

COOS COUNTY MASTER GARDENER™ ASSOCIATION (CCMGA), 2024

OSU Extension Services

Myrtle Point, Oregon

September 10, 2024

Master Gardeners (veterans): Mary Ann Babb, Cathe Barter, Val Berg, Gail Cassidy, Kathy Creason, Mary Dixon, Imogene McDonald, Ed Powers, Tina Powers, Lorna Schilling, Dottie Tucker, Claudia Turner, Caren Brewster (O), Donna Leveridge-Campbell (O), Mike Mueller (O), Laurie Wartnik (O) **Trainees:** Jennifer Brongil, Norma Ferre, Linda Graves, Robbie Palzer, Janet Jones (O), Jeff Jones (O), Barbara, Negherbon (O). (O)=online Zoom attendees

Meeting called to order by Lorna Schilling.

ADDITIONS: None

INTRODUCTIONS: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mary has bearded iris in the lobby and corms of dwarf orange watsonia. They are native to S. Africa. Also has wild Mexican marigold. Supposed to repel moles, and host of pests. They reseed prolificly. Has tiny, light-yellow flowers.

MINUTES:

TREASURER'S REPORT: MaryJo Audette

<i>Prior balance (Opening balance: First Community Credit Union)</i>	\$10,019.85
<i>Income (Members' Dues, Fundraisers, Grants, and donations)</i>	\$0.00
<i>Expenses</i>	\$638.00
<i>Ending Balance</i>	\$10225.37
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CD balance: \$10,143.54

Lady Bug Landing Garden Report

Lady Bug Landing is winding down, starting to pull some of the squash and cucumber plants due to powdery mildew or cutting back leaves. Everyone's tomatoes are starting to ripen, and some are getting fall plants in the ground as the fall season approaches. It has been a good season. Lots of food has gone to the Food Bank from the demo beds the last few weeks, averaging about 85-100 pounds each week; lettuce, cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, LOTS of cucumbers and zucchini, tomatoes, beans, onions and potatoes. As plants have finished, we are now planting Buckwheat in the beds which is a 6-week cover crop which pulls phosphorous from the air into the ground. We are also starting to get the perennial beds cleaned up as everything winds down. Enjoy these last few days of summer.

Good Earth Community Garden

The garden continues to flourish and be a beautiful place to find peace and calmness. I was talking to a gardener the other day, and she told me that when she felt stressed, she would come to the garden and find the love of mother nature. The beauty of the colorful flowers, amazing produce, interesting insects, and the cute birds offer us tranquility. I hope everyone is enjoying. We continue to collaborate with our community and will join Native Plant Society- South Coast, Bandon Parks and Recreation, and Stillwater Natives Nursery to design and build a float for the Cranberry Festival on September 14th! Our gardeners and friends of the garden will be dressed up as pollinators (bees and butterflies), and passing out seeds to the crowd! This will be such a fun, exciting event, and everyone is welcomed to attend. 🐝🦋 Finally, we crossed the 400 pounds of produce donations in August. Thanks to generous gardeners, local gardeners, and our 2 donation plots. Thank you all for your support!

Coquille Harvest Moon Garden

The garden is still producing well. Just yesterday we donated 25lbs of food to our food bank. As the summer plants are giving up the ghost some of our gardeners are pulling them out and replacing them with peas, beans, greens, etc. The squash plants are almost done for the season. We have found that squash plants do not like being in pots or grow bags (in the garden and in our home gardens). Next year the food bank squash will be planted directly in the ground. Our delivery from Lowes has finally arrived. We have all the parts for our 3 projects. It's a little overwhelming but when we went with Lowes instead of Coquille Supply we had the extra money to purchase the other materials. Replacing the three beds along the side is our first priority. We managed to get the driver to put our pallet of concrete blocks far enough inside we can close and lock the gate. His forklift would not fit under the entryway arch. We were going to move them but decided, why move them twice. We are all old. Kelly and I have decided to cut up the deteriorating boards and put them at the bottom of the new beds. Like a Hugelkultur bed. This will create more soil and we won't have to find a way to dispose of them. We are in the process now of completely dismantling the old beds. The larger bricks are for outside the garden. They are to increase our pollinator garden out front

and create and herb garden. The final project is doing the outsides of our existing beds the same as Mike Mueller has done at Lakeside. We were able to purchase the material to cover one bed. We are planning to go to Mike's garden to see what he has done. A gentleman from a tree trimming company asked if we could use some chips and now has dumped a load outside our fence. He will bring more as we need them. We had a chip moving party and had a really good turnout. The chips are not completely done but as we are old and broken so we worked until our bodies said stop. We have covered about 2/3rd of the paths now. We have caught a couple of rats this week. Wish it was more but we will keep at it. The neighbor is trapping also Can't wait to see what we accomplish this month.

Harmony Gardens, Lakeside

All 20 beds have and are still very productive. Took tomatoes and cucumbers to North Bend Senior Center. Lots of apples going to Lakeside food bank. Grew a 10 ft tall sunflower with a head a foot across.

Plant Clinic: Kathy Creason: Still openings in plant clinic for Sept. 19,23,26 and 30th. October still has openings.

Fair Report: No report.

Plant Sale Committee 2024: For those that are planning to start early propagating in the near future there is dirt downstairs. Tina has ordered 8 cases of 3 1/2" pots and 100 or 120 trays. Think about starting early and consider starting a variety of plants. Mike has volunteered to demonstrate propagation at the October meeting.

School Garden Grants: No report.

Coos Bay Farmers Market: Sam has requested we be located in the same side street so people know where we're located. Still having good visitation. One more market on September 18th. May need to find a new space for our stuff. Will see next year.

Bandon Farmers Market: Bandon market is this Friday. The Cranberry Festival is also this weekend. Should have a lot of people coming through. Sam may cancel October 11th farmers market in Bandon if we can't find enough people interested in doing the market.

Oregon Master Gardeners Association-Mary Dixon

OMGA meeting was held last Friday. They are looking for people to fill spots. Such as the newsletter editor. They have decided to push their budget upward to send more people to the Joy of Gardening. President asked if we wanted to host another Joy of Gardening. It was voted as a yes. OMGA is currently updating the MOA (memorandum of agreement) with OSU. Seed to supper will be an all-new program. Updating growing and belonging. There are 7 new Master Gardener coordinators.

Sam's August Coordinators Report

We are winding down on the volunteer calendar so make sure to get your hours put into the online volunteer reporting system sooner rather than later so Sam doesn't have to verify 2000 plus entries all at once. Sam reported on the National MG Coordinators Conference she attended in New Mexico last month. It was filled with great presentations and some opportunities to add programming to our local MG program. One of the projects/programs was a presentation from UFL on the gARTening Program where they reached new residents by combining art and gardening under the lens of therapeutic gardening and improving mental health through gardening. They host workshops and charge a small fee to cover supplies and make a little money for the MG program doing things like pressed flower art, garden stepping stones, hypertufa planters, etc. Another interesting program was Colorado State University's green school which is an online MG training that is coordinated statewide and then participants do hands on labs and trainings at the local level before starting volunteering in their respective counties. Sam also learned about a program called Poll Everywhere that allows you to have trivia questions as an interactive component of your MG training. Iowa State University created a Curated Literature as Continuing Education for MGs that gives a quarterly suite of reading materials available to MGs through email that they can read and complete a quiz through Qualtrics to receive 1 hour of continuing ed credit per quarter.

ADJOURNMENT: Respectfully submitted Gail Cassidy

Next meeting October 8, 2024. Social time starts at 9:30, actual meeting starts at 10am.