August 2022

THE GRAPEVINE
OSU - Columbia County Master Gardener Program
505 N. Columbia River Hwy, St. Helens OR 97051
Phone: 503-397-3462
http://extension.oregonstate.edu/columbia/master-gardener-volunteer-program
OMGA Newsletter: https://omga.org/newsletter/

It has been decided to have a newsletter dedicated to just our membership and local organization. This newsletter will be published once a month and will be edited by the President of the Columbia County Master Gardener’s Association and the Master Gardener Program Coordinator. Please send any news items, events, articles, pictures, etc. to Sonia @ ColCoMasterGardeners@gmail.com by the 25th of every month.

The President’s Corner

Well, the County Fair has come and gone and we are still alive and kicking. I think it was well attended as we always saw a number of people wandering around, but many were taking in sights that did not cost extra. I also noted that parents seemed to know where their kids were and definitely were keeping them in line far better than in previous years. On a strange note, there were far fewer outdoor toilets than in the past. The Demo Garden usually has them on at least three sides but only one set this year. I expect it was a cost saving measure but that is just a guess. I never saw any lines and the inside restrooms never seemed all that busy so maybe it was justified. There were also far fewer rides especially those for older people, not tots.

This is August and we have our Master Gardener Picnic coming up Sunday August 28th at noon. We will be supplying hamburgers, hot dogs, condiments, buns and cold water. If you wish, please bring a dish to share for the potluck which can be a salad, dessert or any other thing you feel is appropriate. If you would like to attend, please let Katherine Johnson know so we can have an idea of how much food to prepare. I will be running the grill so if you have any special requests for your hamburger or hot dog, I will be happy to ignore them.

Upcoming Events

Board Meeting
1st Thursday each month at 10:30am: Planning Meeting & Board of Directors Zoom Meeting. For login information: colcmg.secretary@gmail.com

All Chapter Picnic @ PGE Park
August 28th

Past Issues of the Grapevine HERE
Past Issues of the Country Living HERE

Link to the OSU Online Resources and Publications - Searchable Directory: https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/

Facebook   Blog

2022 CCMGA Executive Committee

- Chuck Petersen, President
- Sandy Newman, Past-President
- Katherine Johnson, Vice President
- Gail Martyn, Treasurer/Secretary
- LaVina Patterson, Historian
- Sonia Reagan, OMGA Alt-Rep.

Remember to turn in your Volunteer Hours: mgvrs.extension.oregonstate.edu
We are still planning to have our first in person monthly member meeting in September at the Extension Office in a couple of years and I hope many of you can attend and see others that we haven’t seen for a while. There will be a program and treats during the break and maybe a larger than normal raffle drawing.

Notices will be going out soon for dues for the year 2023 as we will be collecting them. We have not collected dues for two years and by collecting them we find out how many of you are still interested in being a member or not and if not we do not have to bother you. I sincerely hope all or at least most remain with us as we are able to do much in the community as a team and our fund raising helps many groups that also invest in the community.

I am still looking for some assistance on the nominating committee. This is to survey our membership to see who might be interested in serving on the Executive Board next year. I have been in the President or Past President position for the past eight years and I would like to think some other person would like their ideas considered instead of my old stale ones so please consider this. If you are not interested in the nominating committee but would be interested in serving on the Board, please let me know and I will put you on the ballot.

~ Until next time keep it dirty... Chuck Petersen, President CCMGA

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All Chapter August Picnic!

Mark your calendars for August 28th

Our Annual 2022 Potluck Picnic is back and will be held at a reserved picnic area at PGE Trojan Park from noon-3pm (set-up your potluck items beginning at 11am) at 71760 Columbia River Highway in Rainier. Trojan Park is a delightful day-use park with facilities for picnicking, hiking, biking, fishing, paddling and disc golf around the 75-acre park and lake. Chuck will grill burgs & dogs and Denny will cook corn-on-the-cob. Katherine would like to know if you can make it!

CCMGA will be supplying hamburgers, hot dogs, condiments, buns, cold water and all paper goods/cutlery, etc.

If you wish, please bring a dish to share for the potluck which can be a salad, dessert or any other thing you feel is appropriate.

Please let Katherine Johnson know how many will attend (including family members!) so we can plan to have enough food via email at dktjohnson@msn.com or text/call 503-347-3007.

Remember to turn in your Volunteer Hours: mgvrs.extension.oregonstate.edu
Continuing Education Opportunity:
Growing Oregon Gardeners: Level Up Series 2022

Take your gardening knowledge to the next level—from gardening with native plants to techniques to extend your season. This online series offers education for experienced gardeners.

Topics and dates: Webinars are the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 12 noon (Pacific). The series runs from February through November and will be announced as speakers are finalized. Check back for new and additional webinars throughout the year.

- February 8: The Science and Practice of Seed Starting: Secrets to success when growing by seed
- March 8: Local Beauties: Native Plants for Ecologically Enhanced Gardens and Landscapes
- April 12: Plant Grow Harvest Repeat: Succession Planting
- May 10: Growing Great Roses!
- June 14: Irrigation Choices and Design for the Home Garden and Landscape
- July 12: Best Ecological Ways to Control Pests in Green Spaces
- August 9: Should You Leave Your Leaves? How autumn yard maintenance affects overwintering insects
- September 13: Compost Can-do: develop a system that meets your needs
- October 11: Soil Fertility and Nutrient Cycling in Garden Beds & Home Landscapes
- November 8: Growing the Good Stuff: from Sweet Potatoes to Bitter Melons

Two ways to participate: watch online or watch the recordings: This free webinar series will be available on Zoom and broadcast live on our Facebook page. OSU Extension Master Gardener volunteers receive 1 Continuing Education Credit for each class. Recordings of the webinars are posted after the event.
Photos from the OMGA Mini-College 2022
“Joy of Gardening Conference”

Above: Impromptu book exchange at Mini-College

Right: Master Gardener Awards Bulletin

Below: The painted box holding garden items is the CCMGA donation basket, put together by OMGA Rep, Karen Harte. All photos by Karen – thank you, Karen!
I want to thank everyone that helped getting the Demo Garden ready for the Columbia County Fair. It is always a lot of work!

Here are the total visitor counts:

- 1st day of fair, Wednesday, a total of 170 people came into the Demo Garden.
- 2nd day, Thursday, a total of 190 people came into the Demo Garden.
- 3rd day, Friday, a total of 175 people came into the Demo Garden.
- 4th day, Saturday, a total of 332 people came into the Demo Garden!!
- 5th day, Sunday, a total of 61 people came into the Demo Garden.

There was a couple from Hillsboro, and they said there were no animals at their fair and they were so happy to see such a nice fair, and everything looked so nice.

All questions were answered, and everyone thought everything looked so nice.

Thank you!

Demonstration Garden Coordinator, LaVina Patterson
Columbia County Master Gardener Association
Board Meeting Minutes
June 2, 2022
President Chuck Petersen Presiding

A virtual board meeting was called to order at 10:30 AM on Thursday, June 2, 2022 via Zoom conference call. The president was in the chair and the secretary was present. Others present-LaVina and Sonia. Chip joined as a guest.

Housekeeping
- **Secretary's Report:** A motion to approve the May 5 minutes was made, seconded and approved.
- **Treasurer's Report:** A motion to approve was made, seconded and approved.
- **Correspondence:** OMGA Mini-College registration is open.

Committee Reports
- **OMGA Rep:** Mini-College registration is open. Sonia will attend tomorrow’s OMGA meeting.
- **Fairgrounds Garden:** Many of the raised beds are planted. Much weeding is needed.
- **Community Gardens:** We should monitor the growth of donated tomato plants so we can be more informed at next year’s Spring Fair.
- **BugNutz:** Edu-Performances are scheduled. Group will be meeting on June 16 to update sample boxes.
- **Seed to Supper:** St. Helens group is using Fairgrounds garden as a teaching tool. Vernonia group is very active.
- **Spring Fair:** For next year, the Fair Board is offering that we pay $500 rental (half price) plus pay the $450 cleaning fee which is 80% refundable. and either do 50 hours of volunteer time to earn the other half or an in-kind donation. ($500 + $90 = $590). Kathy has asked if our demo garden volunteer hours will count as their required volunteer hours. She has not heard back yet. Records show that our rental fee at the high school in past years has been $370. Current rate for schools is unknown at this time. If we moved to a school, we would need to move tables, parking might be an issue and it would be another change of location.

Old Business
- **Awards:** Chuck has swing bars and Sonia will make certificates. Distribution will be at the picnic or our next in-person meeting or will be mailed.
- **Replacing canopies:** Chuck and Deb will come up with what is needed and Chip will purchase. These will be used by any extension group, but Master Gardeners will be given first priority.
- **Nominating committee:** There are still no volunteers for this.
- **Annual picnic:** A site at Trojan Park has been reserved for Sunday, August 28. The association will provide and cook hamburgers, hot dogs and corn-on-the-cob. Attendees are asked to bring a dish to share. Sonia will send out a postcard and an email with details.

New Business
- **Chapter meeting notification procedure:** Although this information is in The Grapevine and Sonia sends out email reminders, attendance is poor. Sonia will send out the reminder emails on Monday or Tuesday of the week of our meetings. Sonia will also get and share the data on how many watch the recordings of chapter meetings.
**Whistleblower policy:** A motion was approved to add this separate policy to the Policies and Procedures document. The wording of item #12 was changed from “*Each Executive Board Member is required to read the Whistleblower Policy that is given to them by the Treasurer of CCMGA.* (Amended 09/03/09)” to “*The Whistleblower Policy will be added to this Policies and Procedures document, which each Board member is required to read.* (06-02-22)”

**For the good of the order**
- **Hazardous Waste Collection:** Saturday, June 11, 8 AM-2 PM, Columbia County Transfer Station.
- **State Fair MG booth:** Columbia County will work the booth on August 30. Chip needs volunteers to work 2-hour shifts. Parking passes and entrance tickets will be provided. Contact Chip if you’re interested.
- **Chat with Chip** will not be held this month.
- **MG Training class:** Chip has not made any decisions yet.

**Adjournment**
The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 AM.

*Gail Martyn, Secretary/Treasurer*

**Upcoming Events**
- **Scappoose Bay Watershed Council Native Plant Sales:** October 8
- **CC Fair & Rodeo:** July 20-24
- **OMGA Mini-College:** July 28-30, in-person
- **Annual Picnic:** August 28, Trojan Park, potluck
A virtual board meeting was called to order at 10:30 AM on Thursday, July 7, 2022 via Zoom conference call. The president was in the chair and the secretary was present. Others present: LaVina, Karen and Katherine. Chip joined as a guest.

Housekeeping
- **Secretary's Report**: A motion to approve the June minutes was made, seconded and approved.
- **Treasurer's Report**: A motion to approve was made, seconded and approved.
  - Hartford Policy received. Cost will remain at $500 with coverage required by the Fair Board.
  - Ace Hardware June statement received. Fairgrounds Garden charges totaled $173.68 and payment has been sent.
  - Spring Fair additional expenses totaling $64.97 have been paid.
- **Correspondence**: None

Committee Reports
- **OMGA Rep**: Karen will attend today’s OMGA meeting. Mini-College registrations are about 100. They would like 150. The Silent Auction basket is in the works. Receipts will be given to the Treasurer for reimbursement.
- **Fairgrounds Garden**: Progress has been made, but there is still a lot to do. Hops have been planted in large plastic barrels that were donated. Gail was asked to order and deliver 4 medium pizzas around 2:00 PM on the Monday of the county fair.
- **Community Gardens**: No report.
- **BugNutz**: No report.
- **Seed to Supper**: Classes ended this week. Their projects look good.
- **Spring Fair**: The Fair Board will allow our Demo Garden volunteer hours to count toward their rental fee of $1,000. Our rental cost will be $500 with a cleaning fee of $450 (80% refundable). Kathy will request a contract be made with our requirement and she will sign and return it with $950.00. Do we have enough member support for set-up and take-down tasks? Unknown at this time. Hopefully, a return to in-person meetings will foster enthusiasm.

Old Business
- **Awards**: Still being worked on.
- **Replacing canopies**: Chip has purchased three.
- **Nominating committee**: No volunteers at this time.
- **Annual picnic**: An area at Trojan Park has been reserved for Sunday, August 28th. Details will be available in The Grapevine and Sonia will send out a postcard. Kathy would like this information published this month.
- **Whistleblower policy**: The proposed updated language was approved and the policy will be added to the Policies and Procedures document for distribution to the Board.

New Business from the floor
- **Policy**: regarding mileage payment for returning the flats to Yoshitomi Bros. and OMGA representatives who travel to meetings around the state. The proposal was to increase the current
payment from $0.20 per mile to $0.58 per mile. After discussion, the decision was made to retain the $0.20 per mile rate for OMGA representatives, but pay $50.00 for returning flats to Yoshitomi.

- **Financial Policy #9:** It was suggested we eliminate the requirement of 2 signatures and authorization forms on all budgeted items, because budgeted items have already been authorized. The Treasurer will prepare wording for discussion at the August Board meeting.

**For the good of the order**
None.

**Adjournment**
The meeting was adjourned at 11:13 AM.

_Gail Martyn, Secretary/Treasurer_

**Upcoming Events**
- **Scappoose Bay Watershed Council Native Plant Sales:** October 8
- **CC Fair & Rodeo:** July 20-24
- **OMGA Mini-College:** July 28-30, in-person, registration is open
- **Annual Picnic:** August 28, Trojan Park, potluck