

June 2016



THE GRAPEVINE

Columbia County Master Gardener Program
505 N. Columbia River Hwy, St. Helens OR 97051
T: 503-397-3462

dreamstime.com

<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/columbia/master-gardener-volunteer-program>

It has been decided to have a newsletter dedicated to just our membership/organization. This newsletter will be published once a month and will be edited by the President of the Columbia County Master Gardener's Association. Please send any news items, pictures, etc. to Chuck Petersen @ chpete@opusnet.com by the 1st of every month.

The President's Corner

Gardens are springing up everywhere and the weeds seem to be trying to outdo me at every turn. Another month is here and we have just completed another Spring Fair and it was successful though not quite as well as we have done in the past. We still turned a profit of over \$3,500 but have done better. We did not have as many Vendors this year and the Spring Fair Committee will be brain storming to see if we can improve on that. If you have any ideas on how to improve the number of Vendors or would be interested in being a Vendor let us know and we will follow up on your idea. If you are interested in being a Vendor please let us know and we will contact you next January/February to see if you are still interested. We would like to keep all Vendors selling garden related items but we are open to any suggestions.

If you have time to spare your efforts can be used at a variety of venues. Help is needed at the Demo Garden and if you are not able to help out at the normal time of 10:00 AM until noon on Mondays but can at other times give Linda Bainbridge a call and she can give you an idea of what help is required and when you can work at the garden. The



Upcoming Events

MONDAYS:

Demo Garden work on Mondays, 10 am to Noon

June 2

Demo Garden & Project Mtg 10 am

June 2

Board Mtg 10:30 am

June 2

Bug Crew Mtg 6-8:30 pm

June 16

Bug Crew Mtg 1 pm

June 22

Introduction to Bees 6:30 pm

June 23

Chapter Meeting & Speaker 6:30 pm – Growing Clematis

CCMG Board of Directors

- Chuck Petersen, President
- Wes Bevans, Past President
- Linda Bainbridge, Vice President
- Angela Sorensen, Secretary
- Kathy Johnson, Treasurer
- Lavina Patterson, Historian
- Pat LaPointe, OMGA Rep
- Wes Bevans, OMGA Alt. Rep

Community Gardens at St Helens and Scappoose can always use extra hands as well. Contact Deb Brimacombe or Leroy Schmidt for the Scappoose Garden and Scott Bauska for the St Helens Garden.

Columbia County Master Gardeners funded the Rainier Hope Garden this to get fencing and other materials to protect the garden from deer and other marauders. The garden is doing quite well and the fence was put in with assistance from a local Boy Scout Troop and they did a fine job.

Lynn Green has been leading the charge on this Community Garden and has been getting volunteers, planning and general coordination to make it all happen.

The weather looks to be hot again this year and I have just seen a forecast for 95 degrees next Saturday so if you are out working in your yard/garden please keep hydrated and cool. Till next month happy gardening and may your plants do well and the weeds fade from view.

Thanks,
--Chuck Petersen, CCMGA President

Columbia County Master Gardener Association Chapter Meeting

June 23, 2016

Linda Beutler, "Growing Clematis in Containers"

Linda may have a book signing of her latest "Plant Lovers Guide to Clematis" and may have clematis for sale if she can get help.



Seed to Supper in Columbia County, 2016

We have just completed our first year of Seed to Supper classes. The instructors chosen for the first year were exactly what we needed to get the program off and running in the county. Comments are already being shared from friends of students and everyone involved believes that our biggest problem in the future will be how to accommodate all of the students wanting to take the classes. There were two sections this year, one class of ten taught by *Scott Bauska* and *Mary Woiccak* in St Helens, and another class of ten taught by *John Salmon*, *Sandy Newman*, and *Judy Thompson* in Scappoose. Both teams of instructors were backed up by mentors to help during hands-on sections of the classes; *Sue Hart*, *Rose DeFreece*, *Patricia Burke*, *Colleen DeLong*, and *Gail Taylor*. *Anne Marie Goldade* and *Debi Brimacombe* coordinated the classes. There were a few early drop-

outs in both classrooms due to a variety of reasons, but most of the students received their certificates of completion after attending five out of six classes.

Though the classes are written to help first-time gardeners learn how to get started, we had several students able to share their gardening knowledge in class and students began to call each other their gardening buddies. One comment made by more than one student was that they were sorry the classes came to an end.

HOPE Garden

What's growing at the HOPE Emergency Food Pantry in Rainier? Besides vegetable starts and berries there are a growing group of volunteers from the Master Gardener program and local garden enthusiasts. Last spring a small group of 2015 MGs started getting the neglected raised beds producing fresh vegetables. Now the beds are filled with new soil, aisles are all mulched, and the garden is growing. The strawberries are producing and the new blueberry bushes are getting started.

One cool Saturday morning in May five boy scouts dug through soil, clay and rock to put up all the fence posts for the new deer fence. Soon the fencing and new gate will be installed and the new fence will keep out unwanted critters. The materials for this project were paid for by the Master Gardener Association.



Columbia Local Food Guide – Get Growing & Get Listed

Farmers, small-scale growers, businesses, and organizations! Get your information in soon to be listed in the new edition of the Columbia Local Food Guide. You can be listed if you only grow one crop—veggie, herb, or fruit—or a great diversity of healthy garden fare that you want to sell or to share with your community. The food guide is evolving, as more backyard farms keep sprouting up, going to seed, or gone out to the compost bin. Please send an email to friends@fosna.org or call 503-410-5642 with the information needed:

- 1) NAME (how you want to be listed in the guide);
- 2) contact phone# and/or email address;
- 3) street address (if you want it public);
- 4) website (if you have one);
- 5) list of products you sell to the public-in detail;
- 6) where can your products be purchased?;

- 7) business hours, days of operation, season?; and
- 8) do you accept Food Stamps (SNAP EBT), WIC or Senior Farm Vouchers.

Thanks very much.

Elaine Kelley, CCMG

Quarterly Report from Columbia County Master Gardener's Association, 2nd Quarter 2016

Submitted by Pat LaPointe

- Congratulations to the 2016 Class of the Columbia County Master Gardener program. 27 students participated in this year class and it was well represented by all cities in Columbia County.
- The Columbia County Master Gardener volunteers are busy getting ready for the 2016 Demo Garden located at the Columbia County Fair Grounds. The Demo Garden not only provides fair attendees the opportunity to visit a well represented garden, it also provides the perfect setting for wedding pictures. The fair opens on July 20.
- Cherry tomato plants came in last place this year at the Columbia County Spring Fair held on April 30th. Most of the 4,662 tomato plants were sold in the first hour and a half. Only 28 cherry tomato plants remained at the end of the event. 1500 raffle tickets were also sold. Committee members are gearing up for year 22 and the Saint Helens High School is rented for April 29, 2017. Should we order more or less Cherry Tomatoes next year?
- Dreams are made of memories and wishes and sometimes a bit of craziness. That sums up our work for Habitat for Humanity and Kathleen's new garden box. Seeds, soil, wood and enthusiasm described Columbia County Master Gardener volunteers who installed a raised garden bed for Veteran home owner Kathleen Grant.
- Columbia County Master Gardener's just completed our first year of Seed to Supper classes. The instructors chosen for the first year were exactly what we needed to get the program off and running in Columbia County. Comments are already being shared from friends of students and everyone involved believes that our biggest problem in the future will be how to accommodate all of the students wanting to take the classes. There were two sections this year, one class of ten in St Helens and another class of ten in Scappoose. Both teams of instructors were backed by mentors to help during the hands-on sessions of the classes. Students received their certificates of completion after attending five out of six classes. Though the classes are written to help first-time gardeners learn how to get started, we had several students able to share their gardening knowledge in class and students began to call each other their gardening buddies. One comment made by more than one student was that they were sorry the classes came to an end.
- "BUG, SLUGS AND GRUBS" highlighted the New Bug Crew event held on May 24 as third-graders from McBride Elementary School looked at winged aphids that they caught in a small, clear plastic container. Students from the newly formed garden club participated

in this event. Volunteers from the Columbia County Master Gardeners brought insect education samples to teach students about different insects and how they each eat. After a short lesson, students and volunteers went to the garden to find some examples of such insects. McBride garden club students meet once a week and with the help of three volunteers, students have been growing vegetables in the garden which they plan to eat at the last club meeting of the year on June 7th.

- The Scappoose garden will have a GardenFest on **August 20** to invite the community to come enjoy the garden, fresh produce, and learn from Master Gardeners.

Columbia County Master Gardeners Association

Chapter Meeting Minutes

April 28, 2016

Presiding: Chuck Petersen, President

Speaker & Topic: Chip Bubl – GMO – what it is, pros & cons

Housekeeping:

- Secretary's Report: Approved
- Treasurer's Report: Approved
- Correspondence:

Committee Reports

- Spring Fair (Kathy) - finalizing plans. Turn in raffle tickets.
- MG Fairground (Linda) – need two volunteers to focus on new bed.

Old Business:

- Mini College in 2016
- International Conference in 2017 – Board will review and vote on options to finance this.

New Business:

- Rainer Food Bank – Approved \$280 for new fence. Asked group to provide a report on progress.
- Vicki is mailing out the annual Conditions of Volunteer Service and for those of you that need Background/Criminal History Check forms (done every 2 years). If you don't get one, please contact her.

Respectfully Submitted by Angela Sorensen, Secretary.

Columbia County Master Gardeners Association

Board Meeting Minutes May 5, 2016

President Chuck Petersen, Presiding

Housekeeping:

- Secretary's Report - Approved
- Treasurer's Report - Approved
- Correspondence - Pat needs information for his OMGA report due on May 31st.

Committee Reports:

- MG Picnic - No volunteers have come forward.
- MG Fairground Garden (Linda) – need more volunteers to help. Discussion around the new bed, should it be permanent or change each year? Another discussion around water wheel. Do we still want it? Do we move it? Looking for ideas.
- Spring Fair (Kathy) – A big success. By noon 97% of tomatoes were sold. The 27 plants left over were donated to the Scappoose garden. A full report will be given at the next Board meeting and will include money from vendors and raffle ticket sales. Only had a few cherry tomato plants left. We got some extra donations when customers rounded up their purchases. Only had 15 vendors. Would like 30 for next year. Kathy suggested that we might move from the 15% charge to flat rate next year. Also should start publicity sooner. Next year the contract will include high school students earning extra credit for helping us. Add budget item to buy them pizza.
- Rainier Food Bank - Recommend giving \$280.00 for fencing around garden. Will discuss at May Chapter meeting.

Old Business:

- Newsletter – New format that will be an email form.
- OMGA – Review & vote on the 3 budget options regarding the International Conference in 2017. The Board meeting took a vote and Option 3 (“pick & choose”) won. This option will allow the OMGA to support important projects with only a small loss.
- Rainier Food Bank - see above – we agree to give funds for the fence, and add this project as one that needs to give us a progress report.

New Business:

- Equipment Replacement Account – we discussed moving the money that would have been spent on a laptop (\$800) and moving it into this new account. This is a restricted fund that does not affect budget.

Adjournment: 11:30 am

Respectfully submitted: Angela Sorensen, Secretary.