea (*Brodiaea elegans*).



ROCK GARDEN NEWS



It's been about a month since Tasha fell and broke her lower leg. Since then she has been communicating from her "Director's Chair."

Last week we spent time cleaning up bulb litter from winter, weeding, pruning and collecting

seed from plants that won't wait for Tasha to return.

We filled in bare spots on the pathways using crusher dust, or as some of us non-natives call it, DG (decomposed granite). We are hoping Tasha will be back in 2-3 weeks with a



walking cast. Kathleen Donovan, one of our new graduates, has decided to join the rock garden crew.

Welcome Kathleen.



JULIE STANBERY

Remembering a friend... Julie Brizendine passed away last week after enduring a 17 year long battle with ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease). I met Julie my first day of winter training in 1992. She was our Extension office secretary and the face of Extension for almost 31 years. She always had a great smile and she knew the answers to just about *everything* OSU and Extension related.

Julie and I enjoyed our shared name status and our love of bowling. I am saddened at the loss of my friend, but I am heartened by the great memories of our years together with the Extension Service.

Fondly, from "the other" Julie

JANET BITTER

Blueberries—the (almost) perfect plant! I have been spending a lot of time recently with my blueberry plants. It's harvest time, so I am out there for an hour or so each day for a couple of weeks. I have five plants—the only one I am certain of the variety is the one I planted about 10 years ago. It is a 'Herbert'. The other four were here when we bought this house, so they are over 20 years old.



I hate to admit it, but sometimes I am a lazy gardener. I find I get a little lazier the older I get. I like plants that offer a lot but don't require a lot of effort from me. Blueberries fit the bill! I can't think of many other types of fruit that are so easy to grow. (Steve, please stop reading here!) I never spray them, hardly ever fertilize them, only occasionally prune them (a little dead wood, maybe!) and they get watered when I water other parts of my garden. Heck, I even have rows of narcissus and leucojum on either side of my plants (a big no-no apparently). I harvest those flowers, then bend them away from the plants to let the air and sunshine in after the flowers are done blooming. Yet the blueberries produce like crazy and are an attractive landscape plant. Fall color is beautiful; spring brings fresh green foliage and white blooms; and summer is when you reap your rewards!

Now, if you have deer, and blueberries are in their path, they *will* browse them. I keep mine inside my fenced vegetable garden plot. And then there are the birds. They, also, are very lazy gardeners (even lazier than I!). They arrive as the blueberries start to ripen and just do blueberry "tasting"—a peck here, a peck there. Some years are worse than others.



If you were to drive up my driveway and see my blueberries, you'd think I was having a party in the garden. "Happy Birthday!" - "Best Wishes!" - "Princess something!". I scrounge old mylar balloons (like when someone has a birthday and then they have them just hanging around afterwards) and hang these around

my garden. They work especially well when the helium is about gone and they eerily float up and down. Even when all the helium is gone, the wind makes them thrash around and they scare the birds. I also use old CD's spinning on fishing line. I figure if this doesn't work that well, at least it's pretty. This year it is doing a great job of keeping the birds away from my berries. I have used bird netting on and off over the years and I hate that stuff. It catches on plants, I must perform bird-rescue 911, and I get stuck in it. I much prefer the party decorations. Hopefully the birds will keep avoiding this party. So far, so good.

I have harvested 45 pounds off my 5 plants and not done yet! We freeze them and use them all winter in our cereal or baked goods. One last positive—blueberry picking is a great way to spend a pleasant evening with your spouse or other family member. My husband, who hates gardening, enjoys sitting out on our old 5-gallon buckets in the evening with me and picking berries. Cheaper than counseling! Give blueberries a try!

DOUGLAS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS

Chapter Meeting (via Zoom)

June 24, 2020

Call to Order: The meeting via Zoom platform was called to order by President Nancy Fuller at 10:00. Board members attending were Nancy Fuller, Bonnie Courter, Kay Livermore, Chris Rusch, Toni Rudolph and Diana Woodward. There were 20 members attending in all, including Steve Renquist.

Agenda Approval: The agenda was approved as posted.

Agent's Report - Steve Renquist:

Steve gave an update on the OSU restrictions in regards to COVID19. The Extension office is scheduled to be open next week, June 29. The door will be kept locked, so if you go to the office, you will sign in outside the entryway. Only one visitor or guest from the public will be allowed into Extension at a time. Masks must be worn in the office if you are with other people, but not if you are there by yourself, such as in the Plant Clinic. We are now able to volunteer out at the Discovery Garden and greenhouses as long as physical distancing is maintained. Masks are not required there, though if

working in the greenhouses, masks are recommended. We still cannot gather for any large gatherings such as meetings larger than 25.

There is still nothing decided on how to handle our winter training class. Steve is considering options such as limiting the size to 16 instead of 30, or have classes split in half, each half meeting two days a week. The Annex is available to hold the class, however.

Steve has been busy helping with local farms and vineyards. The crops are good this year.

OFFICER REPORTS

Membership - Kay Livermore: Nothing to report.

OMGA - Chris Rusch for Barbie Hamby/Kish Doyle:

The OMGA Quarterly meeting was held last week by "Zoom" with 30 people participating. Mini College was cancelled for this year and they are considering plans for a virtual Mini College next summer. The rest of the quarterly meetings this year will also be by Zoom platform.

OMGA is having trouble filling some committee member vacancies. Some chapters are experiencing more restrictions than our chapter and struggling financially due to the lack of fundraising.

Our chapter received the Karl Carlson grant to make flag signs for the Herb Garden and to purchase black plastic signs. We also received the Extension Educator grant of \$400 which will be used for Spring Into Gardening expenses.

Bruce Gravens highly recommended members taking the Tree School online course available through Extension and suggested we could incorporate it as a model for our winter training class as well. The link to take the course is: <https://knowyourforest.org/TreeSchoolOnline>

Vice-President - Diana Woodward: Diana is waiting to see if we can meet at a member's home for next month's chapter meeting as she does have a volunteer host. Steve will check into that, but said we probably shouldn't have it. It would depend on the location, whether distancing could be in place and probably not include a potluck. Steve said we could have the August

and September chapter meeting out at the Discovery Garden.

Past President - Chris Rusch: No report.

President - Nancy Fuller:

Linda Thames (Hallmark) reported to Nancy that Tasha King fell and broke her leg in May, and is finally out of pain and getting a new cast next week. Anne Waddington had heart surgery in Portland. Dean Fernandez's wife passed away. Cards were sent to these three.

Nancy sent out the latest Policy & Procedures and Bylaws for approval. Please review and let Nancy know if there are any corrections. She included Zoom meetings in the Bylaws, stating that we can use that platform to hold voting if need be.

The Nominating Committee consists of Fred Alley, Sharon Hopkins and Diana Circle. They still need to find someone to fill the position of Treasurer by this weekend so the nominations can be published in the Newsletter. We also need a Publicity Chair to take over for Barbara Horst. The nominations will be voted on at the July chapter meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: Approval of the revised 2020 Budget

Toni presented the revised budget. The figures are based on the presumption that we will not have any fundraisers this coming budget year through May 2021. The figures show the maximum amounts that can be spent. Compost tea expenses were increased to \$150, so the total revised budget is \$27,610.

All donations will be moved to the pre-plant sale or post-plant sale event in July due to the tax code saying that donations are technically anything above and beyond the value of what was purchased.

Discussion ensued about needing a quorum of 25 of the general membership in order to have a vote. No one objected to having a legitimate vote from the 20 members present in this meeting. Jan Kirchner made a **motion to accept the revised 2020 budget as stands, with the total approved expenses of \$27,610.** Elva

Sellens seconded it. **The vote to accept the budget was unanimous.**

OTHER BUSINESS:

There was some discussion raised by Bruce Gravens on how we can remove barriers or concerns that inhibit more members from participating in these Zoom meetings, since we will be conducting most of our meetings this way for the near future.

Nancy reminded everyone that we still cannot staff any Farmer's Market venues or do any outreach to the public face-to-face. Steve will look into getting permission to hold Advanced Diagnostics classes. He said that hopefully by mid-July more restrictions will be lifted by OSU.

Victory Garden - Ruth Stafford said they will be working twice a week starting in July, Mondays and Thursdays. They won't be able to take home garden donations on Tuesdays to UCAN, but members can bring produce by on Mondays or Thursdays. Ruth will send out an email through Shirley about the new hours and remind members to bring masks and practice physical distancing.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie Courter, Secretary



Douglas County Master Gardeners

Newsletter: The deadline for the August 2020 Newsletter is August 1st. E-mail submissions to Bonnie Courter: rbcourter@gmail.com

Website: www.douglascountymg.org

Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/pages/Douglas-County-Master-Gardeners/251882398200487

Horticulture Agent: www.extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas/horticulture,
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OSU Douglas County Extension Service: www.extension.oregonstate.edu/douglas

OSU Gardening Information: www.extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening

OSU Master Gardeners Program: www.extension.oregonstate.edu/mg

Oregon Master Gardeners Association (OMGA): www.oregonmastergardeners.org



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you to attend an event, please notify the office at 541-672-4461 no later than 2 weeks prior to event date. This publication will be made available in an accessible alternative format upon request. Please contact Bonnie Courter, 541-391-2890, rbcourter@gmail.com.

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