**CHANGES IN LATITUDE**

~ Julia Bott

When I moved to Curry County, I had been growing vegetables and doing my own landscaping in a marine influenced climate for more than 4 decades. The first spring here I planted too early and that following fall I planted too late. My garden didn’t thrive, and I was frustrated.

Next spring, I noticed that the Curry County Master Gardener plant sale was a month later than the one in San Mateo County. Bingo! Lightbulb flash! Doh!

I realized then what a difference 5 degrees of latitude makes. And how important local knowledge is. I checked out the Curry County Master Gardener information and was hooked.

Being retired, I also had the time to become a Master Gardener™. How many of you can relate to that description? Kudos to those who still worked who completed the class every year! This year, thanks to on-line becoming more of a way of doing business, we have quite a few people in the 2022 class who are still working.

While we may be changing how we offer the class, we are going back to how we offer the plant sale – in person on the Saturday before Mother’s Day. Yay! Some sense of normalcy. Thank you to everyone who has worked to make the sale possible and to all of our members for your efforts on plant sale weekend!

Just to make it clear – there is an in-person Plant Sale on Saturday May 7th at the Gold Beach High School.

Normalcy. It can be a good thing. Other signs that things are normal. We have a great group of trainees entering our ranks as Master Gardeners. Laurie Lee Bartlett is now really feeling her role as Program Director. And, most importantly to me, I’m spending more time in my garden or checking out wildflowers, than I am on the computer or in zoom meetings!

But, is the weather of late, the weather of the future? That discussion far exceeds the words allowed here. However, during the beautiful 75-degree weather for the first seed distribution on February 19, every gardener responded to my joke of “Don’t plant your corn today.” with “Corn in Brookings?”

More normalcy. In person Plant Clinics on Wednesdays, staring April 20 from 10 – 2 pm at Extension office are back. We will also offer pop-up clinics on weekend days. Many in Curry County know what to plant when and how to care for the plant throughout the season. These people bring us really interesting questions that challenge us, in a good way. Others, like me when I first moved here, bring basic questions and their frustrations. Helping them with their Bingo! is just as rewarding as answering the really tough questions.

I’ll see you at the Annual Plant Sale and the Plant Clinics!
ANNUAL PLANT SALE

RESERVE THE DATES – MAY 6 THRU 7 --
*Watch for our Call for Volunteers to work the sale* as well as set up on
the afternoon of May 6. If you have questions or would like to join us on
Tuesday afternoons at the greenhouse, please contact Ali VanOtterloo or
Debbie Carroll.

Growing Oregon Gardeners: Level Up Series 2022

The Level Up Series 2022 on-line continuing education courses are being
scheduled. 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. OSU Extension
Master Gardener volunteers receive 1 Continuing Education Credit for each
class. There is no cost (free) for these classes.

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

SCHEDULED SO FAR:
* Tues., April 12: Plant Grow Harvest Repeat: Succession Planting
* Tues., May 10: Growing Great Roses!

Registration opens 3 months before each event.

Watch online: This webinar series will be available on Zoom and broadcast live
on our Facebook page. Recordings of the webinars are posted below after the
event.

For all the details and to register, please visit:
https://extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/growing-oregon-gardeners-level-series-2022

RILEY CREEK GARDEN

To help with these educational activities, please contact Cathy Boden,
Cathy@CurryWatersheds.org or 541-332-5039 home office, or Julia Bott,
Jbott@batnet.com 650.520.56763.

Three grades spread over four classes are learning through activities in
the garden.

The 5th graders have responsibility for the care and feeding of the worms
at the garden. They are learning about compost, recycling, and bugs!
The worms, in most cases, coexist happily with many other invertebrates
and all of these organisms play a role in the decomposition of food
waste.

Two classes of 2nd graders have lessons in the garden. This month they
learned about role various plant parts play in a plant’s growth. They were
also provided an activity to track what part of the plant they eat. Using
succulents from MG greenhouse at the high school, the students each
made their own succulent planter to take home. They were so proud of
the planters!

The 3rd graders are really the star of the show at the garden and have
been busily preparing beds and planting produce, which will be used in
the school cafeteria. This is the second year in the garden for these
students and it shows. The benefit of successive years in the garden is
that knowledge is retained, and their skills improve every time they work
in the garden.

The 3rd graders are in the garden most every Thursday. Each of the 2nd
grade classes visit the garden the 1 Friday a month.

Lots of hands raised to answer a question about a plant part.

Secretary position is VACANT.
Curry County Master Gardeners Association  
Membership Meeting, Tuesday March 15, 2022 10 AM

Attendance, Julia Bott, Tom Kerr, Sherry Baum, Debbie Carroll, Laurie Lee Bartlett, John Albi, Lori Phelan, Jeffery Hall, Dave Denny, Michelle Arnold, Kelly Jacobsen and Ginny Knox

1. Introductions & agenda changes/additions  
No additions to the agenda

2. Minutes approval for January 2022 meeting. See February 2022 Brambles  

Minutes approval: First motion to approve Debbie Carroll, seconded by Lori Phelan. Minutes approved  
Secretary still needed!

3. Business Items
   A. President’s report – Julia Bott  
   Fair Staff looking for volunteers at the end of July, need four hour shifts and if you volunteer you do get a free pass to the fair. Contact Becky Shaffer  
   Mini College this year July 29-30 in Corvallis, OR  
   Invitation 4/2/2022 to bring seeds and have a booth at Spring Fling (craft fair) in Gold Beach. Julia will send to members to see if anyone is interested in volunteering  
   i. Bylaws and standing rules review committee  
   Need a committee to update the Bylaws and rules. Lori Recommends a change in the bylaws for a second person to review the banking statement. Kelly and Jeffrie to work on the partial committee.
   B. Vice- President’s report – Ginny Knox  
   Time to recognize members for the awards; Ginny sent an email out looking for nominees.
   C. Treasurer’s report – Tom Kerr  
   i. Financial statement reported

D. State Rep’s report – Ali Van Otterloo & Deb Carroll
   OSU extension did not receive adequate funding to sustain the program as it is. Open positions will go unfilled and resources are going to be less. If any volunteers are interested in the role of Extension Citizen Advisor contact Deb.  
   Mini College is having a silent auction. Requesting items and or money. Curry County MG is considering asking for a donation of Jet Boat passes and possibly making succulent bowls for the auction.  
   Grant applications are due May 15  
   Membership cards for members and using those cards for discounts at local businesses is an idea that is being considered.  
   Sharing sessions between different counties is being considered, this will help each MG group learn how each area is doing or running the different programs; for example. Seed to Supper or plant sale.

E. OSU Report – Laurie Lee Bartlett/Samantha (Sam) Clayburn  
   i. Update on 2022 class  
   i. Next Tuesday there is an ECCO training and tour of the greenhouse for the MG students.  
   ii. In May Laurie Lee is hoping for class on Pacific west Coast Plants.  
   iii. Test for the MG Students next week.  
   iv. If anyone needs a badge contact Laurie Lee  
   v. OSU Facebook has information on the 10 hour University; the 10 hour University has free classes for education and continuing education.  
   vi. Meeting in June and July is camp and fair time so the extension classroom may be used and the Master Gardeners might have to meet somewhere else.
   ii Report on office and program updates  
   vii. Website, social media and event fliers - People should coordinate any posts with Laurie Lee. She needs to add a civil rights statement and any handicap needs or special needs statement. Julia and Laurie Lee to make a determination of how to handle the posts.

4. Committee Reports (see page 2 & 3 for overview of 2022 activities)  
    A. Plant Sale/Greenhouse – Debbie Carroll & Ali Van Otterloo

(Cont. on 4)'

Secretary position is VACANT.
1. May Plant Sale
   Over the next week Debbie and Ali will look at the volunteer needs. Sales of the plants will be in the greenhouse as well as outside. Ali was able to get approximately 20 tables from the library, although there is a need for tablecloth, also still a need for tables. If people could bring any tables over on May 6. Jeff and Ali are working on a post for the different plants available; there are approximately 150 plants. An idea to place one or two plants on Facebook and then direct people to our website to learn about the different plants was considered. Volunteer opportunities will be put on Teamup for people to sign up.

ii. Update on demonstration greenhouse and garden at Event Center at the Beach
   Received a letter of commitment for the Greenhouse from the Fairgrounds. This will help with grant writing. Ali is working on getting the contract information and contact person. Goal is to have the greenhouse up by next June 2023. Proposal for the Karl Carson Grant (250$) due by mid July for the Greenhouse. Laurie can also apply for the agency for $250 and application is needed by May 15. Motion proposed for the grant to be sent for the Greenhouse and approved. Another Grant is due April 1 and October 1, we will wait to apply until October 1.

B. Plant Clinic –
   i. Plan for 2022
      Last year it was an online program - Julia contacted the previous volunteers for information and requested recommendations for this year. In the past we had days set for the plant clinics as well as attending community events. We have a database on the computer (ECCO) as well as written intake sheets for questions about plants. The ECCO system has an auto response; this auto response is not one that worked well, the Plant Clinic volunteers decided to use MG OSU Curry county to reply and send the information instead of the ECCO auto response, or call the client back.
      ECCO does have a large database of information on plants. We have 6 people who are trained to use the ECCO program. Peer review process slows down the answers, so if everyone working the plant clinic that day is confident about the answer, it can be sent to the client. Pass the harder questions on for review.
      DAY OF THE WEEK for the plant clinic? Decision for Wednesday and occasional pop up clinics over the weekends. -April 20 will be the first Plant Clinic until October 12, 10-2 for the public and 9:30 for the volunteers. Curry County Email or phone for the response.
      Training for ECCO and Plant Clinic next week.
      Volunteer sign up on the TEAMUP

C. Seed to Supper – No Program in 2022

D. Riley Creek – Lori Phelan
   Cathy is teaching on Thursday with Third graders and Julia is teaching 2 Fridays per month with the Second graders. The garden is now supplying food to the cafeteria.
   Electricity is set up.
   Chips were put in the garden on the paths and the Third graders helped spread out.
   Fruit trees trimmed by trainees.

E. ABC Preschool – Ruth Patton - no report

F. Dig Your Library – Programs will start in April Julia Bott

E. Kalmiopsis School Garden – Jeffery Hall
   Jeffery is working on finding the information and history about Kalmiopsis garden, hopefully can post on the OSU website.

H. Curry County Seed Library – Julia Bott, Jeffery Hall, or Ruth Patton
   Saturday at the Chetco Library 10 am - looking for volunteers to help hand out seeds.
   Proposal for having monthly meetings not only in person, but also Zoom so hopefully more people can attend.
   Friends of Library mentioned Gold Beach has a party in the park for non-profit organizations for the kids. Ali is recommending that if we were to be a part of the party we can have more outreach and education of Master Gardeners. This year it is on July 9. Ali recommends participating in 2023.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:30.

Sherry Baum

Secretary position is VACANT.
RECENT PRUNING CLASS -- Our 2022 trainees and volunteers ventured out on a rainy spring-like morning to the Riley Creek Garden for an in-person pruning class with local arborist Tim Scullen. Types of fruit trees, tree forms, timing, and disinfecting tools to prevent spread of disease were discussed. As the young trees in the garden had not been pruned for a couple of years, the focus was on a harder pruning with the desired form in mind. After a demonstration from Tim, the group worked together on the fruit trees and berry canes. Everyone pitched in picking up and disposing the cut branches and canes which made the cleaning up time go by quickly. A big thank you to both Tim Scullen and the participants!

RILEY CREEK

– First graders plant succulents for Mothers Day

Secretary position is VACANT.
DIG YOUR LIBRARY ~ Julia Bott
Chetco Community Public Library Annex
402 Alder St, Brookings. Contact Julia Bott jbott@batnet.com or
tele, 650.520.5673

The Dig Your Library youth gardening programs at the Chetco
Community Public Library are uncertain for 2022. There may be
some volunteer opportunities.

CURRY COUNTY SEED LIBRARY –
SUCCESSFUL SEED DISTRIBUTIONS CONTINUE

On Saturday, February 26, the Curry County Seed Library and Master
Gardener volunteers hosted a seed distribution at the Curry Public
Library in Gold Beach. Approximately 75 people stopped by and went
home with more than 1,225 seed packets.

A final pop-up distribution was held at the Chetco Community Public
Library in Brookings on March 19. Some of the favorite seeds, such as
roma and cherry tomatoes, cilantro, dill, and pole beans have been
distributed, but lots of seeds were still available. Almost 90 people
stopped by and about 950 seed packets were distributed.

The 4 pop-up seed distributions (2 in Brookings and 1 each in Gold
Beach and Port Orford) served more than 300 people and almost 5000
packets of seeds are now in the hands of grateful gardeners. Another
300 seed packets have been distributed to organizations or churches
that have community gardens.

Once the Chetco Community Public Library re-opens on April 18, the
seeds will be available on your own schedule anytime the library is
open from the seed cabinet at the.

Thank you to Fred Meyer, Territorial Seeds, and Baker Seeds for their
donations of seeds!

Please plant a row for your local food bank or community kitchen.

If you need seeds, contact Lynette McPherson at
lmc97415@gmail.com. For more information, please contact Julia Bott
at 650.520.5673 or jbott@batnet.com or check out the Curry County
Seed Library on Facebook.

Secretary position is VACANT
Planning
- 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 inches) of organic materials.
- Use a soil thermometer to help you know when to plant vegetables. When the soil is consistently above 60 degrees Fahrenheit, some warm season vegetables (beans, sweet corn) can be planted.

Maintenance and cleanup
- 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 decomposed manure around perennial vegetables, such as asparagus and rhubarb.
- Cut back ornamental grasses to a few inches above the ground.
- Cover transplants to protect against late spring frosts.
- This is an optimum time to fertilize lawns. Apply 1 pound nitrogen per 1,000 square feet of lawn. Reduce risks of runoff into local waterways by not fertilizing just prior to rain, and not over irrigating so that water runs off the lawn and onto the sidewalk or street.
- Western Oregon: De-thatch and renovate lawns. If moss has been a problem, scratch the surface before seeding with perennial ryegrass.
- Western Oregon: Prune and shape or thin spring-blooming shrubs and trees after blossoms fade.

Planting and propagation
- Plant gladioli, hardy transplants of alyssum, phlox and marigolds, if weather and soil conditions permit.
- It's a great time to start a vegetable garden. Among the vegetables you can plant, consider:
  - Oregon Coast: Beets, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, celery, chard, slicing cucumbers, endive, leeks, lettuce, onion sets, peas and potatoes.
  - Western valleys, Portland, Roseburg, Medford: Broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, chard, chives, endive, leeks, lettuce, peas, radishes, rhubarb, rutabagas, spinach and turnips.
  - Central Oregon and higher elevations of eastern Oregon (late April): Peas, radishes, lettuce, spinach and turnips.

Pest monitoring and management
- Use chemical controls only when necessary and only after thoroughly reading the pesticide label. First consider cultural, then physical and biological controls. Choose the least-toxic options, and use them judiciously. Some examples include insecticidal soaps, horticultural oils, botanical insecticides, and organic and synthetic pesticides.
- Clean up hiding places for slugs, sowbugs and millipedes. Least toxic management options for slugs include barriers and traps. Baits are also available for slug control; use caution around pets. Read and follow all label directions prior to using baits or any other chemical control.
- Monitor strawberries for spittlebugs and aphids; if present, wash off with water or use insecticidal soap as a contact spray. Follow label directions.
- If necessary, spray apples and pears when buds appear for scab. See Managing Diseases and Insects in Home Orchards.
- Cut and remove weeds near the garden to remove potential sources of plant disease.
- Use floating row covers to keep insects such as beetle leaf miners, cabbage maggot adult flies, and carrot rust flies away from susceptible crops.
- Help prevent damping off of seedlings by providing adequate ventilation.
- Southwest Oregon: Place pheromone traps in apple or pear trees in late April to monitor codling moth activity.
- Western Oregon: Manage weeds while they are small and actively growing with light cultivation or herbicides. Once the weed has gone to bud, herbicides are less effective.
- Western Oregon: Spray stone fruits, such as cherries, plums, peaches and apricots, for brown rot blossom blight, if necessary.
April 2022 Brambles

Have you seen the Curry County Master Gardeners website?

The Brambles is usually posted here by the second of the month:
https://extension.oregonstate.edu/newsletter/brambles

The last Monday of the month is the cut-off date for submitting articles for the Brambles. Email them to Cathe Barter umpqua.bart@gmail.com

This is your newsletter, if you have something to share please send it in. We will make every effort to include it.

Thanks to all of you who generously contributed to this edition of the Brambles. All submissions are gladly considered.

CCMGA Officers for 2022

President ............... Julia Bott
Vice President......... Ginny Knox
Secretary................ Vacant
Treasurer............... Tom Kerr
OMG State Rep…….. Debbie Carroll & Ali Van Otterloo
Newsletter Editor...... Cathe Barter
Historian............... Cathe Barter
Past President......... Julia Bott
OSU Education Asst… Laurie Lee Bartlett

To contact officers, leave a message at the Extension office 1-800-356-3986

Curry County Master Gardeners Association
monthly meetings 3rd Tuesday, 10 am to noon in Gold Beach, OR

www.facebook.com/OSUExtCurryMG

Curry County Master Gardeners Association
PO Box 107
Gold Beach, OR 97444