

THE DIRT SHEET

A Publication of the Wasco County Master Gardener™ Association

Inside this Issue

President's Corner	2
WCMGA board mtg	3
Fabulous Fig Tree	4
Calendar	5

On-Line Master Gardener Training

The registration form is live and ready to go. These classes are optional. You will need to register in Ideal-logic to have access to the course. Registration instructions follow on page 2. The link to register is in the instructions, but also here:

https://apps.ideal-logic.com/osuextension?key=F3T9-25VWY_K9KH-5PTF_577f7ddb

The courses that are currently available for you are:

- Plant Problem Diagnosis
- Herbaceous Ornamentals
- Woody Landscape Plants
- PNW Native Plants
- Pruning Woody Plants
- Sustainable Landscape Design
- Sustainable Landscape Management

We had a really good presentation on the **Oregon Bee Project** by Andony Melathopoulos, Assistant Professor, OSU. It is now available online for you: https://media.oregonstate.edu/media/t/1_gos4l41x

These are some other links Andony thought would be a good resource for you:

- [Oregon State Bee Keepers Association Swarm Call](#)
- [Nurturing Mason Bees in Your Backyard in Western Oregon](#)
- [Shrubs for Fall and Winter Bloom](#)
- [Pollination Podcast](#)
- [Oregon Bee Atlas Outreach Materials](#)

More class information continues on page 2

Spring Flowers



Delosperma nubigena – ice plant



Aubrietia deltoidea & ? - purple rock cress



Paeonia tenuifolia – fernleaf peony



Iris sp.



Allium aflatunense (?) – purple sensation

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

I hope that you are all doing well and staying healthy in this (mostly) beautiful May weather. I've been thinking about the canceled Spring Fair and wishing we were preparing for this. I miss you all, and I miss the camaraderie that we had in the classes and working together. But we do have a substitute for the meetings.

Some of us have been "meeting" by Zoom on Wednesday afternoons for a "garden chat". We have had three of these chats so far, and we look forward to seeing people and talking with them online. Please join us on Wednesdays at 2:00. Kim has sent out an email inviting everyone. If you have not used Zoom (I just learned in the last month or so) it is easy to use. Click on the link Kim sent and follow the prompts. You can join with video or just with audio if you are using your phone. It is fun to hear what each one is doing, and how their own gardens are growing.

Please check out the online classes that Kim has arranged for us. Several of us joined a live Zoom class on beekeeping a couple of weeks ago. It was fascinating and we learned so much about bees. The rest of the classes are not live, but should be interesting. I look forward to when this distancing is lifted and we can see each other again. Thank you, Kim!!

Marilyn



"Common Nutrient Deficiencies and Other Soil-related Sources of Plant Problems Encountered in the Willamette Valley."

Neil Bell, Marion County Extension, gave a presentation to the Polk County Master Gardeners recently. This is a narrated Powerpoint presentation. https://media.oregonstate.edu/media/t/1_hafcbdo3/

HOW TO REGISTER AND ACCESS THE ONLINE MASTER GARDENER MODULES

First, you must register in our system Ideal-logic using this link: https://apps.ideal-logic.com/osuextension?key=F3T9-25VWY_K9KH-5PTF_577f7ddb

Create an account:

You must use an outside provider account. Google, Facebook and Microsoft (including Live, Outlook, Hotmail) are the most common, under the "More options..." on the log in page are also Twitter and Linked in. If you have previously been in the system under one of these accounts, it should remember you when you log in.

Using one of these accounts is the only way OSU's IT department will let our non-credit students access Canvas, the learning system where your course content is held. OSU IT said the large social media companies log in portals are more sophisticated and secure. Plus we don't hold your passwords to your log-in in our system – they are held only within the external providers. So it is more secure. Unfortunately we have no other options at this time for Canvas access.

If you do not have one of those provider accounts, you will have to set one up just so you can access the modules.

HOW TO ACCESS YOUR ONLINE COURSE CONTENT

When you submit your registration, you will receive an email from **Extension Service via ideal-Logic**, saying that your course is now available. This email will also include a link to log in to the same system that you used to register for the course (Ideal-Logic). If you can't find that email or need the link now it is: <https://apps.ideal-logic.com/osuextension>

Instructions continued on last page

The Dirt Sheet

Wasco County Master Gardeners Association Board Meeting April 15, 2020

Members Present: Marilyn Richardson;
Annabelle Lavier; Bruce Lavier; Bill Marick,
Jens Frederickson, Ronnie Smith, Steve
Gillette, Peggy Peterson
OSU Rep: Kim McCullough

The Wasco County Master Gardeners
Association Meeting was called to order at
2:00 pm using Zoom.

Minutes: Accepted as submitted. (Jens moved,
Bruce seconded)

Treasurer's Report: \$13,040.78 as of
4/15/2020. Budget passed subject to audit.

REPORTS:

OSU Reports: OSU and Extension may be
operational by July 1, but at this time no one
knows. Activities are on hold including the
hiring of WCMGA coordinator. Kim needs
information on the revenue raised in previous
years from the plant sale. Jens will review the
previous years audited accounts.

NORCOR:

The greenhouse is closed, but there are a few
issues/items remaining. Usually Master
Gardeners use 65% of the total soil and pots
purchased. The pots are in the shed, but the
soil is still in the greenhouse and needs to be
removed. It is time (maximum 1 year) and
heat sensitive. Bruce and Annabelle will
discuss how best to remove Master Gardener's
allotted bales and take them to The DIG.
Bruce and Annabelle will also talk to NORCOR
about how best to have the shade cloth
installed.

The DIG:

Colin and Jean have volunteered to rebuild the
one remaining bed (sand box with trellis).
Cindy purchased 3 yds of bark chips. Bruce
indicated that Master Gardeners may need to
purchase 3-2-1 soil for the beds. Members
agreed to take the bales of soil from NORCOR
to The DIG for possible use and order soil if
necessary.

Trainings:

Kim discussed possible options for trainings
including online (remote) classes. One
option could be to carry over new Master
Gardeners until next year. Board members
agreed that trainings are important and
should be offered to the membership even if
it means that they will be online and held
during the summer months. Kim indicated
that she'd set that up and disseminate the
information to the membership.

Plant Clinics: Kim will continue to receive
email and phone questions and forward
them to volunteer Master Gardeners (Peggy,
Gary, Bill, Steve, and Marilyn). Kim also
noted that she is providing public
information (includes newspaper special
edition and posters for home improvement
centers, Home Depot (Melody) and ACE
Hardware (Lynn) advertising the virtual
plant clinics. Ronnie will call Scott at the Art
Center. He's requesting a Master Gardener
be involved in an upcoming event.

OMGA: At this point everything is up in the
air.

NEW BUSINESS:

ZOOM Happy Hour or something like that
held on Wednesdays at 2:00 to provide
Wasco County Master Gardeners the
opportunity to share information and enjoy
each other's company.

Radio shows —Ronnie has and will continue
to cover KODL's coffee break.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm.

Annabelle Lavier, secretary

OUR FABULOUS FIG TREE

Jean Zylka

Colin and I have a fig tree. It came with the house. We do not know the variety or exactly when it was planted, but it is now a nice sturdy tree. Our tree produces two good size crops per year. The little figs come out about the same time as the leaves early in the spring. This photo is from April 11.



The figs get bigger fast, as do the leaves. The next photo is from April 26. The figs are much larger and will get bigger still and then ripen. We get a crop in the mid-summer and the second crop is ripe in fall. Since we have so many figs, I had to find a way to use them all. This recipe is one of our favorites!



Home Made Fig Newtons

(The recipe I use is from food.com.)

Ingredients:

1 pound dried figs or 2 pounds fresh figs
 1 cup sugar
 1 cup water if using dried figs, 1/2 cup if using fresh figs
 1/2 cup butter, room temp
 1 cup sugar
 1 large egg
 1 tablespoon cream or milk
 1/2 teaspoon vanilla
 1/2 teaspoon salt
 1 teaspoon baking powder
 1 3/4 cups flour

Directions:

Dice figs and soak in water for 1 hour. (remember different amount of water if using dried vs. fresh figs)
 Add sugar to figs and cook on medium heat until a thin jam consistency.
 Beat sugar, butter, egg, milk and vanilla until well blended.
 Add dry ingredients. Mix well and refrigerate 1 hour.
 Place 1/2 of the dough on a well floured dough cloth, knead about 6 times.
 Roll out to about 1/4" thick and line 13X9 glass baking dish. Cover with fig mixture. Roll remaining dough and cover figs.
 Bake at 350* for 30 minutes. Cool before cutting.

Tip: Start the fig soak and then put the dough ingredients together to refrigerate for that hour. Leave the dough in the fridge while you then heat up the figs and sugar. Everything will then be ready about the same time.

The Dirt Sheet

Newsletter of the Wasco County
Master Gardener™ Association

Carolyn Wright, editor
carolynnewright@gmail.com

Officers

President – Marilyn Richardson

President Elect – Candace Newman

Past President – Steve Gillette

Secretary – Annabelle Lavier

Treasurer – Jens Fredericksen

Historian – Bruce Lavier

OMGA Rep – Ronnie Smith
Alternate OMGA Rep – Steve Gillette

OSU Extension Staff

vacant, Program Coordinator

Find Us Online

<http://blogs.oregonstate.edu/wcmga/dirt-sheet/>

For those of you *not* on **Facebook**,
you can still view our page and read
articles posted there. Here is the link:
<https://www.facebook.com/WascoMG/>

Calendar

May 6	2pm	Garden chat*
May 13	2pm	Garden chat
May 19	2pm 8pm	Board Meeting Election Day! Ballots due by 8pm
May 20	2pm	Garden Chat
May 27	2pm	Garden Chat
May 30		Deadline for June newsletter

*You can participate in the Zoom Garden Chats through your computer, smart phone, iPad OR you can simply call in from any phone. You will get to hear everyone and interact regardless which method you use. Click on the link:
<https://oregonstate.zoom.us/j/96900780116?pwd=Lz1eXFSYmE0OTJZWkp5a2dxMXpQZz09>

Phone Dial-In Information: Call one of these numbers
1-971-247-1195 US (Portland) 1-253-215-8782 US or
1-301-715-8592 US

You will be asked to enter the Meeting ID #: 969 0078 0116

Continuation of instructions for accessing online courses from page 2:

You will have to use this method every time you access the online course content in Canvas. You will have to be comfortable with your provider account. If you forget your password, you will have to request it through that External provider.

After you get logged in, it will open up to your Student Home. You will see the course name, and an orange Access Course button next to it. Click on the **Access Course** button, and you will be in Canvas, where you will access the course content.

Thank you, Kim for all this information! If you have questions or problems contact her for help.