

COOS COUNTY MASTER GARDENER™ ASSOCIATION (CCMGA)

May 16th, 2023

OSU Extension Services

Myrtle Point, OR

IN HOUSE AND ZOOM MEETING ATTENDANTS:

Cathe Barter	Val Berg	Valerie Petersen
Mary Jo Audette	Dottie Tucker	Mary Ann Babb
Edward Powers	Caren Brewster	Suzie Zoreh
Barbara Negherbon	Gail Cassidy	Valerie Peterson
Kathy Creason	Jody Kampfonik	Gail Peck
Laurie Wartnik	Mike Mueller	Lorna Schilling
Mary Dixon	Donna Leveridge-Campbell	Tina Powers
Billie Reeves	Gregory Reynolds	Sheila Pointer
Lynn Jackson		

ADDITIONS:

Meeting called to order by Kathy Creason as Claudia had knee surgery at 10:07

INTRODUCTIONS:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINUTES: Val Berg motioned to accept minutes from April Meeting. Mary Ann Babb made the 2nd and motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT Mary Ann Babb:

<i>Prior balance (Opening balance: First Community Credit Union)</i>	<i>\$15105.48</i>
<i>Income (Members' Dues, Fund raisers, grants, and donations.)</i>	<i>\$490.00</i>
<i>Interest</i>	
<i>Expenses (insurance)Fertilize your Mind</i>	<i>\$2682.59</i>
<i>Ending balance April 30, 2023</i>	<i>\$12,911.89</i>

Current Savings CD is \$8,439.87 at Banner Bank

COMMITTEE AND REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Lady Bug Landing | corner of 8th and Anderson Ave., Coos Bay (Renee Blom)

Lady Bug Landing Garden Report - 5/15

Finally, the sun is shining, and gardeners are happily planting their gardens. We survived the heat spell from this weekend and so did all the little plants. The MG's donated a few plants left from Tomato-rama and some others were donated in

addition, so lots of planting has been going on. We have had a couple people give up their plots for various reasons, but they have been filled again right away.

The demo beds have lettuce, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, kale, chard, potatoes, tomatoes, peppers, beets, and carrots planted, onions & shallots will be planted this Wednesday. Zucchini, beans, and cucumbers will get planted soon. Also, we did an annual flower bed for gardeners to be able to do cut flowers last year and we are doing that again. We also have a bed of different branching sunflowers and sweet peas growing. The espalier Fuji apple tree has been beautiful and looks like lots of apples are setting. So, the garden season is happening. There have been a few gardeners that have been helping with the demo areas, weeding, and watering and will help with harvesting when stuff is ready for the Food Bank. Renee is there every Wednesday and Saturday 9:30-12+, to tend the demo area and help with gardeners.

Happy Gardening

Coquille Harvest Moon Garden | 180 N. Baxter Street, Coquille

<http://www.coquillecommunitygarden.org>

Val Berg

The Harvest Moon Garden Report

Coquille Harvest Moon Garden Report 4/18/23

Our outstanding board of directors has been incredibly busy and going “above and beyond” to prepare our physical garden, programs, and community for a great garden year! Everyone has been contributing so much time, energy, talent, and heart into this “total rehab” project, and it is very rewarding to see all our efforts starting to pay off in tangible ways.

We’ve held two group orientation sessions for incoming gardeners, and currently have just two remaining unassigned beds available. We’ve got a nice selection of donated seeds for our gardeners, and have been holding work parties every weekend - focusing on everything from soil improvements to garden repairs, to major and repeated weeding to get our invasive weed problem down to a manageable level, which we feel we can keep under control for the rest of the year, until we can do a major overhaul of the grounds including earth removal & disposal, and rebuilding of many of our structures such as beds and compost systems from scratch.

Our team is tired, but we’re heading into the “home stretch” of our spring preparations, and so encouraged to see a great new community forming.

Some new projects underway include pollinator friendly flower beds, a children’s garden bed & program, and development of our “Giving Garden” program.

Our plant sale committee is moving right along with their preparations for our May 20th fundraiser, and currently focusing on starting tomatoes, peppers, and herbs for the sale.

We have some beautiful new ceramic number plaques for the beds, currently being crafted by our talented board member - artist Ronita Yvarra. They’re not only gorgeous, but will last many years into the garden’s future. We will share photos soon on our new social media pages, and we’d love to have any interested SCCGA members like/follow our pages to see these and more updates:

[Coquille Harvest Moon Garden | Facebook](#) (please note: the original Harvest Moon page created and maintained by a former board president is still live on Facebook, but is no longer affiliated with us, as our board was not granted access).

[Coquille Harvest Moon Garden \(@coquillecommunitygarden\) • Instagram photos and videos](#)

We’re all very excited to start growing in community!

Traci Waring

President Coquille Harvest Moon Garden
theharvestmoongarden@gmail.com

Good Earth Community Garden | at the end of 8th Ct., Bandon

Hi Karen and Tina,

The Good Earth Community Garden has 8 remaining plots to be rented and we're beginning to see new growth throughout the garden! We have veggies growing in the two donation plots and we are planning on providing fresh produce to the local food banks. We do love the rain; however, we are hoping for some warm, sunny days soon so the garden will begin to flourish.

Have a wonderful Memorial Day!

Best, Susie Zohreh

Lakeside Community Garden: Michael Mueller

Our garden has 20 beds available. Mike has been tilling the beds to get rid of the morning glory and weeds and is cleaning all the beds. Simple operation. 14 of the beds rented out with 6 left for the gardeners of Lakeside. Mike will be planting vegetables in the un rented beds for the food bank.

Plant Clinic: Kathy Creason: Trainees are signing up filling up the calendars. We need more MG to sign up and things are picking up. The trainees are doing a great job. We do need more MG to mentor however. Dates available: May 22, 1 each trainee, June 5th 1 MG, June 15th 1 MG, June 22, and 26 MG.

Plant Sale Committee | 2022 Tomato-Rama

Some great news. We sold more than last year with a gross tally of close to 4,000 dollars compared to last years sales of \$2000. Everyone that signed up to volunteer turned out and did an amazing job.

Some notes from a quick hot wash after the event: Open at 9 am next year and go till 2 pm. Selling of the plants in the first hour was fast and furious.

Wider aisles, Next year have it the day before Mothers day. Have a door monitor to slow down traffic to make it safer. Have some food and snacks for all the volunteers. Beverages would be nice

More sun gold cherry tomatoes. perhaps have two designated growers for specific types of tomatoes. A few 6 packs of lettuce would be nice. Swiss chard as well. Make some slicing tomato signs.

For labels, keep them simple: Name of plant, days to , Determinate, Indeterminate, Slicers, Cherries.

Organized what we grew from the lists. Put up a sign up sheet in January for assorted tomatoes and plants so we have a more even number- 100 plus stupice versus 10 black krims...more balance

Having a master list helps all to be able to grow something they want to grow Give the growers more choices this way and more balanced numbers.

Go thru containers and cull unsellable plants.

Post when it is the optimum time to plant our seeds. This would be especially useful to the new growers and trainees. Hopefully this will help all to plant and have time to grow out thick plants. Perhaps give a seminar at the December meeting or January meeting on how to successfully grow plants for the sale.

Again I want to personally thank each and everyone of you for the great effort put in to making this a tremendous day for all of us. I will be tallying up all the types of plants grown and sold so that we have a good starting point for next year.

Scholarship Committee: Closed this year.

School Garden Grants: 3 applications received. Kathy, Mary, Mary Ann and Samantha will be meeting to look over and make the decisions on the grants. Myrtle Crest School, SWOCC Horticulture Agroecology course with instructional garden, and North Bay School with end of the year, June 15th

seed bombs. Samantha will give out the seed bomb recipe. Super easy. Seeds can be acquired thru Darci and other local sources. We need to use a lot of seeds for these seed bombs. Must be peet free and then clay powder. 5 cups compost 2 cups clay power and 1 cup seeds. Makes 100 seed bombs golf ball size. They made 300 for the Bandon school last year.

Coos Bay Farmers Market: Mike Mueller reported that over 40 people stopped and got information, seeds and it was a successful day. Afternoon shifts bring the equipment to the room at the very back instead of the former office to the left. Sarah or Mike can show you where it should go. Sam requested 300 seed packets to disperse for you all. Lori can get the seeds to Mike tomorrow as well as plants from Greg for the market. 5 flats of tomatoes. So, they can go to the market tomorrow. Melissa is the coordinator of the farmers market and she is very accessible and helpful.

Bandon Farmers Market: Suggest was made to do a form but questions can be asked without a form. Good suggestion for engaging. We are there and it started, she did let us in last minute, got it set up and Karen picked it up in the afternoon. We were outside this year, Lynn Jackson reported the it was chilly and breezy and challenging, and there are concerns that we will be blowing away with the winds. 12 contacts came by and people were engaging with us. The market inside is pleasant, but we don't know if we will be able to be inside. We shall see. Suzi and Carin will be manning the booth. First Friday of the month through October.

Statewide "Growing and Belonging Committee"

Donna Leveridge-Campbell

Donna Submitted a book report to the State Newsletter. A shorter version will be presented in our newsletter.

Oregon Master Gardeners Association Lorna Schilling.

Oregon State Advocacy Group

Letter was sent out to all MG members the Oregon State Advocacy Group

With the current standstill in the Oregon State legislature, we are presently at a standstill.

Samantha's Comments:

Give away seeds mentioned. Goody bag at the conference was branded for the University of Maryland MG. It is a great idea to promote the programs and the links by getting some seed packages branded with the MG logo. Samantha will be bringing this to the state folks so that we can maybe promote our programs with seeds. We will try to track down who could do this for the statewide MGs. Snap Ed grow the challenge. A good way to partner with others. Gail's job closed posting last night, with 15 applications. The state will meet on the 22nd of May to go over the applications. This came out of conference, how do they run their monthly meeting. Some have a social before or after the meeting to do a catch up and then start the meeting. Those that do not want to be social can be on time for the meeting. Suggested social at 9:30 am and 10:am actual meeting. No to the zoom meetings being recorded. Trainees can reach out to their mentors. In the past there were educational presentations, 15 to 30 minutes and many would like that to be re-instated. Suggestions encouraged. Also a sign up to do a presentation. We want to encourage all of you MG's to speak to others on all things gardening- a bed of needing to know about a chosen subject such as "how to grow potatoes" Have someone talk about a subject and then have a discussion on the topics. Some one could sign up to lead facilitating the subject. Samantha will put together a spread sheet on topic and facilitator, come up with questions for the discussion. June's discussion will be on POTATOES, and July, GARLIC.

WE need more painted rocks to hold down our papers. Lady bug motif would be appreciated, or strawberries, etc.

The conference went well. Session on another volunteer group from the University of Rhode Island, called food recovery of a mishmashes with MG's and MFP's called Master Food Recovery. Food waste makes up 35% of all Rhode Island land fill waste. This program came out to mitigate this problem. Partners with gleaners, MG's MFP's and others to cut down on food waste and help those that need the food should get the food. A way to preserve, secure and avoid waste.

Some challenges: Cultural norms, not FDA certified, people that do not cook or can't cook, new rules need to be brought to the fore due to red tape and legislation.

Municipal composting for the end of the trail food. Food that cannot be utilized as food.

Perhaps freeze-drying foods to distribute. Maybe add training for dehydrating, inexpensive ways to preserve. Our program is very successful on a variety of methods, unlike other counties. Snap Ed does many courses on purchasing and cooking and such.

WE are looking for more partnerships in these subjects. Unfortunately, many do not want to learn how to cook or preserve. Samantha has lots of good notes and ideas from the conference.

And Samantha has planted the beds with tomatoes, pumpkins, shallots and a few other plants. She is a rock star!

Kathy Creason went to a conference and she met the lady that is working with patients and has got these folks in assisted living facility getting them in the garden and away from the TVs. A very successful program.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned 11:46 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, June 13th at 10 AM at OSU Extension 9:30 social half an hour and 10 am to 11 am meeting, then after meeting half hour to an hour Potato discussion. July will be Garlic, on July 11.

Respectfully submitted by: Tina Powers