Once again we are coming to the end of the Master Gardener year. The last general meeting was held on November 18th at OCCC, with election of the 2011 board of directors on the agenda. The slate was elected as presented, and then we got into the fun parts of the day—awards and potluck. The list of the newly elected officers appears on page 3, and look for the rundown of awards presented throughout this newsletter.

We were brought up to date on the 2011 Newport Wine and Seafood Festival by Jeff Olsen. Yes, indeed, the Master Gardeners are going to be pouring wine for Columbia winery, and selling MG-related items. This should be a great fundraiser for LCMGA, as well as another fun opportunity to hang out with our MG friends.

As usual, the potluck had a splendid array of dishes and was tucked away quite nicely. It is always an enjoyable time when Master Gardeners get together to eat, talk plants, and spend some quality time exchanging ideas for our gardens.

As our 2010 year draws to a close, I’m looking forward to our new class and the upcoming challenges and opportunities coming our way in 2011.

Pam McElroy

Check out page 12 for more photos taken at the meeting!
2010

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Bill Biernacki, igobybb@gmail.com
1st Vice President: Pam McElroy, pmcelroy456@charter.net
2nd Vice President: Jeff Olsen, jeffryolsen@gmail.com
Secretary: Mary Jane Bonelitz, mjbonelitz@gmail.com
Treasurer: Cathy Fitzhugh, cmfitz3@actionnet.net
Past Presidents: Charles Dallas and Emilia Lacy
OMGA State Representative: Janet Anderson, beachlady868@embarqmail.com
Alternate State OMGA Representative: Betty Orr, bettyorr@charter.net
Historian: Linda Cook and Debi Durkee, gnlcooke@gmail.com; runner_lady@hotmail.com

2010

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

LCMG Class Co-Chairs: Claudette Schroeder and Linda Cook, hairbows@gnrcom.com; gnlcook@gmail.com
Office Scheduler: Alice Mitchell mitchellor@earthlink.net
Librarians: Diana Pinto and Sally Reill, dgpinto@peak.org; jsreill@charter.net
Lincoln County Farmers’ Market Advisor: Mark Dixon, dixonindexing@gmail.com
Spring Garden Sale: Rick and Janet Anderson
Fall Bulb Sale: Pam McElroy; Betty Bahn, bahngarten@yahoo.com; Anne Irving
Home & Garden Exposition: Pam McElroy
Coastal Currants Newsletter: Nancy and Mark Dixon, dixonindexing@gmail.com; Diana Pinto
Demonstration Gardens: Yachats–Mark Dixon; Newport–Cathi Block bblock@peak.org
Yaquina Bay Lighthouse Project: Liz Olsen
Publicity: Laura Clark

The earliest example of domestication of plants dates back 11,000 years ago from the area between the Dead Sea and the Damascus Basin.

“The only factor that can account for the irreversible and nearly uniform emergence of agriculture throughout the world is the growth of populations beyond the size that hunting and gathering would support.” Buckminster Fuller
As I prepare this, my last Notes From the President for our newsletter, I think how privileged I was to work with such talented board members. With their dedication and support we all had a very enjoyable year. In January, a new board of directors, consisting of some of the present board and several new members, will serve under the direction and leadership of our new president, Claudette Schroeder. I look forward to remaining on the board for two years as a past president.

In addition to the board, I would also like to thank every Master Gardener who volunteered their time this year to help make all of our endeavors successful. This has been a very productive year with three demonstration gardens getting off the ground and the Yaquina Bay Lighthouse Garden continuing to facilitate a venue for children to learn gardening and nutritional skills.

The Spring Garden Sale and the Fall Bulb Sale continued to be our main fundraisers and helped to fund most all of our programs. Beginning next year we look forward to adding the Newport Seafood and Wine Festival to our list of fundraising opportunities.

As you also know, in July 2011, Newport will play host to the Oregon Master Gardener Association Mini-College. Information will be coming from the state on how and where our association can help them make this a success. The newsletter will be one of your main sources for information regarding this new coastal event.

As with all programs and events with the LCMGA, please read the newsletter each month to familiarize yourself with what is happening and where you can participate. If you haven’t been involved in the past, I encourage you to do so this coming year. You will meet many nice people and make many new friends.

Bill B

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

2011 LCMGA Board

President: Claudette Schroeder
1st Vice President: Pam McElroy
2nd Vice President: Jeff Olsen
Secretary: Mary Jane Bonelitz
Treasurer: Donna Davis
Past Presidents: Charles Dallas and Bill Biernacki
OMGA Representative: Cathi Block
Alternate State Representative: Betty Orr
Historian: Diana Barnes
Our newest Master Gardeners were recognized at the November 18 general meeting. They are eager to begin their first year as Master Gardeners and have already volunteered to serve on upcoming committees.

Adopt-A-Week is up and running and the Help Desk is still receiving inquiries from the community. The description of the program is included again this month for your information. The Help Desk is currently staffed through the middle of December. Volunteers will be needed until March 8 when our 2011 class finishes their course of studies.

[Note: AAW means a veteran signs up to oversee the Help Desk for a week at a time.]

Duties include:
- communicating with the previous week’s AAW veteran about the status of client contacts, or going into the office on Monday and reviewing pending contacts
- checking with Kathy Buisman or Patti Mann on a daily basis regarding new questions received
- going into the office at least one day (usually Thursday or Friday) to check email, voice mail and to complete outstanding client questions

You can share the responsibilities, use the "buddy" system, and sign up with another MG for the week. If there is a surge of client contacts, please notify me to arrange for additional staffing.

Please check the Famundo site and your calendars for dates that you may be able to help out and contact me if you have any questions.

For instructions on how to view the Famundo calendar go to http://extension.oregonstate.edu/lincoln/sites/default/files/documents/mgonlinecalendarinstructions.pdf. Simply go to famundo.com and log in using the username and password contained in the above named file. If you need assistance in viewing the calendar or to reserve dates, please contact me at mitchel-lor@earthlink.net or 541-867-3773.

Alice Mitchell
Office Scheduler
Introduction
Soil mixes are popular for container gardening and may be used for a variety of reasons such as growing vegetables during off-season, container gardening when there is insufficient space, or to grow vegetables indoors. Good soil mixes should mimic ideal conditions provided by normal garden soil by providing water, nutrients, good drainage and physical support for the plant and a good root system. Both synthetic and natural ingredients can be used to make soil mixes for gardening.

Synthetic Soil Mixes
Synthetic soil mixes do not contain any soil and are used mostly in container gardening. These mixes are usually lightweight and free from weeds and diseases. They have very good drainage but hold moisture and nutrients well. Such mixes may contain sawdust, wood chips, peat moss, perlite, or vermiculite. A method to make soilless mixes is to mix horticultural grade vermiculite, peat moss, limestone, superphosphate and garden fertilizer. An example is to mix one bushel each of vermiculite and peat moss, add 10 tablespoons of limestone, 5 tablespoons of 0-20-0 (superphosphate) and 1 cup of garden fertilizer such as 6-12-12 or 5-10-10. Make sure to wet the mixture very well before planting.

Non-Synthetic Based Soil Mixes
These soil mixes usually contain some soil. An example is to mix equal parts of sphagnum peat moss or compost, pasteurized soil, and vermiculite or perlite. A compost base, e.g. cow or chicken manure, is then added to improve the physical properties and provide nutrients. In this mix, peat moss and perlite provide the structure that allows easy water movement and retention and at the same time provide aeration for respiration of roots and microorganisms. These mixes can be used for container gardening or for raised bed gardening out in the garden.

Taking Care of Soil Mixes
Soil mixes used in container gardening do not behave the same as soil in the garden. They drain fast, warm up faster and accumulate salts faster. Regular watering is required. If the soils say wet for a long time, they may get infested with soil gnats that feed off on decaying organic matter. If this happens, let soil mix dry before watering and use warm rather than cold water. Choice of containers is very important too, depending on what is going to be grown in these soil mixes. Choose bigger containers for long season vegetables like tomatoes, eggplants and pepper. For green onions, beans, lettuce, squash, radishes and parsley, choose smaller 2-5 gallon containers. To enhance drainage, put some gravel at the base of the container and drill drainage holes on the side, near the bottom of the container. Where possible, recycle the water that drains out of the container as it contains leached plant nutrients. For perennial vegetables grown in containers, always repot yearly for optimum root growth and nutrient uptake. Use liquid or water soluble fertilizers regularly to provide optimum plant nutrition. For soil mixes used out in raised bed gardens, ensure you do not step onto the soil mix to avoid compaction problems.
This has been a good year for the garden. The cold wet spring gave us a late start but we were able to grow a quantity of vegetables such as broccoli, cauliflower, carrots, potatoes, cabbage and garlic for Food Share. Food Share will be receiving tasty carrots for several more weeks.

Two Master Gardener students, Pat Shaw and Penny Russell, worked toward their coveted title of Master Gardener by growing demonstration gardens. Their experience was educational and positive and they said, “Thank you to the Yachats Presbyterian Church for making this garden possible.”

Pat and Penny were surprised at what they were able to grow: potatoes, turnips, beets, green beans, sugar peas, snap peas, tomatoes in a cloche, cherry tomatoes and other vegetables. The herbs, pansies, nasturtiums and sunflowers did well and were planted to bring pollinators into the garden. Tomatoes, pumpkins and squash were the most difficult to grow, but we will not give up on some early maturing types of tomatoes.

Cicely Bernand’s young people from YYFAP grew several varieties of vegetables in their two garden plots for Food Share, and enjoyed the experience.

We have completed the wedge garden on the exterior south west side. This has added a new dimension to the landscaping. The sensory garden inside the fenced area shows great promise.

Personal garden plots are available to anyone in the Yachats area, and now is the time for community members to sign up for garden plots for next year. Contact Nancy Dixon at dixonindexing@gmail.org for a gardener’s agreement.

Verna Collett

[Ed. Note: This article appeared in the Yachats Community Presbyterian Church newsletter, Agate Windows.]

2010 LCMGA Awards

Extension Agent Award: Pam McElroy
President’s Award: Linda Cook
Appreciation of Service: Emilia Lacy
Lifetime Membership: Sally Reill & Betty Bahn
Early Bloomer: Diane Gettis
Outstanding Apprentice: Donald (DUB) Bellinger
Certificate of Appreciation Garden Coordinators: Rick and Janet Anderson, Cathi Block, Mark Dixon, Elizabeth Olsen
Master Gardeners of the Year: Rick and Janet Anderson
Master Gardener Behind the Scenes: Diana Pinto
Leadership Award: Bill Biernacki
Why should you even care about the difference? It comes down to natural versus formal in many cases. A hedgerow is more diverse, composed of a variety of plants instead of the mere hedge that is normally a single species pruned into some unnatural shape.

So again, why should I care? Rather than a uniform green rectangle, the ever-changing hedgerow cultivates wildness at home with long rows of mixed woody shrubs and trees that once commonly framed the rural landscape. Unfortunately, times have changed and many hedgerows that once attracted wildlife, provided windbreaks, prevented erosion, and offered homeowners a screened privacy, have disappeared from the landscape.

Hedgerow is an old English term that refers to a narrow planting strip that grows along field borders, fence lines, and waterways (where they protect water quality).

If one of the reasons you’re planting a hedgerow is to enhance wildlife habitat, it should be at least six feet wide and up to twenty feet long to make a good home. The use of native plants with plentiful nectar and pollen will attract beneficial insects. Varieties of *Ceanothus* and coyote bush (*Baccharis* species) are two great examples of plants that attract large quantities of bees and other pollinators feeding on their pollen and nectar.

Consider the time of year during which each species flowers, and select plant varieties so that there will be flowers in the hedgerow almost year-round. This can be either/or both deciduous and evergreen plants.

During the first two to three years while hedgerows are becoming established, it is important to control weeds and provide irrigation. It is also important to look at the water needs of each plant. Whereas some plants are drought tolerant, like the *Ceanothus*, other species might prefer a wetter area.

Fall or spring is the best time to plant a hedgerow. Potted plants are quicker and easier to establish than bare root plants, but are more expensive.

Not only do hedgerows make great areas for wildlife to thrive, they also serve as safety corridors that connect one piece of habitat to another. This counters some of the fragmentation created by clear cuts, clearings, construction, etc.

Last but not least, a well-planned hedgerow will retain water and reduce evaporation by blocking drying summer winds.

As Dan McGrath, Extension Horticulture agent suggests in "A Guide to Multi-Functional Hedgerows in Western Oregon" (EM 8721), consider the following list of questions when planning to grow and maintain a hedgerow habitat on your property:

- Where will the hedgerow be best located? Will it be used to mark a property boundary, to accent a landscape pond, to provide shade, or to block prevailing winds?
- What are the characteristics of the site—is it dry, sunny, shady or wet? Is the soil well-drained or clay?

Continued on page 8.
How tall do you want the hedgerow? Do you want to keep it less than eight to 10 feet, or do you have room for a tall hedgerow, which will cast more shade? Which way will the shadows be cast?

The publication offers growing information on more than 70 species of plants suitable for hedgerow plantings and includes ecological background on hedgerows.

English hedgerow

Red-flowering currant (Ribes sanguineum)

‘TIS THE SEASON!!

If it’s December, it’s time for 2011 catalogs to start arriving in the mailbox. It’s also the season for gift giving. You may be wondering, what holiday gift do I get for the gardener in my life? Or, how do I drop the right hints for that special item that I would REALLY like? Either way, I have suggestions.

In the age of gift cards, any gardener, myself included, would love to get a gift certificate for seeds, plants, books or equipment. What could be easier and more fool proof than a gift card? There are so many possibilities and if you really want to shop local, you can start with local nurseries and bookstores. If you want a broader variety of options, consider mail order catalogs; they have almost anything that a gardener could possibly want. If you don’t already have THE catalog of your dreams, I found a great resource on gardening in the Maritime Northwest, including an extensive list of nurseries in Oregon. Here’s the web page that lists nurseries: www.rainyside.com/resources/nurseries.html

It seems the aforementioned website does not include much for the vegetable- or small fruit gardener, but don’t worry, there are Oregon options. I like Nichol’s Garden Nursery Seeds, Down to Earth and One Green World. If you go farther afield, you will find Johnny’s Seeds, Tomato Growers, and Peaceful Valley among a plethora of specialty seed catalogs. Most have equipment and books related to the products they sell.

If a strategy is what you need, try talking about next year’s garden plans and that should lead into what you, or the recipient of your gift giving, would like. A catalog dog-eared or a web page left open may be helpful. You might try a comment such as “I just saw the neatest tool,” or “I really want to get some new seeds from the xyz catalog.” There is always the direct approach if nothing else seems to have their attention.

One thing I know for sure; we gardeners love to dream about next season; spring and summer are just a turn of the calendar away. What better place to start than new catalogs or a new garden book!

Sally Reill
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<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TOPIC</th>
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<td>1/11 (Tues)</td>
<td>Coastal Gardening</td>
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<td>Native Plants</td>
<td>Michael Noack</td>
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<td>Coastal Lawns/Water Collection</td>
<td>Sam Angima, Ph.D.</td>
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<td>1/13 (Thurs)</td>
<td>Botany I</td>
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<td>1/18 (Tues)</td>
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<td>Farmers Market Presentations</td>
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<td>Invasive Plants</td>
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<td>Plant Sale Presentation</td>
<td>Janet &amp; Rick Anderson</td>
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<td>1/25 (Tues)</td>
<td>Plant/Conifer Identification</td>
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<td>Composting/Worm Bin Construction</td>
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<td>Demo Garden Presentation, Sign Up &amp; Discussion</td>
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<td>1/27 (Thurs)</td>
<td>Plant Propagation (Annuals, Perennials, Woody Ornamentals</td>
<td>Susan Coast</td>
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<td>2/1 (Tues)</td>
<td>Integrated Pest Mgmt/Pesticides</td>
<td>Sam Angima, Ph.D.</td>
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<td>PNW’s</td>
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<td>Help Desk Presentation &amp; Questions</td>
<td>Alice Mitchell</td>
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<td>Office Orientation (1/2 of Class to Office)</td>
<td>Alice Mitchell / Kathy Buisman</td>
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<td>Q &amp; A with Sam</td>
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<td>2/3 (Thurs)</td>
<td>Insects/OSU MG Program/Mini College</td>
<td>Gail Langellotto, Ph.D.</td>
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<td>Practical Help Desk Diagnosis/Roleplay</td>
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<td>Office Orientation (Other ½ of Class to Office)</td>
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<td>Q &amp; A with Sam</td>
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<td>2/15 (Tues)</td>
<td>Plant Diseases</td>
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<td>Yamhill Plant Distribution</td>
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<td>3/8 (Tues)</td>
<td>Final Test/Answer Presentations</td>
<td>Sam Angima, Ph.D.</td>
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<td>Cloche Construction</td>
<td>Sam Angima/Bill Biernacki</td>
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<td>Graduation/Class Photo</td>
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Optional Workshops: 2/8 - Seeding / Cuttings
3/1 - Pruning

To access class materials, go to: [http://extension.oregonstate.edu/lincoln/master_gardeners/materials-class](http://extension.oregonstate.edu/lincoln/master_gardeners/materials-class)
It's Membership Dues Time!!!

We will continue to publish the newsletter online every month. If you wish, you can print the online version at home or visit the OSU Extension Office for a printed copy. LCMGA dues remain crucial to support our association and the Oregon Master Gardener Association.

Thanks for your support.

Mail To: Lincoln County Master Gardener™ Association
29 SE 2nd Street, Newport, OR 97365

2011 MEMBERSHIP: Renewal / New (Circle one)

LCMGA Active Member ____________ $ 15.00 CONTRIBUTION TO LCMGA: $ _____
(Master Gardeners only. Includes newsletter and required Oregon Master Gardener Association dues.)

LCMGA Associate Member __________$ 10.00 TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: $ ______
(For those who have not completed the Master Gardener program. Includes newsletter.)

Please make checks payable to: LCMGA

NAME: _________________________ PHONE ______________________
EMAIL: __________________________
MAILING ADDRESS ______________________________________
_________________________________________________________________

PRINT THIS PAGE OF THE PDF FILE, CUT OUT DUES FORM, AND SEND WITH PAYMENT TO ADDRESS ABOVE.

LCMGA Membership Categories

Are you an active member of the Lincoln County Master Gardener Association (LCMGA)?

An active member is defined as a person who has taken the Master Gardener™ Program classes, either in Lincoln County or in another county or state where the Extension Service Master Gardener™ Program is offered. An active membership includes memberships in the LCMGA, with voting rights, the Oregon Master Gardener™ Association (OMGA), and subscriptions to both the LCMGA newsletter Coastal Currants and the OMGA newsletter The Gardener’s Pen.

Are you an associate member of the LCMGA?

An associate member is defined as a person who wishes to participate in LCMGA activities and has NOT completed the Master Gardener™ Program. An associate membership includes membership in the LCMGA, without voting rights, and a subscription to the LCMGA newsletter Coastal Currants.

Are you an apprentice currently enrolled in the OSU Extension Master Gardener™ Program classes in Lincoln County?

An apprentice membership includes memberships in the LCMGA, the Oregon Master Gardener™ Association (OMGA), and subscriptions to both the LCMGA newsletter Coastal Currants and the OMGA newsletter The Gardener’s Pen. Apprentices are exempt from dues for their class year.

Sally Noack
If you’ve never attended Mini-College, this coming year could be your golden opportunity. With the annual event "going on the road," Lincoln County is honored to be OMGA’s first stop. For four days in mid-July, classes, workshops and tours will be offered. These events change every year so even if you have attended in previous years you’re likely to find new learning opportunities. The classes are taught by experts in their fields and often fill up quickly.

Besides being able to feed your thirst for knowledge, OMGA has asked for our help in many aspects of the event. Most of these "jobs" are quite simple and fun. Check out the list of openings. See where you could help out. And remember, this could be one of the few times you don't have to get dirty to get involved!

Welcome to Mini-College in Newport!

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2011 Mini-College: Committee Vacancies and Job Descriptions for LCMGA Members

Please contact Home Chapter Co-Chairs, Cathi Block (bblock@peak.org) and Emilia Lacy (larcyce@aol.com) if you have questions or are interested in any positions. Job descriptions and relevant information are included. Openings are underlined.

Registration On-Site Co-Chairs, Betty Orr (bettyorr@charter.net) and __________; Assist in organizing staffing and work at the on-site registration desk after the actual registration has been accomplished online. Duties include; preparing registration packets; work at registration desk, registering walk-ins; print badges and envelopes for on-site registrations; print missing badges and envelopes for attendees; monitor meal tickets (supply them if one is missing, and/or for those turned in give to cashier for resale and note if refunds are due to attendees); monitor workshops/tours (if there are cancellations add next on waiting list and notify attendee).

Friday Banquet Décor: __________ Prepare table arrangements and decorations.

Kick-Off Dinner Décor (Wed.): __________ same as above.

Classes/Workshops Saturday AM: __________ Marilyn Scheffler writes: "In the past the Saturday activity has been tours or workshops available starting at 9AM and running until noon. This year we will be in a different area, and many people are not familiar with what the Newport area has to offer; and the fact that many from your group have been suggesting some wonderful areas of interest—I would like to suggest something a little different. I would like LCMGA to suggest and, if possible, make the arrangements for two or three tours of various locations in the Newport area. Try to schedule these for Sat. July 16th in the morning. In the past OMGA has had three tours and one workshop take place. (I am thinking about the various interests that have already been mentioned, i.e. the new NOAA center, lighthouses, etc.)

Evening Garden Tours: __________ Make suggestions and recommendations for Thursday evening tours. Scout out approximately 4 local garden areas or something unique that attendees would enjoy.

Maps/Signs Co-Chair: 1 or 2 persons. __________ Assist in providing tour maps, various signs for directions etc. Won’t have to make them just advise what is needed.

Greeters: Diane Truitt; __________ Persons to provide assistance, information etc., to attendees, speakers, or anyone else. (Could be something MGs would like to do as a group.)

Sponsorships (coffee breaks): Penny Russell. "Currently there are two people working on this, pursuing corporations around the state who may help contribute towards our expenses. It would be nice if there were a local member who could assist to suggest or even pursue some local businesses for donations either in products or "." (Marilyn Scheffler)

Tuesday Afternoon Set Up and Friday or Saturday Break Down: Many volunteers are needed to assist in getting the school set up with tables and chairs and other items and taking these down at the end of Mini-College.

Attendance requested of all volunteers from LCMGA for Tuesday Evening Appreciation Get-Together: ‘In the past the Tuesday appreciation get-together has been for Executive Committee members and the Chair people for the Mini-College committees. This year I plan to extend to include the LCMGA volunteers for welcoming us into your community.” (Marilyn Scheffler)
Leadership Award: Bill Biernacki

Lifetime Membership Awards: Betty Bahn & Sally Reill

Mini-College Coordinators: Betty Orr, Cathi Block, Emilia Lacy, and Claudette Schroeder

President’s Award: Linda Cook

Extension Agent Award: Pam McElroy

Appreciation of Service Award: Emilia Lacy
Lincoln County
Master Gardener Association

Board Meeting
Monday, December 13, 2010
9:30 AM/12 Noon
OSU Extension Office

Agenda

I. Call to Order
II. Approval of Minutes – November 8, 2010
III. Approval of Minutes General Meeting – November 18, 2010
IV. Reports of Officers
   Treasurer Report  Cathy Fitzhugh
   Other Officers
V. Extension Agent  Sam Angima
VI. Reports of Committees
   Mini-College  Emilia Lacy/Cathi Block
   Newport Food and Wine Festival  Jeff Olsen
VII. New Business
    2011 Budget (Tentative Approval)  Claudette Schroeder/Donna Davis
VII. Unfinished Business
    4H Donation
VIII. President Elect 2011  Claudette Schroeder
IX. Adjournment

Biernacki, McElroy, Olsen, Fitzhugh, Bonelitz, Anderson, Orr, Cook/Durkee, Dallas, Lacy, Angima

Calendar

December 13  Last Board Meeting for 2010
December 23, 24  Extension Office Closed
December 31  Extension Office Closed
January 10  Board Meeting