

COOS COUNTY MASTER GARDENER™ ASSOCIATION (CCMGA)

General Meeting Minutes

April 13th , 2021

ZOOM MEETING

County wide

April Meeting: informal Zoom meeting due to Covid 19 restrictions.

ZOOM MEETING ATTENDANTS:

Claudia Turner	Mary Ann Babb	Mary Dixon
Elaine Goodner	Imogene McDonald	Tina and Ed Powers
Bob German	Kathy Creason	Grace Horning
Caren Brewster	Laurie Wartnik	Dottie Tucker
Terry Harris		

Sharing to all:

Mary Dixon shared about this new plant she discovered. It is a type of ground cherry and very tasty. Called golden berries. Looks like a tomatillo, about the size of a grape, yellow in color, and most wonderful tropical fruit flavor. Allegedly a citrusy pineapple flavor. Seeds are super small. They take a long time to propagate. Mary is growing them. They are an annual. Not sure if they are hardy, but we shall see. Not sure if they have husk on them and they taste so good. She got her seeds from Adaptive Seeds. Check it out. Onion recommended, Newburg, better than Copra as a suggestion. Open pollinated.

Claudia had several old cherry trees removed and chopped and mulched.

Tina stated that Charleston RFPD will be putting in 2 raised beds to improve their health. Tribal community garden is still moribund, so we will keep trying to get it off the ground.

Terry : Coquille will be having their garden tour again this year on July10th, 6 houses so far.

CALLED TO ORDER by Host: Samantha Clayburn. Samantha led the meeting.

Minutes approved as read. Mary Dixon and Claudia Turner seconded with motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT (Claudia Turner)

Prior balance	\$17,608.48
Income(Members' Dues()Fund raisers, grants, and donations.)	60.00
Interest	.29
Expenses Dues OMGA	
Ending balance (March 31 , 2021)	\$17,668.77

Savings : Savings CD is \$8,421.94

Financials motioned and approved unanimously.

Reach out if you want to chat with Sam and your fellow Master Gardeners. Let us stay connected!

COMMITTEE AND REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

- **Coquille Harvest Moon Garden | 180 N. Baxter Street, Coquille** No Garden Coordinator currently.
<http://www.coquillecommunitygarden.org>

No report currently.

- **Lady Bug Landing Garden Report 5/7/21**
April Report

The garden season is moving along, we were full until today as a person gave up their plot, and there is not anyone on the waitlist now. If the plot stays empty it will be used for the Food Bank. Tina Powers

and her husband brought several tomatoes, celery, celeriac and broccoli plants to the garden for gardeners, and she is planning on bringing more this Saturday, which has been very much appreciated. Most of the plots are planted, as are a good portion of the demo beds. Starting in a week, lettuce will be ready to harvest in the demo bed and will be taken to the Food Bank. There is already broccoli, cabbage, and cauliflower to follow along with three kinds of onions. We will be planting tomatoes, cucumbers, and squash soon, another great season.

Happy Gardening

- **Good Earth Community Garden**

April Report:

Things are in full swing at the Bandon Good Earth Garden. We have had applications trickle in the last month, slowly filling up our empty beds. We will begin offering second plots soon to current members. We have held two monthly work parties now and are pleased by how many members are taking on volunteer tasks even when they cannot attend. We look forward to the harvests to come.

Leslie Wirt

- **Plant Clinic (Kathy Creason)**

November 2019 thru October 2020

We are getting closer. Waiting for risk level to drop. One or two people, modified, building closed but we can meet them outside.

Question on where to get olive trees. Will track down olive trees. Online, and at 101 Nursery and at Dragon fly nursery in the fall and you can get them from Fast growing trees out of So. Carolina in the spring. They do ship to Oregon. Oregon friendly due to changing weather patterns.

- **Plant Sale Committee | 2021 Tomato-** Due to Covid, we will be having one in 2022.
- **Scholarship Committee** None this year. Still do not know what schools are doing yet. No applications. WE did not send any out due to not having a chair and holding off till next year.
- **School Garden Grants: Marshfield and Boys and Girls finished their projects.**
Update last month and Lighthouse will have update in future.
- **Coos Bay and Bandon Farmers Market: Usually start in May so we will see.**
Still wait and see. Covid training required. Signups will be available soon if we get the green light for the Covid. Focus will be on Coos Bay as it is outdoors and possibly easier to get the ok. Same with Bandon but might be harder because it is an in-door market. We will focus on the Coos Bay market for now.
- **Oregon Master Gardener Association (OMGA) meeting | Representative Report**
May 15th send a friend to the mini college. All info on the OMGA website. Oregon Growing UP is doing well. Sign up for Mini College if interested. Cost will be 49.00 for the Mini college. All sessions two a day. Interactive workshops. Only 20 people. Link sent out by Samantha last week.
- **Remember to nominate MG of the year by May 15th.**
- **Elevated Training** Live classes done but the recorded classes are all up online and you can enjoy these. You will not be able to do feedback but can still enjoy.
- **Growing Oregon Gardeners Level up** programs still going on once a month.
- **County Fair (Samantha Clayburn)** Cancelled till 2021
- **Recruitment and Retention: Donna Rabin**
Nothing to report.

- **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Report:**

The first meeting was an introduction of all participants. Four target groups were formed to address the needs of the underserved communities in Oregon: 1. Who becomes Master Gardeners? 2. Who

do we serve in the community? 3. How can our Master Gardener curriculum and content grow to be more inclusive? 4. Events and programming.

Our groups statewide are predominantly older white females. How do we open our programs and education to impact in positive ways, our Indigenous peoples, BIPOC growers, those that live in underserved, high risk areas, food deserts, etc. as well as addressing discrimination of all kinds, help to open minds and make more aware of the challenges, history and where we go from here to better serve all populations in the gardening world. Communication was key and learning about the history of farmers and growers of color in Oregon and how they impacted their communities was presented.

There will be an event on May 18th from 12 pm to 1 pm [The Culture of Gardening with Abra Lee: "The Work is in Our Hands"](#) The Culture of Gardening is a series through the OSU Extension Master Gardener Program, designed to amplify, celebrate and center the stories of cultural connection through gardening. You can get educational hours for this. My own comment was that this group was not just a feel good, virtue signaling group, but a sincere outreach to not only educate others, but grow our statewide master gardener programs and enhance households for better nutrition, healthier food, beauty and education in all things plants. I am hopeful that this group achieves the goals that we are setting out. I will keep the association updated each month.

COMMENTS from Samantha Clayburn, OSU Extension Service, Coos County (Samantha Clayburn)

Gardening questions make up 60% of the calls we get from The Ask an Expert. In some counties they have MG's answering. WE want to make sure that the answers we give are accurate, that is why the classes such as Elevated Gardening and Level Up series amongst others, give us the accurate information to share with the public.

Seed to Supper is offered by Curry County. Grow This: it is a partnership with the Snap ed program(it replaced food stamps in Oregon.). It is a cool program to get families and individuals to grow a kit with 4 types of seeds donated by Bi-Mart, (8000 seed packages) This is a fun project to get more people involved. Was able to use the Fertilize your Mind grant money to be used for 250 grow bags and soil to give to the families. We got deals on bags of soil (75) divided up into 2-gallon zip lock bags and gave 2 bags of soil, to grow bags and seeds. We had 3 pick up locations, the extension office, Farr's and NB shopping mall. Gave Ocean Crest some bags as well. Madison did not need the bags but got some seeds. Myrtle Crest got a donation of 15 bags of soil. Also 150 seed kits given to the local libraries and share the seed wealth. Potentially 200 families and people growing vegetables for this year. Hopefully we can continue this yearly to encourage others.

Mentoring folks have not gotten back to us as far as the Mentoring project is unknown. Goal was May 20th, to get all the seed kits dispersed. Possibly waiting till then. Sam will follow up on this project. This program was offered to Snap-Ed families and they were notified by e-mail. OSU/Food Hero web page. Starts for the Pelican Harbor, our 3 Community Gardens and other opportunities would be a means to get volunteer hours in place of the Tomato-Rama. If you want to grow veggie starts, we can give them away. Make sure to give the types of list to Sam. No specific dates set yet. Perhaps in a month.

Tomato starts, pepper starts, squash starts, etc. Shoot Sam an e-mail when to expect them and what types. Start small and see how it goes.

Next Meeting will be on May 11, 2021

Meeting adjourned.

REMINDER: The new OSU/CCMGA blog now takes the place of the old web page for calendars and other chapter information.

Open a browser window or use Google and type in:

blogs.oregonstate.edu/coosmga/

If a password is requested to open a tab on the page, type in: **Tomato-Rama2019**

ADJOURNMENT: one hour meeting. Respectfully submitted by Tina Powers, Secretary May 5/10/ 2021