

The Grapevine

January 2019

The newsletter for Yamhill County Master Gardeners



Oregon State University
Extension Service
Yamhill County

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NEW YCMGA OFFICERS FOR 2019

PRESIDENT: RITA CANALES

PRESIDENT FOR 2020:

SUSANNE BEUKEMA

SECRETARY: DONN CALLAHAM

TREASURER: CAROL PARKS

OMGA REPRESENTATIVE:

NANCY WOODWORTH

OMGA ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE:

TONIA BEEBE

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE:

GAIL PRICE

BECKY KARVER

YCMGA COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS:

Community Garden

Linda Mason

Demo Garden

Gail Price

Education Outreach

Nancy Woodworth

Newsletter

Donn Callaham

Farmers' Mkt. Mac.

Tom Canales

Farmers' Market Newberg

Peter Steadman

Greenhouse

Linda Coakley

Hospitality

Polly Blum

Insect Committee

Robert Grossman

Library

Beth Durr

Photography

Nancy Woodworth

Plant Sale

Pat Fritz

Propagation

Ruth Estrada

Publicity

Tom Canales

Scholarships

Susan Nesbitt

Seed-to-Supper

Gene Nesbitt

Spring into Garden

Gene Nesbitt

Social Media/Website

Tom Canales

FIRST MASTER GARDENER CLASSES OF 2019

"Introduction" on
January 10th

"Botany" by Heather Stoven
on January 17th

For the full schedule of
classes, click on this link:



Perennial Propagation Group

North Willamette Research & Extension Center (NWREC) visit

On November 27th several perennial propagation members (Polly, Rehka, Ruth, Patti, Marilyn, Jo, Pat & Lynette) were able to go to the North Willamette Research and Extension Center (NWREC) in Aurora. After Heather's November talk about her recent travels and ongoing research with Neil Bell (Marion County) of *Arctostaphylos* (Manzanita) we were curious to see the actual plants in the trial.

During the time we were at NWREC we potted up plants, took cuttings and stuck them. Not all the cuttings were *Arctostaphylos*; we cut *Lavandula*, *Santolina*, *Hebe* and other plants for the drought tolerant ground cover trial which will be planted in the ground at NWREC in fall 2019.



Good to see the operation there, and get additional experience with cutting and sticking different varieties.

Heather took us to get cuttings of some of the *Arctostaphylos* stock plants. These were planted 7 years ago and I would say the majority had reached considerable landscape height. We cut 9 varieties and they are now in our greenhouse, under lights and with bottom heat. Heather said we might expect rooting in 30 days or so.

Several of the varieties with powder blue foliage were very striking but upon closer examination had a fungal leaf problem, so we bypassed those. We cut a ground cover, several

medium height ones and one or two that were in the 5' - 8' range after 7 years. Foliage color ranges from deep green to olive green with a variety of leaf shapes. Several had bright red or rosy new growth; very striking! An outstanding characteristic that we did not expect was plants with buds or open bloom.

This is the normal time of year for some manzanita to bloom: many also flower late winter into spring. This is exciting for two reasons - color in the middle of winter; and food in winter for bees. As a member of the Ericaceae family, the flowers are lantern-shaped, just like *Pieris japonica*.



Ruth Estrada

A Note from the Editor...

Most "Grapevine" issues 2 people (or 3, counting myself) contribute articles to the Grapevine. This issue, I want to thank these people for submitting material:

- * TOM CANALES: "What is YCMGA?"
- * RUTH ESTRADA: "Propagation Group"
- * MICHAEL O'LOUGHLIN: "Hawthorn Decline"
- * HEATHER: "Heather's Highlights & "Pesky Profiles"
- * NANCY WOODWORTH: "Oregon Food Bank"
- * LORETTA ELLIOTT: "Medicinal Herbs"

YAMHILL COUNTY MASTER GARDENER CALENDAR

JANUARY 2019

8 Tuesday

- 🌸 **"SPRING INTO GARDENING" COMMITTEE MEETING:** 10AM TO 11AM, PUBLIC WORKS AUDITORIUM

9 Wednesday

- 🌸 **YCMGA BOARD MEETING:** PUBLIC WORKS AUDITORIUM AT THE EXTENSION OFFICE, McMINNVILLE. BEGINS AT 10:00 AM, ENDS ABOUT NOON.

10 Thursday

- 🌸 **FIRST CLASS OF 2019:**
9AM TO NOON: "MG PROGRAM INTRODUCTION" BY HEATHER STOVEN
INTRODUCTORY "BRUNCH" "MOODLE" OR READ TEXT

17 Thursday

- 🌸 **MASTER GARDENER CLASSES:**
9AM TO NOON: "BOTANY" BY HEATHER STOVEN, OSU EXTENSION
1PM TO 4PM: "INSECTS" BY MICHAEL O'LOUGHLIN, MASTER GARDENER

24 Thursday

- 🌸 **MASTER GARDENER CLASSES:**
9AM TO NOON: "PROPAGATION" BY NORM JACOBS & GAIL PRICE, SPECIALISTS
1PM TO 4PM: "TREE FRUITS" BY ROSS PENHALLEGON, OSU EXTENSION

29 Tuesday

- 🌸 **SUDDEN OAK DEATH WEBINAR:** 11 AM ON YOUR PERSONAL COMPUTER

31 Thursday

- 🌸 **MASTER GARDENER CLASSES:**
9AM TO NOON: "POLLINATORS" BY MICHAEL O'LOUGHLIN, MASTER GARDENER
1PM TO 2PM: "VOLUNTEER FAIR" (COMMITTEE CHAIRS: EXPLANATION OF OPPORTUNITIES TO VOLUNTEER WITH YCMGA).
2PM TO 4PM: "SOILS" BY JAMES CASSIDY, OSU CROP & SOIL SCIENCE

UPCOMING MASTER GARDENER EVENTS

- 🌸 **SPRING INTO GARDENING 2019**
SATURDAY MARCH 16TH - 8:45 - 4PM - AT THE [MAC COMMUNITY CENTER](#)

EVERY SATURDAY 9AM Listen to:

"TO THE ROOT OF IT" PROGRAM @ 9:00 AM. ON RADIO KLYC AM 1260 WITH SHARON & KYLE.

A PRIMER: WHAT IS YCMGA?

For new folks and even for some veterans, explanations about the dual organizational structure of Master Gardeners in Oregon and the relationship between the OSU Master Gardener Program and the county association's can be confusing. The following is an attempt to explain what's going on and why we have two separate but co-operating organizations. Oregon's Master Gardener program is overseen by Oregon State University. Its stated goal is to provide:

"A program that educates Oregonians about the art and science of growing and caring for plants. This program also facilitates the training of a highly educated corps of volunteers. These volunteers extend sustainable gardening information to their communities through education and outreach programs".

Each county in the state has an **OSU County Extension office**. Each extension office typically oversees multiple programs such as: Animals and Livestock, Business and Economics, Crop production, Families and food, 4-H, among many others. The Master Gardener program is overseen by Extension Horticulture faculty (Heather) and is assisted by Yamhill County staff, (Jade – office specialist and assistant to MG program), Kelli (Office Manager). In that role Heather is responsible for **providing annual Master Gardener Training** and re-

certification of members and ensuring the Master Gardener mission of providing sustainable gardening education to the public is met.

Many OSU Master Gardener programs also are associated with the statewide non-profit organization, the **Oregon Master Gardener Association (OMGA)**. The OMGA began in 1982 as a way to support and enhance the Master Gardener program. The OMGA provides support to OSU and Master Gardeners through advanced trainings, scholarships and awards. The OMGA is the umbrella organization for local chapters which are present in many Oregon counties.

In Yamhill County, the **Yamhill County Master Gardener Association (YCMGA)** works to provide support to the OSU Yamhill County Master Gardener Program. The association, in collaboration with OSU faculty, organizes outreach and aims to fill the educational mission of the Master Gardener program within the county. This includes Spring into Gardening, Seed to Supper, the McMinnville Community Garden, manning the Master Gardener Desk, Farmers Markets as well as a number of outreach plant clinics held throughout the year. In addition to its OSU-stated mission, the Yamhill County Master Gardener

Association (YCMGA) also organizes an annual plant sale and provides academic scholarships for local young folks entering college who are focusing on agricultural related majors.

The YCMGA has its own board of directors, elected by the members who manage the many committees that, in turn, organize and delegate the work to achieve our mission. The YCMGA also maintains its own website that is 100% dedicated

to Yamhill County Master Gardeners and their mission. You can quickly get to many resources directly useful to Master Gardeners on our [website](#), in-

cluding the member roster, event signups, calendar of upcoming events, photo galleries, newsletters, science-based gardening resources.

The OSU Yamhill County Extension Master Gardener site (<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/yamhill>) is a program specific resource that provides program participants with program information and annual paper work as well as gardening information resources. This is a great resource for those currently involved with the program.



Tom Canales

Why the Hawthorn Decline?

For the past three years I have noticed quite a few of my native hawthorn trees dying. It started out with a dozen down by the wetlands and has made its way up to the barn. Over three dozen trees have died to date.

As any Master Gardener would do I started to research what was killing them but could find no answer. So this year I contacted Amy Grotta, OSU Forestry & Natural Resources Extension to see if she could help. She said that it had been noticed between Woodburn and Salem along the I-5 corridor two years ago and researchers from OSU had been working on it. She passed the question on to Brad Withrow-Robinson (Amy's counterpart in Benton County) who sent me this information from George Kral, a PhD student.

The search for a cause of the dramatic decline



in native hawthorns is drawing to a close. Analyses of plant samples has come up with a broad range of stress-related secondary pathogens. This suggests some kind of environmental stress, and not a new, emerging primary pathogen.

Of all our native trees and shrubs, I would have expected hawthorn to be more the cockroach than the canary, but it looks as if native Crataegus suksdorfii are struggling with changing environmental conditions, also affecting red



alder and Douglas fir.

As we have seen over the past couple of years, many tree problems coming into the Master Gardener office have ended up being stress-related. Often that stress is a long hot summer. Most cases in Yamhill County seem to pertain to evergreens; however here is an example of a struggling native deciduous tree.



Michael O'Loughlin

A Famous Weevil...

Entomologist Bob Anderson of the Canadian Museum of Nature has named a newly-discovered species of beetle *Sicoderus bautistai* because the weevil, with its long snout, reminded the entomologist of a bat-throwing home run that made Bautista famous. The insect is a tiny black weevil found in Bautista's native Dominican Republic.

So perhaps if you do something extraordinary, an insect may someday be named after you. Just hope that it's not a parasite, or even worse—an invasive, parasitic grub.



Facts and Fallacies: Never Disturb the Roots

Linda Chalker-Scott, PhD. of Puyallup Extension, Washington State U. has researched dozens of plant topics. This article is an extremely brief synopsis of her work on various horticultural myths.

THE MYTH: "WHEN YOU TRANSPLANT, MAKE EVERY EFFORT NOT TO DISTURB THE ROOTS."

It seems obvious that the more intact the root system the better the chances of establishment. And, this *is* true of annual flowers and vegetables.

Woody perennials, shrubs, and trees, however, all benefit from a more vigorous approach. Surprisingly, some of the harshest techniques when transplanting these will result in the healthiest plants. At transplant time, a more aggressive approach to root preparation can discover potentially fatal root flaws.

It's important to realize that roots respond to pruning in much the same way as the crown:

pruning induces new growth. Roots that are pruned at transplant time will respond by generating new, flexible roots.

Removal of potting medium will help the plant adapt to the surrounding soil. Furthermore, the porous texture of this planting medium will often lose water more rapidly than the surrounding native soil.



WHEN TRANSPLANTED ROOTS ARE LEFT AS IS, THIS IS WHAT OFTEN HAPPENS:

- ***Roots circle the plant*** (from being pot bound) and eventually girdle the plant.
- ***Roots may have formed "J" shapes*** resulting in the roots going up instead of down.
- ***New roots are slow to form*** without the stimulus of being pruned.
- ***Too-long roots*** are bent when planting and are not functional.
- ***Knotted or misshapen*** roots hinder growth (or slowly kill) the plant.
- Soil in the pot ***won't mix*** with surrounding soil, inhibiting plant growth.

HERE IS WHAT YOU SHOULD DO WHEN TRANSPLANTING TREES, SHRUBS, AND WOODY PERENNIALS...

- **Cut away and break up any circling roots.**
- **Remove any misshapen, knotted, or J-hooked roots.**
- **Prune any roots that are excessively long (and promote new growth).**
- **Remove as much as possible of the original "soil" or planting medium.**
- **Mulch the plant to maintain soil temperature and moisture, and to prevent weeds.**



Heather's Highlights

Happy New Year to all of you and I hope you had a joyous holiday season. Now that 2019 is here it is time to think about our new Master Gardener training classes. I am looking forward to meeting the new trainees and learning of their skills and interests. Classes start the **10th of January**, so feel free to come and participate in the potluck to welcome the class members the first day of class. This year, due to our auditorium schedule, we will have a **breakfast potluck starting at 9 am** and class will end at noon on that one day.

We have a large class this year and will have 28 new trainees. I am excited to have such a large

class; however we will likely have a full space.

We will now be **asking veteran Master Gardeners to sign up prior to attending the classes with Jade or the front office staff**

just to be sure we have room in the Public Works Auditorium. However, during special events such as potluck or "job fair" days we will not be asking veterans to register in advance unless you are planning to attend that day's lecture.

This year should be fun as we have many of our regular instructors as well as a couple new instructors: Rich Regan, a retired OSU faculty, will teach Plant Nutrition, Signe Danler (OSU Horticulture) will teach Landscape Design, and James Cassidy (OSU Crop and Soil Science) will be back to teach Soils. Classes will be every Thursday through March 21th. The schedule can be found on the Yamhill County Extension website below:

<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/yamhill/yamhill-master-gardener-training-class>

Please join us on Thursday's training season to welcome the new class, brush up on your basics and receive continuing education hours!



In 27 years, there has been a loss of 76% or more of insect biomass

[Washington Post article](#)



Extreme Topiary

Are olives Viable in Oregon?

Recently I learned that the OSU North Willamette Research and Extension Center in Aurora, Oregon was conducting cold hardiness trials on olive trees. I don't remember seeing olive trees for sale in a local garden center until just a few years ago. Today the selection is still limited, but they are available, even though their performance in our area is not fully known.

The variety 'Arbequina' has been the most readily available and is said to be winter hardy, but perhaps there are other varieties than might be even more so. Oregon currently has 15 commercial olive growers with Red Ridge Farms in Dayton, Oregon being the largest.

Are olives Viable for Oregon? That is what scientists at the OSU North Willamette Research and Extension Center hope to discover. While the focus for these trials is for the commercial grower to determine whether olives can become a viable crop here, much of this information can also be applied to the home garden.



This particular trial consists of more than 90 different cultivars that will be planted in an open field with no protection from the elements. There will be supplemental irrigation to get the plants established. Since olive trees are sensitive to cold temperatures, it is believed that planting them early in the spring will offer the trees a better chance of survival.

Heather Stoven, OSU Extension horticulturist for Yamhill County, has found the olive trees difficult to propagate. Heather is experimenting with various rooting hormones, the timing of taking the cuttings, and the medium to use. Olives are not grafted, but are grown on their own roots.

Neil Bell, OSU community horticulturist for Marion and Polk County, is working on the cold tolerance aspect. Some cultivars will tolerate the low temperatures much better than others. The issue of cold tolerance has been the limiting factor to olives becoming a commercial crop in Oregon.

For home gardeners, olive trees should be planted in a location with full sun. A slightly sloping area would probably be optimal. Gardens tend to have microclimates, and one should avoid planting olives in any cold pockets.

Home gardeners have probably been told many times about the

importance of getting a pH test of their soil. This is very important for olive trees, which tend to prefer a more alkaline soil than is typical in Oregon. Our soils often have a pH of 5.86.0, whereas olive trees like a pH of 7.0 or just above. In most gardens here, the addition



Young Arbequina olive tree

of lime at time of planting would be advisable.

Olive trees generally are relatively insect and disease-free in our climate. In selecting a tree, choose one that is multi-branched. Rather than having the trunk exposed in the winter, the addition of branches would offer some protection.

Olive trees bloom young and early in the season. They are wind pollinated, and research is being conducted as to which trees make the best pollinators. Unfortunately, it appears that the best pollinators are also the most cold sensitive. While home gardeners may get some fruit on their tree, I think it is best

to plant an olive tree for the tree itself and not for the prospect of getting a crop.

My experience with planting olive trees has had mixed results. I bought three 'Arbequina' olive trees in June 2012. They were standards, single trunk, and I thought I had the perfect place for them. It was on a slope and received

very intense summer sun.

For the first few years, they did fine, but then we had some extremely cold winter temperatures and they suffered extensive damage. The entire canopy of the trees died and I was prepared to take them out. I procrastinated until late spring and then noticed new growth coming from the base. I

removed the single trunk and cut it off at ground level.

Today, I have three multi-branched olive trees. They actually fit into the area better than the original standards. For the past several winters there has been no damage and the trees are thriving.

I think that olive trees can be a beautiful focal point in a garden. Their silver foliage provides a nice contrast to abundant greenery. Older trees can be a major focal feature in the night garden if you place a spotlight underneath.

Even though the verdict is still out on which cultivars are the best for cold tolerance, they are worth trying. It will be interesting to see the results of the current trial at OSU NWREC.



Mike Darcy, KXL
"In the Garden"

(this is a version condensed by Editor)



Do not expect to have this in your lifetime.

"CRIMES AGAINST NATURE"



Cardboard trays saved by Safeway staff for YCMGA.

PESKY PROFILES



By Heather Stoven

Common Groundsel

This common winter annual weed germinates and grows prolifically during the winter months and blooms most commonly in spring, but it can often be seen in western Oregon year-round.

Common groundsel (*Senecio vulgaris*) is in the aster family (Asteraceae) and has yellow flowers with seeds carried by the wind by their tuft of white hairs, like a dandelion. Common groundsel is very prolific and can produce up to a million seeds in a season.



The plant itself grows to be from 4-18 inches tall and has deeply lobed leaves. The closely related weeds "woodland groundsel" and "tansy ragwort" can both be confused with common groundsel, especially when young. Like the tansy ragwort this weed contains alkaloids which can be toxic to livestock.

For home gardeners, manage this weed by using a layer of mulch or by mechanical removal. The seeds last for only a year in the seed bank; therefore if you are diligent about keeping this weed from setting seed, you should see reduction of populations the following year.

Resources:

<https://extension.wsu.edu/whitman/2013/11/common-groundsel/>
http://ipm.ucanr.edu/PMG/WEEDS/common_groundsel.html



"Gardening adds years to your life, and life to your years."

Medicinal Herbs and History, with a Twist

By Lorena Elliott, Polk County Master Gardener



Do you prefer an H with your **herb** or an E with your **erbe**. From the middle ages, the word herb in English was spelled *erbe*, from the Old French "erbe". The Latin spelling was *herba*. The English of course wanted to be different and more upper class than the French so they decided to pronounce the *h*. Both are correct.

I love to grow herbs! One of my favorites is the very aromatic Monarda (Bee Balm) that attracts the hummingbirds and bees. They can't get enough of my garden with the red and pink flowers that belong to the *La-*

miaceae plant family such as peppermint, lavender, and sage. Bee Balm loves full sun but I have had minor success with partial sun. Bee Balm grows up to 3 feet high in garden soil and clay soils.

Did you know it contains thymol? This is a phenol-based chemical that prevents bacterial and fungal cells from multiplying. This is amazing that it can be used as a mild antiseptic and has been used for minor burn treatments. In addition, bee balm leaves can

be made into a wonderful medicinal tea for your enjoyment and for gastric upsets. Use 3 to 4 healthy leaves and place in a cup of simmering hot water. Let steep for at least 3 min. Remove with a strainer, or leave in for stronger aroma.

Now to the hard part. I love hot and iced tea. If you thought that Earl Gray tea was flavored with bee balm (Bergamot) you are not alone. The commercial tea leaves are actually flavored with Bergamot the fruit, *Citrus bergamia* which resembles a small yellow orange and not Bergamot the herb (Bee Balm). The botanist who named the herb, Dr Nicholas Mondares, noticed that bee balm had the aroma of the Bergamot fruit. To make it *MORE* confusing, if you add bee balm to black tea.... yes, it has the flavor of Earl Gray. Now you know.



Award received by YCMGA in 2018 from Yamhill Soil & Water Conservation District. This is for YCMGA's efforts and contributions to educating the public re: general horticulture.

Bought a “Big Box” Christmas Tree?

If you did buy a cut Christmas tree from **Walmart, Home Depot, or Lowe’s**, it may be infested with **elongate hemlock scale** (*Firorinia externa*). The Oregon Department of Forestry warns that these stores bought trees from North Carolina (instead of locally). Many were infested with this insect which kills firs, spruce, Doug fir, and other conifers.

Though most shipments were destroyed, **DO NOT** mulch your tree or leave it outdoors. You should inspect for the scale, and if you see it email the Department of Agriculture, then bag the tree in plastic and put it with your garbage (not in recycling, of course).

[ODF hemlock scale](#)

Don’t be responsible for introducing a new threat.

OSU Announces New Weapons against Slugs

Slug Specialist uses Essential Oils

OSU researcher Rory McDonnell has found the essential oils from thyme and spearmint have proven lethal to slugs without the toxicity to humans, other animals, and the environment of traditional slug baits.

The oils have the added advantage of causing rapid mortality compared to the most common molluscicide, iron phosphate.

Thyme and spearmint caused 100% mortality at a concentration of just 0.25 percent. Direct contact with the slugs caused death, and the fumes act as an effective repellent.

Best of all, since these are natural compounds, they would be exempt from the EPA registration and residue tolerance regulations for commercial pesticides. They would, however, have to be verified by ODA as not being toxic to humans and other non-target species.

The same researcher also travelled thousands of miles searching for a nematode, *phasmahabdiltis hermaphrodita*, (go ahead and say that 3 times!) which he eventually found right there on the OSU campus, and only there. In fact, he found the only examples right outside his office!

Here’s something to ponder when you can’t get to sleep: the nematode finds a hole in the back of the slug’s head, then vomits a toxic bacterial soup into the hole. The nematode’s children then feed off the decaying slug. This nematode is actually produced on an industrial scale (by a secret process) and already on the market in Europe.

For use In the U.S., the nematode would have to be proven safe for all non-target species, (such as our native Banana Slug) which could be very difficult.



However, the essential oils are available now, dramatically effective, and far safer than the chemical alternatives now used.



Capital Press, 12/21/18
Synopsis by D. Callahan



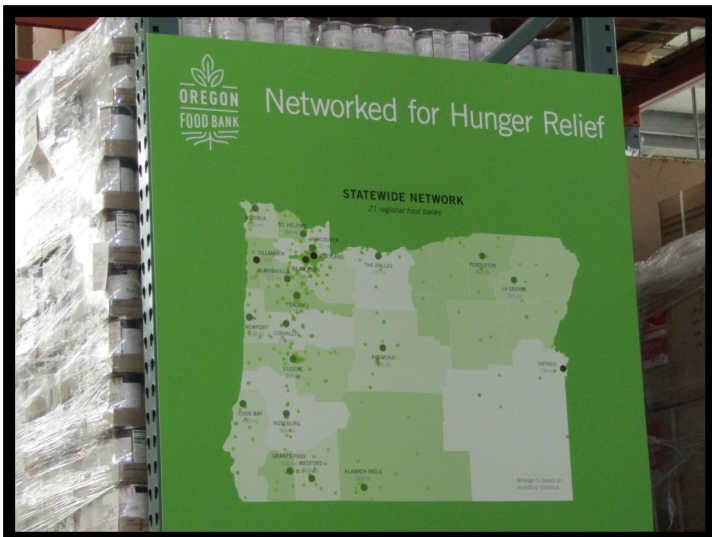
Oregon Food Bank Portland, Oregon

The Oregon Food Bank is partly a VERY large version of our Community Garden. Food is donated by farms, food processors, wholesalers, retailers, individuals, community gardens, and government sources. Surplus food from farms is delivered in totes (1/2 ton each) usually as one or more semitruck-loads at a time. The other sources bring in truckloads of surplus, damaged, or dated food daily from throughout the Portland area.

The food is then sorted into categories, after which volunteers with premade lists pick listed items from all the available food, and make up balanced food packages. These are delivered by a fleet of Food Bank trucks, which travel daily through the entire state of Oregon and into Clark County, Washington. The trucks deliver to sorting stations and distribution units (such as

the

Yamhill Community Action Partnership –YCAP– facility) which then distributes the food to individual families in that area. The Oregon Food Bank works with a statewide network of 21 regional food banks and approximately 1200 food assistance sites serving all of Oregon and Clark County, Washington.



Nancy Woodworth

YCMGA Board Meeting Minutes**November 14th 2018**

**The President called the meeting
to order at 5:07 p.m. on 11/14/18**

IN ATTENDANCE:

Donn Callaham	Pat Fritz	<i>Sue Nesbitt</i>
Rita Canales	<i>Linda Mason</i>	Carol P
<i>Cathy Burdett</i>	<i>Ruth Estrada</i>	<i>Terry Hart</i>
Nancy Woodworth	<i>Chris Shenk</i>	<i>Gail Price</i>
Susanne Beukema	<i>Candace VanZanten</i>	<i>Polly Blum</i>
<i>Michael O'Loughlin</i>	<i>Lynette Horn</i>	

Secretary's notes for October: Carol motioned the notes for October be approved, Rita seconded, and no one objected.

Treasurer's Report: Carol has sent all the financial documents by email. At present YCMGA has \$44,000 in the bank, with \$12,000 reserved. Carol asked that people who send her receipts for reimbursement:

1) Write the purpose of the expenditure on the receipt. 2) Write their mailing address on the receipt.

Announcement: Board meeting for December will be on Wednesday December 5th, rather than on the second Wednesday.

Education/Outreach committee: Heather's discussion of her work researching landscaping plants was very successful and well-attended.

McMinnville Community Garden: Donations from the Garden to YCAP stand at 16,600 pounds. A proposal is being submitted to have a crowdfunding campaign, but there will be no Family Planting Day this year. There will be a reorganization of the Kids' Garden, and staff will be in regular contact with families to ensure participation.

OMGA Representatives: The fourth-quarter meeting was held for two days at the Portland Food Bank. Tom performed a presentation about making websites, and Donn showed a simple slide show re: newsletters. Notes from the meeting will be shared at the December board meeting when we will have more time (and no one will be thinking about eating dinner).

Plant Sale: Much to everyone's relief, Sue told us that the new plant sale guidelines are meant to be phased in over a couple of years: they do not have to be fully in place this year.

However, we should do as much as possible to put them into effect now. Ruth will also communicate with Benton County Master Gardeners to share propagation information (a very generous offer!) The next meeting of the committee will be on December 5th, before the board meeting. Price increases are coming on all sizes of plants, and signs are being made.

Seed to Supper: Staff are in the process of installing approximately 20 raised beds and 30 containers for the fall class participants. It looks as if the Linfield partnership is not functional for this fall or for the foreseeable future. Recology Organics will be donating all the soil for this year, and Hampton lumber will be donating the lumber for the raised beds in Sheridan and Willamina. The containers and materials for raised beds for Newberg and McMinnville have already been purchased. There will be a debriefing of all the 2018 facilitators to look for ways to improve the overall course for the participants. Marilyn MacGregor will coordinate the activity.

Spring into Gardening: Most speakers have been confirmed. Topics will include: permaculture, irrigation, Bonsai trees, fruit trees, clay soil, native plants, slugs, weeds, insects, organic pesticides, and vegetable gardening. Sponsor solicitation is on track. Bailey's Nursery and Allison Inn have confirmed sponsorship for next year. The sponsor subcommittee is soliciting several new potential donors.

Perennial Propagation: Transplanting into gallon containers is finished. At Newberg High School planting of tender perennials and fuchsias will soon happen. Soil is being ordered, and the staff would like to use a skid steer to move it (instead of woman-power). Donn offered the use of his skid steer, but the committee would rather rent one and find someone to operate it while not obliterating the greenhouse.

Annual Propagation: This year Oriental vegetables and Hispanic specialty plants will be added to the inventory.

Mentoring Committee: Terry thanked people who volunteered to be mentors in 2019, and a few more alternates are needed. Tom volunteered to be another alternate mentor .

Nominating Committee: Voting for board members will take place tonight, as usual. Even by voting time no one had volunteered for any position (except existing members) and no one has *been* volunteered.

Unfinished Business; Liability insurance: Both Sue and Pat went to a meeting regarding liability insurance for nonprofits. Their interest was in insurance for board members, but the meeting was oriented toward insurance for volunteers in general. For board liability insurance of \$1,000,000 per event, cost ranges between \$700 and \$1200 per year. (Pat contacted 5 companies for prices). However, \$500,000 of insurance coverage is available for \$649 per year. The good news is that in Oregon we are covered for board members' stupidity and/or incompetence, because we cannot be sued for either. To be sued, we must show malicious intent, which fortunately not many of us have.

Budget for 2019: A few numbers were changed:

- 1) Community Garden allotment was lowered from \$3000 to \$2000 (they can ask for the added \$1000 after the plant sale. If we have it).
- 2) Educational Outreach was lowered from \$2000 to \$1500.
- 3) Plant sale income was raised by the optimistic plant sale operators, from \$26,500 to \$28,000.
- 4) Corporation expenses went from \$0. to \$100.
- 5) Database costs went from \$0. to \$200 (a biennial expense, taken every *other* year).
- 6) Insurance costs were decreased from \$1265. down to \$1000.
- 7) Speaker fees for Spring Into Gardening may drop from \$2000 to \$1000: many of the speakers are from OSU and are not allowed to take stipends.

It was noted by several people that the biggest impact on the budget would be Seed to Supper, with ardent hopes that the amount would be less than budgeted.

The decision was made to accept the proposed budget, with the following caveat: "The difference between income and expenditures for 2019 will come from the YCMGA savings account, where there are now adequate funds."

Susanne motioned that the proposed budget be accepted with the aforementioned stipulation and now with a proposed deficit of \$4,621. Rita seconded the motion; everyone approved.

Meeting was motioned adjourned by Pat, seconded again by Rita, and the meeting ended at 6:00 pm on the same day it had begun.





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The Grapevine

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