



May 2021 Calendar

Tues., May 4, 9:00-Noon

Discovery Garden workday

Tues., May 11, 9:00-Noon

Discovery Garden Workday

Tues., May 11, 3:00

Level Up Series: "Waterwise Gardening" live presentation

Wed., May 12, 10:00

Executive Board Meeting, HLC

Tues., May 18, 9:00-Noon

Discovery Garden Workday

Tues., May 25, 9:00-Noon

Discovery Garden Workday

Thurs., May 27, 10:00

Chapter Meeting at home of Diana Woodward, 258 Rathbun Rd., Sutherlin



The Prez Sez...

Julie Stanbery

One of the best aspects of this job is getting to know my fellow volunteers as more than just casual acquaintance-garden buddies. I'd like you all to learn a bit more about one of our most skilled volunteer teams. So the spotlight this month is on the garden column writers on the "Ask A Master Gardener" team.

This amazing group is led by **Bonnie Courter** (MG2007). She is joined by **Carol Dalu** (MG2009), **Chris Rusch** (MG2010), **Linda Estep** (MG2018), **Debby Finley** (MG2018), **Bruce Gravens** (MG2014), **Margo Roten** (MG2017), and occasional contributors Leo Grass, Jack Finney, and Scott McKain.

I asked each writer to tell what attracted them to this group and to give insight into the best and worst part of the job.

Margo was the first contributor to give me insight into writing these columns. Margo has always liked to write stories and took journalism is school. She found this volunteer opportunity a chance to continue her writing. She chooses topics of interest to her and to gain more knowledge on the subject.



Debby is just a font of inspiration and knowledge. As an accountant who is also a published author, she has a writer's approach to her topics. She keeps the reader in mind, sometimes using layman's terms and always looking for ways to compile the common knowledge in her own words. Debby finds her appreciation of the earth from just walking around her property, her interest in bugs and her work with the Insect Committee to be the foundation for her columns. As any good accountant might, she has developed a spread sheet of all the areas of topics written since 2015.



Chris enjoys sharing information with the public and encouraging education. Her Forest Service career had a large environmental impact component and the technical papers she wrote gave her a good background for the writing she does now. Chris uses random magazine articles as the seed for an idea as well as just listening to gardeners and topics that come into the clinic. Being an avid gardener she looks to her own garden, considering a fascinating plant, and then does further investigation for her own knowledge and to share with the public.



Linda's background is a bit intimidating to a novice writer such as myself. Her degrees are journalism and English literature and she taught junior high English! For most of the 20 years of her teaching career she longed to be a Master Gardener. Upon retiring, she

joined our chapter and the writing team. Linda uses magazines, blogs, the Farmer's Almanac, U-Tube, and her native curiosity to find topics for her columns. She enjoys researching and finds it often leads her in a different direction than her initial ideas.

When I asked Bruce what inspired him to join the team, he replied, "Who knows?". I can relate to his response as many times I have asked myself how I got talked into another project. Bruce is inspired by the Master Gardener goals of public education. His outreach started with vegetable trials in California where he collected and published data for gardeners to use in their home gardens. He enjoys sharing his personal knowledge of his home garden trials and helping others have successful gardens.



Carol is also another California transfer volunteer. In her 12 years as a MG, she has worked full time and yet found a way to contribute. Carol wrote for two newspapers and found that continuing that same kind of work for her chapter gave her the flexibility to do her payback and volunteer work. She enjoys any learning opportunity and

satisfies her natural curiosity while developing her topics.

Bonnie is the go-to member of this team - she is responsible for receiving, editing, and sending each article off to the News-Review each week. Every team member spoke of her generous support and role as mentor. Bonnie has a background in creative writing and has always loved to write. She particularly enjoys learning new things and doing the research for the details of her articles. Her ideas come from her own garden,



current topics in the Plant Clinic and seasonal happenings.

I asked the group what was the most difficult aspect of the writing process. Remembering deadlines is an issue, as is coming up with a topic that inspires the writer. The most common response was difficulty finding photos to support their articles and to a person they commend Bonnie for her ability to find just the right picture.

Finally, I asked the group to give advice to fellow MG's who might want to join this incredible team. The common response is that you do not need a writing background - you just need the desire to keep learning new things and to share your knowledge with others. Don't be intimidated by experienced writers - find a topic, write a test article and share it with a team member or a trusted friend. Contact Bonnie if interested in submitting your article and/or joining the team, and she will walk you through the writing process. Make the research fun - articles don't have to be technical. Some of the most interesting are based on just a passing comment. Focus on what you enjoy, make it fun for yourself and others will enjoy it, too.

I was reminded of my favorite garden writer, Dulcy Mahar, who inspired many gardeners. She wrote of humorous antidotes, using an entertaining approach involving her own struggles in her garden while still giving quality information to her gardening audience. So, use your curiosity and just give it a shot!

And last but not least, our thanks to our agent Steve Renquist who inspired the development of the writing team and whose support has been invaluable.

See you in the garden!



Shared by:
Diane Smith-Lewsadder

Vice-President's Report

Diana Woodward

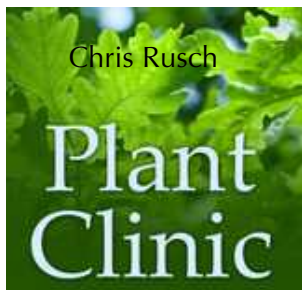
I have volunteered my home for our May Chapter meeting on May 27 at 10:00. We usually don't have home meetings in May, but this year after COVID we decided to get outside as soon as we can. We are also planning on the Executive Board meeting on May 12, 10:00, being outside too, at the Discovery Garden Pavilion.

May is when all my Rhodies are in bloom and I really wanted to share that with all of you. If an emergency, like weather, were to happen, we leave open the option to switch to the Discovery Garden. There will be no potluck, unfortunately. Bring a chair and a sun hat.

My address is: 258 Rathbun Rd., Sutherlin.

Directions:

Heading North on I-5, take exit #135, Wilbur. At the end of the ramp, turn left, go across the freeway and in about 100 yards head **straight up** the dirt driveway. Don't turn left or right. One mile later you will be at my home. There are steep parts of the road, front wheel drive is recommended, but you do not need 4-wheel drive. You're almost there when you see the white house and freeway. Just keep to the right, following the road heading away from the freeway, past the big white house. At the end is my home. Plenty of parking available. See you there!



Our Plant Clinic will be open soon on a modified schedule. It will be wonderful to get back to work and help out our Douglas County residents with their gardening and landscaping questions. 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. Hopefully this is not our "new normal", but just a temporary setback to our program. Thanks everyone for your patience. Stay tuned for updates!

Treasurer's Report

Diane Smith-Lewsadder

03/25/2021-04/22/2021

INCOME

Contributions	\$100.00
Soil Testing	\$130.00
Interest	\$5.14
Pre-Event Sale	\$167.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$402.14

EXPENSES

Administration	\$14.63
Discovery Garden	\$11.36
Plant Sale	\$5.00
Utilities - Electricity	\$377.01
OMGA Silent Auction Donation	\$250.00
2020 Cow Creek Grant	<u>\$238.91</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$896.91

Breakdown of our accounts at 04/22/2021

NWCC - Checking	\$2,178.81
NWCC - Reserve	\$5,007.39
NWCC - MMK Savings	<u>\$28,043.31</u>
Ending Balance	\$35,229.51

OMGA Grants

Chris Rusch

OMGA offers several grants to our Chapters. The deadline for applications is May 15.

The applications are available on our website. <https://omga.org/documents-and-forms/>

Here is a brief overview of the grants we have available:

- The Karl Carlson Memorial Fund serves to enhance and supplement the OSU home horticulture program. This can help fund your many projects tied to educating our community about sustainable gardening practices.
- The Marje Luce Search for Excellence Program recognizes outstanding work by Chapters in community service, innovative projects, youth programs and much more.
- Extension Educator Grant supplies fund to help OSU Extension agents and program assistants enhance their ability to education the public.

- “Send-a-Friend” Mini College scholarships are used to help fund one or more of a chapter’s Master Gardeners attend Mini-College, who might need financial assistance to do so.



Several people have asked me what my favorite succulent is. It’s hard to have just one as I have so many favorites. But if I had to choose one, it would be the Red Tip Echeveria. I bought this succulent about four years ago. I wasn’t sure what to expect. The information I got on this succulent said that it could take temperatures in the low 30’s. So I did the next best thing. I planted the only three I had in my raised bed and hoped for the best. This was the year of Snowmageddon. I had just planted

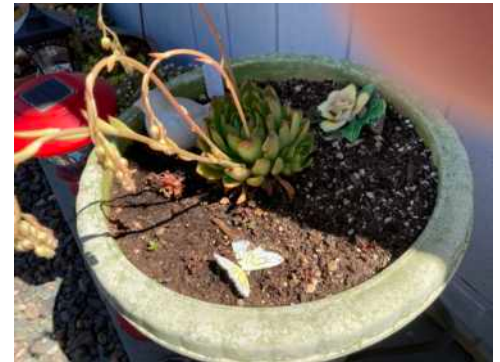


them in the early fall, then c o m e s February and all that snow. Now they are crushed under ten inches of snow! No way could they survive with all that snow on them. As the snow melted, I waited patiently to see if they had survived. I was just astounded. During the time that they were in the raised bed under all that snow they had doubled in size! Sweet! As they got bigger, I dug them up and

put them in a nice garden pot. Since then, they have produced many offsets and are in a happy place.

Red Tip Echeveria’s are one of the easiest succulents to grow. They like to be outside in a bright sunny location and can tolerate the cold temperatures. Do not start watering this plant until early spring. It doesn’t require a lot of water. The Red Tip Echeveria is also called a Mexican Hen and Chick because of the offsets (babies) that grow around the mother plant. The leaves of this plant are thick, with red surrounding the outer margins of the leaves. Give this plant some room to grow as it can grow to the size of small dinner plate. In the early spring to late summer it may start to bloom by sending up a long stem from the center of the plant and will bloom with reddish to pink bell-shaped flowers which will stay in bloom for several weeks. (My favorite part.)

Propagation from the Red Tip Echeveria is very simple. Just remove the offsets from the mother plant by locating the stem that is attached to the



mother. Wait until the chick is about the size of a half dollar and then remove. Plant in a garden pot or in the ground, being certain to have good drainage. You can fertilize in the early spring during the growing season, but not in the winter months. I didn’t protect this plant all winter, nor cover it with a cover cloth. I figured if it can take ten inches of snow, it can make it in a garden pot. It’s doing wonderfully.

With any luck you will see these out at the Eastside gardens in the near future. Until then, when I see you in the garden.

Ask the Tool Man Alley



What is the best oil I can use on my garden tools to prevent rust and corrosion? This question is asked frequently by our gardening community. It is more common now, as our garden tools are more durable so they can become lifetime companions. Many tools have even been passed down from generation to generation and

have become family "heirlooms". **Photo 1** shows my first sand shovel and my grandmother's small hand spade. Both purchased from Sheridan Commercial, in Sheridan, Wyoming, which still exists today. The business and structure are on the National register of historic places. Both of these shovels



experienced many coatings of boiled linseed oil. Maybe the reason I have been tagged the Tool Man is that I've been accused of being compulsive about caring of my tools. I like them to be clean, sharp, and well maintained. I endeavor to know my garden tools, products and tips to make them perform at their best.

So, what do these family garden spades have to do with this topic? Well, my family and many other gardeners will frequently tell you **The best oil to use is Boiled Linseed Oil.**

Boiled linseed oil is made from flax seeds and has been used as far back as the 12th century in paints and varnishes. In reading and viewing any garden article about tool maintenance, boiled linseed oil is the most commonly recommended for use on garden tools. It is a well proven product and recommended for a number of reasons:

1. Linseed oil is an excellent oil for the prevention of rust and corrosion. It provides an even, thorough coating of oil.

2. Linseed oil is an excellent protective oil for both wood and metal parts of garden tools. Linseed oil provides a nice, long lasting finish on wood. One can feel the soft finish of the linseed oil on wood handles
3. Linseed oil is nontoxic to humans.
4. Linseed oil is found in almost any hardware store.
5. Linseed oil is inexpensive. A pint will last a long time.
6. Linseed oil will not build up on the tool or wood.
7. Linseed oil is a great plant-based eco alternative to any petroleum based oil
8. Linseed oil can be easily cleaned off before your next garden chore. It is important to wipe off any excess oil on your garden tools before use.



Photo 2 illustrates one of my favorite 6-inch round garden shovels, protected with linseed oil.

There are four steps to practice in keeping your tools in nice condition,

free from rust and corrosion.

- Use your garden tools regularly. The easiest way to keep your tools free of rust and corrosion is by regular and frequent use. Exposure to the elements is your tool's worst enemy. Iron and steel exposed to oxygen and moisture form a chemical reaction called oxidation. If this oxidation continues, the rust will turn to corrosion, making your tool harder to use.
- Keep your tools clean. If you clean, sharpen, and oil your tools after every use and place your tools in a dry place such as your garage or garden shed, the less rust and corrosion will occur. I just make it a habit to clean, sharpen and then set the tool outside in the sun to dry, then oil and place it in proper dry storage.

- Control humidity and reduce moisture. Gardening in Oregon is year round. It's not like in Wyoming. Growing up, our annual garden tool cleaning, sharpening and oiling occurred in the fall. Into storage the tools went, not to be seen until spring. Not the case in Oregon. Our single most important task is to control humidity and reduce moisture as much as possible.

Apply protective coating of oil on all tools.

Though one of the most effective rust inhibitors is a thin layer of non-oxidizing oil like boiled linseed oil, today there are a number of other protective oils on the market. **Photo 3** illustrates a number of products that I



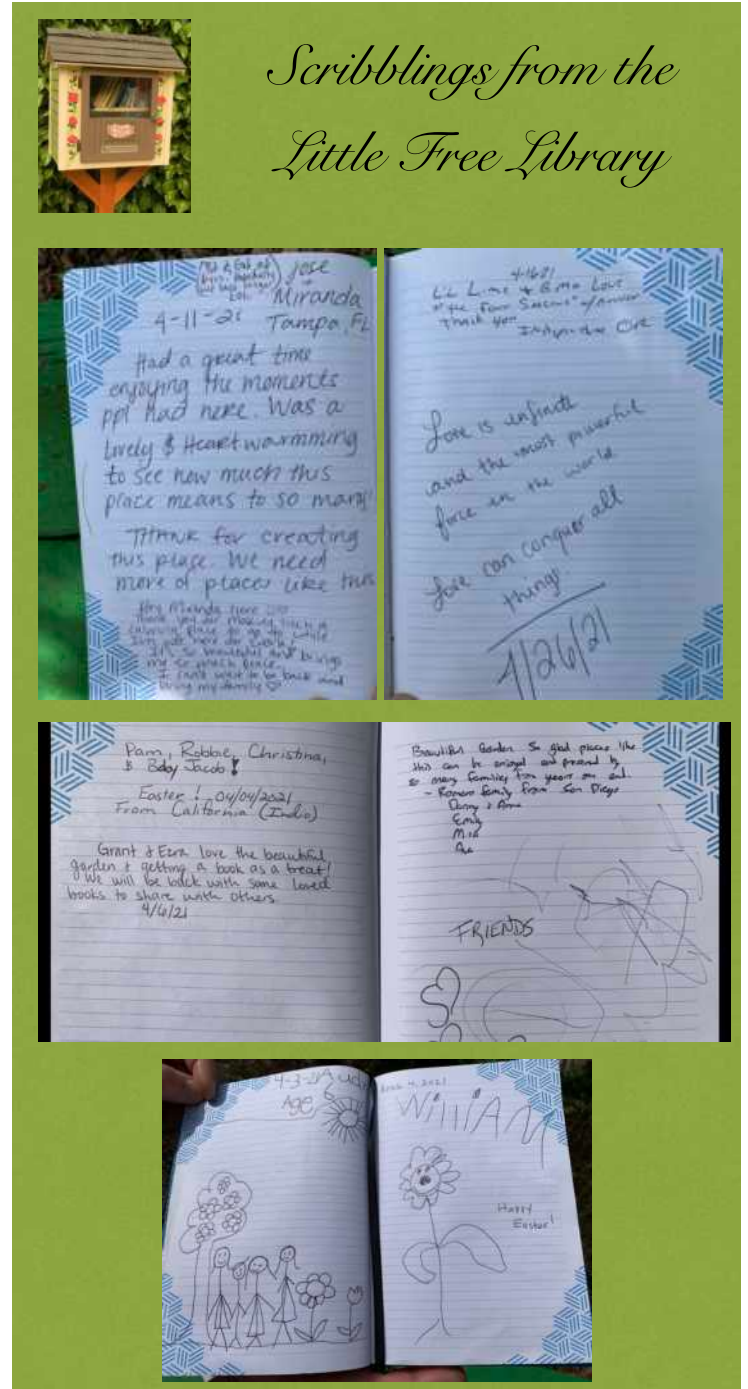
have used for years. They are very effective in preventing rust, but some are expensive and even hard to find. These products include:

- 3-in-ONE Multi-purpose Oil: lubricates, penetrates rust and cleans
- HOPPE'S #9 lubricating oil
- WD-40. Stops squeaks: protects metal
- Safariland Break Free Cleaner: lubricant preservative
- Remington REM Oil cleaning: lubricating and protection from rust

As Steve Renquist consistently advises us, "Carefully read the label on any product, before using and follow the instructions on the label". *Note, none of these products are intended to be used on wood, only on metal parts of your garden tools.* I know a number of our Master Gardeners have some very nice bypass pruners/clippers, so I still recommend the use of Remington REM Oil, or a similar product for use of these types of tools. REM Oil is an exceptionally high-performance cleaner, lubricant and corrosion-protectant for maintaining all steel gardening tools.

So, **Boiled Linseed Oil**, is the chosen winner for the best oil you should use on your garden tools. Please don't hesitate to email or call me with your garden tool maintenance questions. I'm also, generally at the Discovery Garden on Tuesday mornings as well.

Happy gardening and continue keeping those garden tools clean, sharp, oiled and properly stored.



Move Over Red Romas, a Gothic New Purple Variety Is Here

The antioxidant-rich Midnight Roma was just released by Oregon State University.

**By: Crystal Ligori, OPB
(article shared by Vicki McAlister)**

Spring in the Pacific Northwest means one thing for folks with a green thumb — time to get planting. Any gardening pro will probably tell you it's too late in the season to start growing veggies from seed, but you may need to make an exception for a new tomato variety that's dark, mysterious, and was created right here in Oregon!

Meet the [Midnight Roma](#): a gorgeous, dark purple tomato with a rich, concentrated flavor and a shape similar to an heirloom [San Marzano](#).

[Jim Myers](#) is the mastermind behind the gothic tomato. As a Horticulture Professor and vegetable breeder for Oregon State University's College of Agricultural Sciences, he developed the Midnight Roma by crossbreeding an Oregon Star and an Indigo Rose; two other varieties also developed at OSU.

Myers joined OPB's Crystal Ligori to talk through the development of the new tomato, what gives it its purple hue, and tips and tricks for home gardeners to grow their own.

Crystal Ligori: *Can you start by just telling us about the Midnight Roma? From the name, I can already guess what it looks like, but what's so special about it?*

Jim Myers: It's Roma or paste-type tomato [with] very thick walls and not much of a seedy interior, so it's really good for making a sauce and that sort of thing. But then what makes it different from all other types of Romas is it's got this black skin on the outside and that's due to the presence of [anthocyanins](#) that are in the skin. Anthocyanins are pigments that you find in many

flowers [and] various fruits and vegetables. So the purple in a purple blueberry, the purple in a purple cabbage or the red in a strawberry, those are all from the anthocyanins.

Crystal Ligori: *And this tomato variety comes from two others that were also developed at OSU, right?*

Jim Myers: Correct. So one parent is [Indigo Rose](#), which I released about 10 years ago, which was the very first of what we call the indigo tomatoes that have these anthocyanins. And then the other one was a variety that my predecessor [Jim Baggett](#) bred that was called Oregon Star. And Oregon Star is where the processing characteristics come from. It's a big, meaty, dual-purpose type, with very low seed production. Just a really nice tomato for cooking with. I wanted to make an indigo tomato that was good for processing and so that's the parent I chose.



Photo: OSU

Crystal Ligori: *Why is it important to make new plant and vegetable varieties? Is there a financial incentive for OSU?*

Jim Myers: Well, breeders kind of look at what's out there existing in terms of varieties and then what they'd like to see. Quite often it's incorporating disease resistance or changing the plants so it's easier to handle or to ship or to store or has better nutrition. The list of traits you can select for is pretty much endless. There is some financial incentive. We have an office of Commercial and Corporate Development [and] they generally are looking for licensing to some company that will then return some royalties back to OSU. Now, with plants, it's generally not very much. But there is a little bit of money that comes back to my program and I plow it back into the tomato breeding program. So it's the way to support this public breeding effort.

Crystal Ligori: *The [College of Agricultural Sciences](#) has a really long history of plant breeding and developing new vegetable and fruit varieties. Can you tell us a little bit about it?*



Photo of Jim Myers: OSU

Jim Myers:

The college dates back to, I think, the 1860's if I remember correctly. It was incorporated as a [land-grant university](#) supporting learning in the

Agricultural Arts and Sciences and the vegetable breeding program came about shortly after World War Two, when "[Tex](#)" [Frazier](#) came from Hawaii. He was a tomato breeder in Hawaii and he came here to breed green beans and his activities supported the green bean processing industry [in Oregon]. His successor was a graduate student of his, Jim Baggett, who was a very eclectic breeder. He bred the green beans, but he was [also] responsible for the release of maybe a dozen different tomato varieties and many other crops as well, a number of which we are still growing today.

Crystal Ligori: *One of the parents of the new Midnight Roma is the Indigo Rose tomato, which you introduced to the market back in 2011. It was kind of the first of its kind to have that really dark purple skin. What was the reaction to that when it hit the market?*

Jim Myers: Indigo Rose when it first came out was polarizing. I guess that's the way I could describe it. People either loved it or they hated it. One of the things about these Indigo tomatoes is that you can't use their usual visual cues for determining when they're ripe. Normally we see a tomato turned red, we know it's ripe, but these types mask that red color. There's a shaded area on the fruit because the anthocyanins are light-induced, but if you look for that shaded area and you look for the color there, you can tell whether it's still green or it's red. And then the other thing is rather subtle, it takes some learning, but that purple color goes from a shiny, dark black purple to more of a dull brownish purple when the fruit is ripe. When the Indigo Rose first came out, we had people trying them when they were too green and then they would taste them and they say, "Oh, this is horrible, why do you release that?" (laughing) And so I've always tried to make sure people understand what they have to do to pick them when they're ripe.

Crystal Ligori: *For home gardeners who are interested in growing their own Midnight Roma, it's now available to the public, right?*

Jim Myers: It is, through [Row 7 Seed Company](#). Right now, as far as I know, just seed is available [but] I would expect by next year that some of the transplants will be growing it and selling transplants locally.



Registration Now Open
www.mastergardenerminicollege.org

- CONNECT** with Master Gardeners from all around the state of Oregon as we share glimpses of the beauty of our surroundings and the bounty that our gardening passions have produced.
- COLLABORATE** with researchers, scientists and educators as we learn about some of the latest knowledge and tools developed regarding our gardens, our environment, and the educational mission we provide.
- CULTIVATE** your abilities in an interactive workshop designed to create new skills and to improve on the tools which we use to grow food, expand our expertise, and serve our community with educational outreach.

* * * * *

Mini College 2021 will be a unique, educational, and fun virtual experience offering 10 classes on a wide range of topics from soil microbes to organic vegetables, with special focus on pollinators. 4 interactive workshops on subjects from hydroponics to plant and insect identification.



Enjoy the unique opportunity to hear from Robert Michael Pyle, a renowned author and researcher with an engaging and humorous style, whose address, "People, Plants and Pollinators of the PNW" will be the keynote opening Friday morning July 16th.



On Saturday July 17th one of the excellent class offerings will be "Invasive Species in Oregon!" Dr. Jessica Rendon, Entomologist of the ODA, talks Japanese beetle, Gypsy moth, Asian giant hornet, Southern pink moth, Spotted lanternfly, Houdini fly, Lily and Viburnum leaf beetles, and the Allium Leafminer!

Visit our website...mark your calendar...register now.
<http://mastergardenerminicollege.org>

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

Plan to join us for this year's best virtual educational experience.



Diane Smith-Lewsadder noticed a bloom on her snake plant recently, and wondered if anyone else has ever seen a snake plant bloom?



MAY GARDEN CALENDAR

- Write in your garden journal throughout the growing season.
- Prepare garden soil for spring planting. Incorporate generous amounts of organic materials and other amendments, using the results of a soil analysis as a guide.
- Prepare raised beds in areas where cold soils and poor drainage are a continuing problem. Incorporate generous amounts (at least 2") of organic materials.
- Use a soil thermometer to help you know when to plant vegetables. When the soil is consistently above 60°F, some warm season vegetables (beans, sweet corn) can be planted.
- Allow foliage of spring-flowering bulbs to brown and die down before removing.
- Apply commercial fertilizers, manure, or compost to cane, bush (gooseberries, currants, and blueberries), and trailing berries.
- Place compost or well decomposed manure around perennial vegetables, such as asparagus and rhubarb.
- Cut back ornamental grasses to a few inches above the ground, in early spring.
- Cover transplants to protect against late spring frosts.
- Optimum time to fertilize lawns. Apply 1 lb. nitrogen per 1,000 square feet of lawn. Reduce risks of run-off into local waterways by not fertilizing just prior to rain, and not over-irrigating so that water runs off of lawn and onto sidewalk or street.

•Optimum time of year to de-thatch and renovate lawns. If moss was a problem, scratch surface prior to seeding with perennial ryegrass.

•Prune and shape or thin spring-blooming shrubs and trees after blossoms fade.

•Plant broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, chard, chives, endive, leeks, lettuce, peas, radishes, rhubarb, rutabagas, spinach, and turnips.

DOUGLAS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS

Chapter Meeting (Zoom)

April 29, 2021

Discussion of Continuing Ed video: “Dazzling Dahlias”

Call to Order: The Zoom meeting was called to order at 10:05 AM. There were 20 in attendance, including Vice-President Diana Woodward, OMGA Rep Barbie Hamby, Membership Kay Livermore, Past-President Nancy Fuller and Secretary Bonnie Courter.

Agenda Approval: The agenda was approved as posted.

Minutes Approval: The minutes were approved as posted.

Agent’s Report - Steve Renquist:

Steve encouraged everyone to volunteer again out at the greenhouses, Discovery Garden and Victory Garden now that we are at the “moderate” COVID assessment level and can be working outdoors. We can have 40-50 people out there at a time. Wear masks if you can’t distance yourself.

Laura Corder is working on getting some of us working again in the Plant Clinic to answer calls and emails. The public still will not be allowed inside until we are at the “low” COVID level.

Carol Bolt is still doing soil testing along with Alan Ward at the Extension office. If you know of anyone who would like to have their soil tested, share Carol’s email or phone with them to make arrangements - do not drop off samples at the office. Carol gets them back within a week and a half if she gets direct samples.

Steve has been given the okay to interact again with the farm community.

He may also start diagnostics classes again if MG's express an interest. Contact Steve if interested in hosting a class.

There are a lot of "bad" pests emerging, stimulated from all the warm weather we're having. It's best to wait until the soil temp is 65 or higher to plant your warm-weather crops. Those planted later in the season like mid-May to June seem to thrive better. The forecast for the next 10 days, shows nights will still be in the 40's and highs in the 60's, so be patient and wait til the next 10 day forecast that shows warmer days. Seed beetles like cool mornings and will attack young seedlings. Fruit trees bloomed about the normal time, but because of the dry April, the fruit set is over-abundant, so be sure and thin them out. Get it done within 4-6 weeks after bloom ends, or the tree will produce less next year.

OFFICER REPORTS

Membership - Kay Livermore: We have 230 members, and one more pending.

OMGA - Barbie Hamby:

OMGA International Master Gardener Conference

Virginia Extension Master Gardeners are hosting this year's International Master Gardener Conference on September 12-17, 2021 and registration is open. Cost is \$150 plus small additional fees for add-on workshops or T-shirts. Six days of virtual networking, workshops and education led by more than 30 leading experts and industry experts are available to all participants. Sessions will be live and will also be recorded for viewing later. See their website internationalmastergardener.com for more information.

OMGA Mini College

OMGA's Mini College is scheduled for July 16-17 and registration is open. Cost is \$49 and participants receive access to all the programming. Go to <http://mastergardenerminicollege.org> website for information.

Mini College 2021 Call for Photos

The OMGA is creating two slideshows to be shown during the breaks between the keynote speaker and the start of the individual class sessions. The theme of the first day's show is "Oregon Gardens and Landscaping"

and the second day's theme is "Our Beautiful Oregon." All Master Gardeners are invited to submit their photos to Richard Taylor at rpt@gmail.com Richard sent an email, which was forwarded to all MG's with specific details about the photos.

OMGA Grants

An email from OMGA President Chris Rusch reminds local chapters that several grants are offered by the OMGA. These include:

- Karl Carson Memorial Fund to help chapters with projects tied to educating our community about sustainable gardening practices.
- Marje Luce Search for Excellence Program to recognize outstanding work by chapters in their community. Ivor Chapman has expressed interest in applying for this grant for the Eastside greenhouse new tables and irrigation system projects. We just need someone to write up the grant to present it. The deadline is May 15.
- Extension Educator Grants supplies funds to help OSU Extension agents and program assistants enhance their ability to educate the public.
- "Send-a-Friend" Mini College scholarships to help fund one or more of a chapter's Master Gardeners attendance to Mini College. This grant deadline was extended to June.

Oregon Bee Project

An email from Gail Langellotto shared that Oregon Bee Project is offering seed packs and other materials to community groups in Western Oregon for outreach and education. Supplies are limited and require you review an educational video and report back on your educational events. Enroll now, by viewing the video that is posted at <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/bee-atlas/outreach-materials> and filling out the enrollment form. This is a great opportunity for MG demonstration gardens.

Treasurer - Diane Smith-Lewsadder: (Toni Rudolph reported for Diane who was not present). Diane is asking for budget requests for now until the end of the year. Please send in by May 3. Diane will present the budget to the May chapter meeting for approval.

Vice-President - Diana Woodward: The next Continuing Ed session, "Water-Wise Gardening", is

scheduled for May 11, and will be recorded for viewing. Diana will send out the link. It is hoped that this is our last Zoom meeting. Executive Board meeting on May 12 will be at the HLC and we will have home meetings at MG houses for May-August. Diana will host the May chapter meeting and Kay Livermore has volunteered to host a meeting as well.

Past President - Nancy Fuller: No report

President - Julie Stanbery: Not present.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Awards - Diana Circle: (Toni Rudolph reported for Diana who was absent). The Awards Committee is working on submitting nominations to OSU for State MG of the Year as well as DCMG MG of the Year and Behind the Scenes MG. We will send our report off before the May 15 deadline.

Community Outreach - Leo Grass: Not present, no report.

Discovery Garden - Julie Stanbery: We are watering now in the garden.

Fundraising - Nathan Baily: Bottle Drop contributions are still coming in. If you can turn in your cans by tomorrow, the 30th, they will give us 20% more for each bag to celebrate Earth Day. Nathan says we have plenty in the budget to last til the end of the year, and we actually don't need to include it in the budget as they just take our expenses from what we get back.

Greenhouse East - Bonnie Durick: Bonnie has made a reservation for the Fairgrounds for the first Saturday in May, 2022.

Greenhouse West - Barbara Robinson: Not present - her report:

Carol Bolt is now head of Westside greenhouse and will be in charge of reporting. We do not need any additional help at Westside. We have it covered with a core group of people who have faithfully showed up once a week beginning in January and twice a week since March.

Hallmark - Linda Thames: Mike Peterson and Kate Bowns made a \$100 donation and were thanked with a

card. Also cards were sent to Kim Pleich who had knee replacement surgery and Maureen Benice who had shoulder replacement surgery.

Newsletter - Bonnie Courter: Submissions are due Saturday, May 1.

Plant Clinic - Chris Rusch: She has been answering emails remotely. Chris put in a request to the Extension office to let us open the Plant Clinic next week. She will let everyone know should that happen.

Publicity - Cheryl Caplan: Not present, no report.

Trash to Treasure - Ann Severson: Not present. She has realized we have too many succulents! She has also reserved the Winston Community Center for our Trash to Treasure sale for July 9 and 10.

Victory Garden - Carolyn Ruzicka: Planted cabbages 2 weeks ago but most were nibbled on by some critter, so they sprayed them. Peas are up and next week tomatoes and peppers will be planted.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

SHOW AND TELL: None

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 10:39 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie Courter, Secretary



Douglas County Master Gardeners

Newsletter: E-mail submissions to Bonnie Courter: rbcourter@gmail.com

Website: www.douglascountymg.org

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

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

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



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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, rbcourter@gmail.com.

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