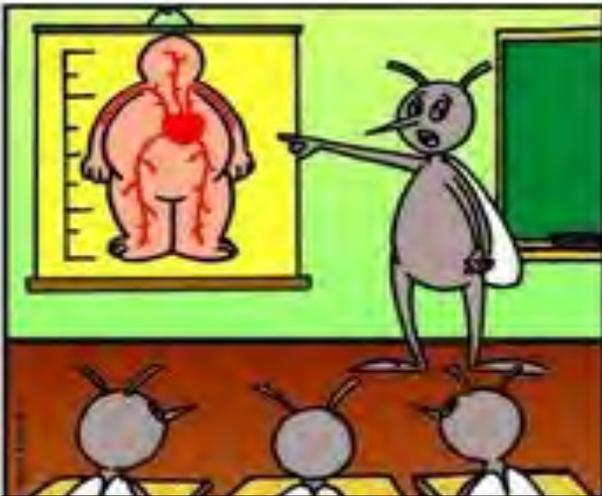




# The Grapevine

The newsletter for Yamhill County Master Gardeners

SEPTEMBER 2017



"Although you have to dig a little deeper with the corpulent humans, their blood has a buttery creaminess that makes it worthwhile."

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**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH**  
**YCMGA Board Meeting.** 10:00 a.m. to 12:00. **ALL MASTER GARDENERS ARE INVITED.**

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH**  
**Educational Outreach Committee**

***Don't forget to visit the Mac or Newberg Farmers' Markets***



The YCMGA bicycle sculpture, headed by Apryl. The sculpture won 3<sup>rd</sup> place at the MG International Convention, and will be permanently displayed at the Yamhill County Fairgrounds Demonstration Garden.

## THE OTHER WINNING SCULPTURES



*Curry County (second place winner)*



*Lincoln County (first place winner)*

### Walk Among the Trees...

A large group of MG'ers and grandchildren gathered at Linfield College on

June 29 for a "Tree Walk" lead by our own Heather Stoven. It was a sunny, cool day and the Linfield trees were standing straight, and proudly displaying their unique foliage!

Heather took us from tree to tree, discussing distinctive identification characteristics and unusual facts of each particular tree. The questions flew from the group, all beneficial to each of us.

We were all impressed with the variety of species that were planted on the grounds. Included on the tour were Persian Ironwood, Katsura, Sourwood, Japanese Persimmon, the true Cedars (Cedar of Lebanon and Deodor cedar) as well as the Japanese cedar. We also visited a European Beech, Japanese Stewartia, and the impressive Giant sequoia, Coast redwood and Dawn Redwood. Doug V. pointed out that the bark of the sequoia was spongy to touch, could even be safely punched! Of course, many of us had to see if that was true....and it was.

Heather had handouts which were very informative about these and other common trees in the Pacific N.W. Also there was a Tree Identification Key for future studies.

Surprisingly, many of the trees we viewed were deciduous. So in the fall another field trip to Linfield is a must, to see the beautiful colors of the leaves as they are shed.

Residents of Yamhill County don't visit the grounds of Linfield as frequently as they should. It's a beautiful campus, landscaped meticulously and these trees are a special treat. Heather hopes to schedule a repeat of this tour in 2018. Be sure to attend.



*Nancy Woodworth*

## Yamhill County Master Gardener Calendar



### SEPTEMBER, 2017



- 6** **Newberg Farmers' Market**, 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm. + setup & takedown.  
**Educational Outreach Meeting**, 10:00 pm to 12:00 pm. In the Public Works Auditorium. *Get there early and get a soft chair!!*
- 7** **McMinnville Farmers' Market**, 12:00 pm to 6:00 pm. + setup & takedown.  
**Insect Committee meets**, 10:00 am to noon, in the auditorium.
- 8** **Mentor Committee meets**, 10:00 am to noon, in the auditorium.
- 13** **Newberg Farmers' Market**, 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm.  
**YCMGA Board Meeting**. Public Works Auditorium. Board meeting at 10:00 a.m. to 12:00. **ALL MASTER GARDENERS ARE INVITED.**
- 14** **McMinnville Farmers' Market**, 12:00 pm to 6:00 pm. + setup & takedown.
- 20** **Newberg Farmers' Market**, 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm. + setup & takedown.
- 21** **McMinnville Farmers' Market**, 12:00 pm to 6:00 pm. + setup & takedown.  
**Insect Committee meets**, 10:00 am to noon, in the auditorium
- 27** **Newberg Farmers' Market**, 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm. + setup & takedown.
- 28** **McMinnville Farmers' Market**, 12:00 pm to 6:00 pm. + setup & takedown.  
**Native Plant Society Class: Identifying N.W. Oregon Conifers**. 7:00 pm at McMinnville Public Library. Free. **See details page 23 this Grapevine.**



**'To the Root of It'** @ 9:00 am. on radio KLYC AM 1260 with Sharon & Kyle.  
**Insect Committee** meets every 1st & 3rd Thursday of the month, 10 am to noon, auditorium

## EDUCATIONAL PLANT LABELS

**A**нна Ashby submitted this application for the "Search for Excellence" award from OMGA for the costs of making the plant sale labels. YCMGA won the grant: read this for a good description of the process used for our labels.

**Description of Project:** The goal of this project is to provide accurate, research-based information for each of the thousands of plants sold at YCMGA's annual plant sale at the Yamhill County Fairgrounds. We are able to do this via wonderful plant labeling software called "Gardenware". We have also made use of the program to print plant labels for the McMinnville Community Garden plant sale, McMinnville High School plant sale, and Newberg High School plant sale. Newberg High School has in turn purchased their own copy of Gardenware software for their horticultural program.

Pre-printed on one side of the label is the OSU Master Gardener logo, YCMGA's name, OSU Extension's name, name of the sale, YCMGA phone number and website.

Printed on the other side of the label are plant Latin name, plant common name, brief plant description and brief growing in-



*Example of front and back of a label we produce.*

formation.

**Implementation of Project:** YCMGA sells thousands of plants at the annual plant sale. Originally the plants each had a hand written label stating only the plant name. This was not a good use of our volunteers' valuable time. In 2007, Patti Gregory, YCMGA member recently retired from a commercial nursery, made a presentation to the board about the possibility of YCMGA purchasing the Gardenware software to print the labels instead of writing by hand. The board was reluctant to spend the money at that time.

The next year, Alan Wenner, a long time YCMGA member, represented the idea to the board with the caveat that he would use his own computer and printer. By this time, everyone was tired of writing thousands of labels and the purchase was approved. Since then, each new

YCMGA Board of Directors has eagerly approved the budget for the labels, ink cartridge, or printer as needed. Nobody wants to go back to hand writing over 13,000 labels.

**Budget numbers:** The original cost for YCMGA was \$600 for the software and another \$600 for the printer friendly sheets of plant labels. The price of the software has dropped to \$399, but the cost of the label material has increased slightly. The annual cost for the labels runs between \$700-\$850 depending on the number of plants to be sold. Now we have a dedicated, off the shelf, laser printer which we need to re-place every few years. The annual cost for personalized labels is about 6 cents per label. The software works on any computer running MS Windows.

**How it works:** The process starts with lists generated by



*Which label best fulfills our educational mission? (a rhetorical question...)*

mittee and Plant Sale Committee, (members change over the years), have all researched information to add additional plants to the software's plant library. Information is obtained from plant databases from Extension Universities all over the US, USDA Plant files, Missouri Botanic Gardens, Burpee Seeds, Monrovia and Dave's Garden and more.

**Results and learning impacts:** Every one con-



*Our laser printer producing a sheet of plant labels.*

expressed their appreciation for the informative labels.

the plant sale committee of what plants will be offered for sale. The person with the program installed on their computer goes through the process of printing the labels using either the existing library of information or requesting additional information from the committee if necessary. Once the necessary information is checked for accuracy, labels are printed. The labels then go to the plant sale committee, the greenhouse committee and the propagation group committee. They are re-checked for accuracy then inserted into the correct pots.

Gardenware labeling software comes with growing information for 7000+ plant varieties. Over the years, various members of the Propagation Committee, Greenhouse Com-

mitted with this project has benefited. The Master Gardeners research in the comforts of their homes or the office instead of a frenzied flipping through pages of the Sunset Garden Book at the plant sale. The customers have a weather-proof take-home reminder of their plant's needs. They are also reminded to look to OSU Extension and the Yamhill County chapter of Master Gardeners for answers to any further gardening questions every time they look at their plant label. Each year at the sale, the customers have



*A forest of our plant labels at the recent YCMGA plant sale.*

Anna Ashby



## Bibliophile versus Googleholic...

Doing research at the Master Gardener desk can be one of the most rewarding experiences. "Wow! I figured it out!" However, it can also be a harrowing, frightful journey through self-doubt. Thank goodness for all the research sources we have.

All the books in our Library are intended as references. The vast majority are written by experts in their field. The basic knowledge of horticulture, botany, and home gardening has not changed drastically in the last 30 years. These books are still quite relevant.

**Our goal for additions is to focus on local and Northwest interests.**

Several MGs come in and look at our copy of a book before they decide to buy it

themselves. Our latest goal for additions is to focus on local and Northwest interests. So take some time and get to know some of these books. I have my favorites, whom I consider friends.

For fun, I have come up with two profiles of researchers. The first, I call the "Googleholic." This one loves to hop on the search engine for Mr. Toad's Wild Ride through questionable websites and blogs in disguise. It's quick. It's easy. It's NOT fool-proof. The second

one, I call the "Bibliophile." This one loves going to the index and following the winding path of our thought process. Books are like mining for gold.

Twice recently, I was a witness on the "Biblio-phile" side that came up with plausible solutions faster than the "Googleholic."

A woman came in with a purple flower and wanted to know what it was, and how to take care of it. Luckily, out of the three of us there, one instantly recognized it as a *Companula*. The Book Lover went to the Perennial section and pulled out a thick book: "Perennials- a Definitive Reference." by Phillips & Rix. There was a whole section dedicated to *Companula*. The Computer Geek instantly found 1,000 images to wade through. The book had the *Companula* section divided by color and we were able to match the color and find out the "variety" of the flower. Meanwhile, we glance over at the computer and it looks like a row in a box of Crayons. No easy matches.

Another time, we were studying a photo sent in with a weed ID requested. Again, luckily two of us had seen something similar. It sort of looked like a wild cucumber. Google Eyes is searching wild cucumber. The Bookie Team goes over to the Weed Section and checks the Index of the 2-volume "Weeds of California

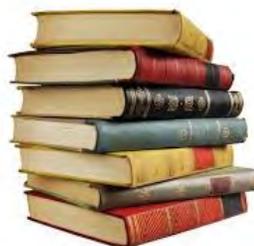
and other Western States." These 2 books are put out by UC Davis. The Index points us to clear pictures of the wild cucumber and wild watermelon on the same page. The picture submitted definitely isn't wild cucumber, but looks very similar to wild watermelon. Google Eyes starts looking in that direction....and the rest is history.

This really demonstrates that there should be a symbiotic relationship between "Googleholic" and "Biblio-phile."

Many of the questions and problems we handle have already been Googled by the client at home. This is when the third profile of researcher comes in; "Mike-row-scopper." If you see something crawling, it's definitely an insect problem! Other research tools are a varied collection of university bulletins, hand-outs and brochures; the Insect Committee itself; and our great Herbarium. Research can be fun and rewarding, no matter what profile you fall under!

The Library Committee cordially invites you to stop by the library and make some new friends.

Remember the Library mantra: "*We are a Reference Library, NOT a Lending Library.*"



*Beth Durr*

## Heather's Highlights

### **Congratulations are in Order!**

Our Yamhill County Master Gardeners are always doing amazing work and I thought I would share some of the MANY accolades we have received in the last couple months. Many of you probably remember there was a competition amongst the Oregon counties to decorate a bicy-

cle for the International Master Gardener Conference. Yamhill County did a wonderful job and received third place based on the number of votes received! There were some extremely creative entries, and it is an honor to be voted amongst the best! The second recognition we have received since the last Grapevine printing is the OMGA 2017 Search for Excellence Award in the "Innovative Category" for our educational plant labels that we use for the YCMGA plant sale. This award recognizes us for the printing of specific growing information on the tags of over 7,000 varieties of plants using the Gardenware labeling software. Last, but not least, is the awarding of an OMGA Extension Educator Award for the Seed to Supper Program. Our program will receive \$250 towards supplies for teaching the course. Congratulations to all of you for your contributions to these and all the other remarkable projects you are involved with.

## **PESKY PROFILES**



By Heather Stoven

If you have a vegetable garden it's likely that at one point or another you have noticed tiny holes in the foliage of your plants often accompanied by a shiny, quick-footed beetle that leaps out of sight upon closer inspection. Yes, I am referring to flea beetles, a common issue in many of our vegetable crops. There are actually multiple species of flea beetles that specialize in feeding on different crops. The three most common in our area are the crucifer flea beetle, the potato flea beetle and the tuber flea beetle. They are aptly named, as the crucifer flea beetle feeds on crucifers, the potato flea beetle on solanaceous crops such as eggplant and tomato, and the tuber flea beetle on potato and potato tubers. Overwintering flea beetle adults emerge in mid to late spring and as weather warms start feeding. The beetles will mate and in turn lay eggs at the base of a host plant. The larvae of these beetles then feed below ground on the roots of your vegetables, and tuber flea beetle larvae can also scar the outside of your potatoes through their feeding. Both the tuber and potato flea beetle have multiple generations per year, whereas the crucifer flea beetle has only one. There are several options for flea

beetle management, however prevention and some pre-planning based on insect biology is often necessary. Placing a row cover prior to emergence of the flea beetles in the spring can be very helpful in excluding this pest. Pesticides are often less effective than other methods of management due to the high mobility of the beetle.



For more information:

<https://utahpests.usu.edu/uppd/iles-ou/factsheet/flea-beetles.pdf>

*Robert  
Grossmann's*



# Buggy Bits

## The Sands of Time

**A**lmost every continent has a sandy desert or seashore that contains a vast number of insects and other arthropods, some of these with unique life activities.

Sand wasps, which depend on this type of environment for survival, make cavernous burrows into dry sand using their front legs as digging tools. Their vigorous excavation can throw sand grains up to a foot away from the mining site.

**The bodies of the scorpions emit a greenish glow in ultraviolet light.**

After producing a suitable nursery

cave, the female wasp heads off to find prey for her young. She struggles with and paralyzes spiders with a sting and then drags the quarry back to the burrow. After collecting a proper amount of food, she lays an egg on the spiders and closes the opening of the burrow. The hatching larva will then begin to feed on the paralyzed spiders until it matures and spins a cocoon to emerge as an adult wasp.

Scorpions are nocturnal desert critters that spend the day under rocks and in crevices where

they can be free of being eaten by some daylight predator. When the sun goes down, they do their own brand of hunting for soft-bodied prey.

Scorpion collectors use portable ultraviolet lights to locate their quarry at night. The bodies of the scorpions emit a greenish glow in the presence of ultraviolet rays. Sounds almost like a scene out of a science fiction movie, huh?

In the vast Namibian desert are some darkling beetles that have a unique ability. There are no water sources in the desert except for a nighttime haze that floats across the sand. The beetle has a long pair of hind legs that it uses to lift the rear end of its body above the sand during this haze time. Water collects as dew on the body of the beetle and coalesces into droplets that migrate forward on the body until it finally reaches its mouth where it can get its daily supply of water.

Tiger beetles live on the sandy beaches of lakes and streams. They have large grasping jaws and long legs that let them run fast and grab the insects they eat. The larvae do not have these long legs, but they do have a massive

head for their size and a set of large jaws like the parents. They too are predaceous, but use other methods to gather prey. The larvae make a burrow in the sand and, using their large flattened heads, cover over the entrance to the burrow. They lie in wait until a suitable meal wanders close to the burrow and then it springs up and grabs the unwary beast. This sounds like a science fiction movie too, huh?

Insects and other arthropods live in almost every type of environment on earth and adapt readily to the harshness or opportunities of their situation. Let's hear it for the "bugs", whether they are "good" or "bad"!



## **YCMGA MEMBERS ARE AWESOME!**

The Oregon Convention Center in Portland was the site of the International Master Gardener Conference on July 10-14, 2017. YCMGA members contributed significant energetic commitment and involvement in the success of the event. The approximately 1,300 attendees had the opportunity to enjoy exceptional educational classes, culinary delights and share fun and friendship with Master Gardeners from other states and countries.

**THANKS** Sue N. and YCMGA crew, for filling many items, in approximately 700 hospitality bags that were delivered to local hotels lodging conference attendees and for assisting with the décor setup.

**THANKS** Apryl G. and YCMGA Decorating Crew (Candace, Pat, Becky, Evelyn) who came to assist Marcia in the décor set-up on Monday. Through unity and teamwork this crew transported a distinctly unique, three-tiered bicycle which they designed and constructed (representing YCMGA). This splendid achievement was voted a third place by attendees. Congratulations!

**THANKS** Polly B., Ray V., Gene N. and Bob Sherry who assisted with multiple projects.

**THANKS** YCMGA members who demonstrated their support by their attendance.

**THANKS** Marcia S. (assisted by Cathy B.) orchestrated and coordinated the detailed assignments before, during and after the event. Marcia planned, ordered, purchased, arranged transportation and organized delivery for hundreds of items to the conference, (though she was recovering from surgery). The following are examples of YCMGA involvement:

- Computer layout for the 20 page-Conference Book that was distributed to all attendees
- Created conference map showing designated areas for placement of items and plants
- Suggested using the conference theme of bicycles and roses throughout the event
- Encouraged 17-OMGA Chapters to create "decorated" bicycles. These were displayed in key areas. Each chapter had the opportunity to win cash prizes (by voting process)
- 1300-computer generated voting tickets were printed and placed in registration packets
- Colorful, voting boxes were prepared and placed beside each "bicycle" display
- Décor-registration booths with small, metal bicycles and large shrub roses in containers
- Décor-main stage with Arbor vitae, standard roses and shrub roses.
- Containers of roses in varied colors were also placed at strategic areas
- Décor-OMGA Booth with "Oregon" theme, banners and large basket of roses
- Décor-121 rose centerpieces for luncheon, 6 inch roses in wire baskets with two small paper bicycles added to each side (a total of 242 bicycles were made)
- Attendees were encouraged to place "dots" on large map showing their "home" location

***This coordinated effort vividly illustrated YCMGA members' tradition of excellence, creativity and teamwork. YCMGA MEMBERS ARE AWESOME!***

*Cathy Burdett*

All IMG Convention photos by Marcia Sherry and Sharon Andrews



YCMGA's Bicycle Display - 3rd Place Winner!



Curry County - 2nd Place Winner



Tillamook County's multi-talented cow!



Lincoln County - 1st Place Winner. Beach bike with driftwood and kelp, even the roses were made from kelp.



Clackamas County's little helper.



Who's riding Columbia County's bike?



Sue N. and OMGA President, Seamus R. setting up the speaker stage.



MG's from the Midwest.



Candace V. and Apryl G. helping to set up speaker stage.



Cathy B. and Marcia S. finding time to relax.



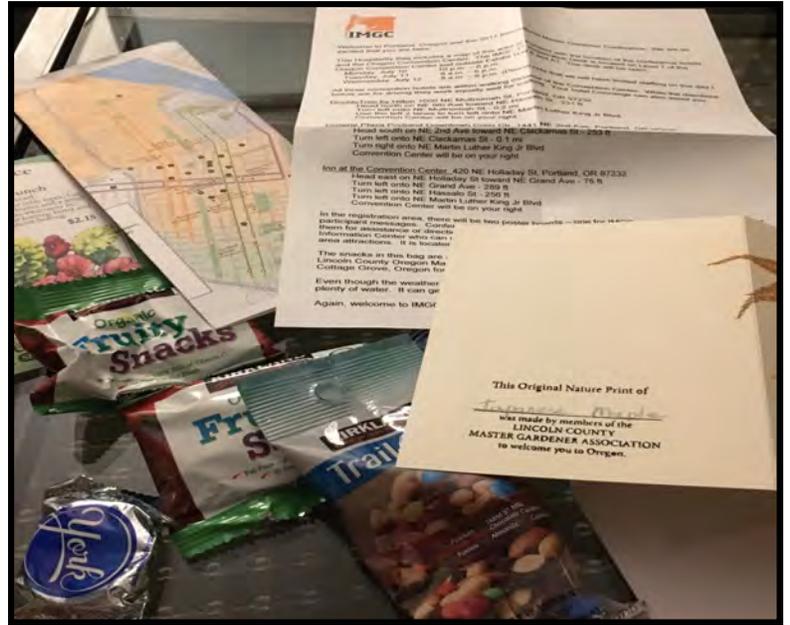
OMGA trade show booth.



Multnomah's bike basket welcoming MG's from across the US, Canada and South Korea with a rose for everyone to wear!



Apryl G. assembling YCMGA's bike entry.



Welcome Bag goodies to help keep you going.



"Roses and Bikes" themed centerpieces on luncheon tables



Roses and Bikes



Finally all assembled thanks to Apryl G. and Crew and ready to go!



MG's enjoying the Trade Show. Checking out all the goodies to be had!

# Monrovia Nursery Tour

August 2017



Organized by Polly and worth every minute of the tour. Monstrous, infinitely-organized and efficient operation on a huge scale. The demo. garden, planted mostly 25 years ago, rivals Oregon Garden in diversity and stunning examples of shrubs and trees. The public is invited to self-tour the gardens any time during the week, for free.

## VINEGAR HELPS PLANTS IN DROUGHT

**A**warming climate brings increased risk of droughts for California and a need for more tools to help plants survive. Scientists at the RIKEN Center for Sustainable Resource Science in Yokohama, Japan, were surprised to learn that maybe a little vinegar can help, according to an article published this summer in *Nature Plants*.

When studying the response of genetically modified plants to drought, the researchers noticed that some tolerated dry

**70% of plants (receiving vinegar) survived, while none of those given only water did.**

conditions much better. Curiously, these mutants accumulated higher concentrations of acetate, a chemical closely re-

lated to vinegar, than the naturally-occurring plants.

They decided to see if simply watering unmodified Arabidopsis plants, a small, flowering cabbage relative, with vinegar could also do the trick. Of the plants previously watered with very dilute vinegar, 70 percent survived while almost none of those that were given other acids or only water did. The concentration they used was produced by mixing 40 parts water with one part vinegar.

It was surprising that such a simple compound helped the plants develop a survival strategy against losing water, said Jong-Myong Kim, one of the authors of the study, by email.

The researchers found similar results for other crops including maize, rapeseed, wheat and rice. Based on their previous work, the researchers think the vinegar acts like a signal telling the plant to follow a backup set of genetic instructions to cope with the drought.

Daniel Kliebenstein, a professor

of plant sciences at UC Davis, said there's still a lot to learn about how the response is triggered and the unintended consequences to other processes important to plant health.

The acetate response was also tied to the plants' use of jasmonic acid. The acid, which gives jasmine flowers their fragrance, is produced by plants as part of its defense against insects and fungus. As a result, different levels of acetate could mess with the plants' protection against pests and pathogens, he said.

Is it likely that people will spray vinegar across their fields to ward off drought? We don't know yet, but it could be one tool out of many to keep plants healthy.



*Carolyn Wilke 2017*

*Sacramento Bee*



*An abstract of research...*  
**The Invasives!**  
*...from 15 organizations!*

**HIMALAYAN  
 BLACKBERRY**  
**(RUBUS DISCOLOR)**

**W**e in Oregon are all too familiar with the Himalayan blackberry. It is so prevalent now that eradication is no longer an option; most of the time it is just ignored. Forming a thicket 25 feet across in one year, it propagates at the end of every cane, from roots and root fragments, suckers, and prodigious seed output (of 13,000 seeds per square meter, every year).

Yet, this article is timely because this is the **only time of year** that the individual bushes can be completely killed. There are many ways to attack blackberries, but it's all in the timing.

The plants can be cut, then root crowns and major roots removed by hand, but this is very labor intensive. Repeatedly and doggedly cutting every few weeks is partially effective, but must be done for quite a few years and very regularly. (The best time of year to cut is when the plants begin to flower, as they have exhausted most of the food supply in their roots).

Goats are often used to consume the leaves of the plants. (If the vines are large, a heavy plank tossed into the bush allows the goats to access all the growth). Though goats are eating machines, they still do not kill all the plants. Besides, goats will consume every other herbaceous plant in the area unless strong wire fences, 6 feet tall, are built around each desired shrub or tree. And that is expensive!

It is also possible to mow all vines to the ground, then individually treat the stumps with herbicide. This treatment must be repeated annually for at least 3 years, and is time-consuming. Every cut stump must be treated within 30 seconds to 5 minutes (depending on the source of information) of being cut. The only way to accomplish this is, after mowing, to snip off the remains of the plant with pruners and immediately treat that stump.

Missed crowns and vagrant roots always form new plants in a month or so, and must be treated again.

The good news (finally) is that at this time of year blackberry plants are storing their energy in their root systems in preparation for winter. So foliar sprays with herbicides are particularly effective now, when at other times of year they often do not even stunt the plant. The bush must be sprayed from every side and the top; leaf undersides should be sprayed as well. If part of the bush is missed, that part (or even the whole bush) usually regrows enthusiastically.

You won't see results from this treatment for up to 6 months, but in the spring the bush is usually dead. Then it should be mowed thoroughly, getting rid of all the dead canes. Some sprouts may come up, and they should be allowed to grow to at least 18" before applying herbicide again.

An added bonus at this time of year is that while the blackberries have leaves now, most other plants don't, so most natives are not harmed by the spray.

And, now that you are gradually winning the battle, plant the area heavily in grass. In the grass herbaceous natives can be started, and escapee blackberries spot-sprayed. And remember that shade is anathema to Himalayan blackberry.

*For more information than you can imagine:*

<https://www.invasive.org/gist/moredocs/rubarm01.pdf>



*Donn Callaham*

# COMMUNITY GARDEN IN AUGUST

The garden is now nearly in full production and we are focusing on planting fall harvested crops such as: cabbage, broccoli and cauliflower in the beds that had the garlic and onions. Double cropping is very practical and easy in the raised beds and extends the season by several months. We have also planted beets and carrots in several beds.

The tomato and pepper plants in the greenhouse have mostly prospered and this provides the food bank with early ripe tomatoes and peppers. The hot peppers were less than successful but the sweet peppers love it.

We are busy harvesting, spot watering and educating our gardeners and others. We are planning on adding 18 more raised beds in late summer or early fall. New greenhouse benches are being custom built that will increase our bench space by about 30% and make it much easier to move around as well as better for the plants. *The month in photos:*



Tomato plants successfully producing ripe tomatoes



Food bank garlic being dried



July planting of broccoli



Food bank tomato production in our steel cages

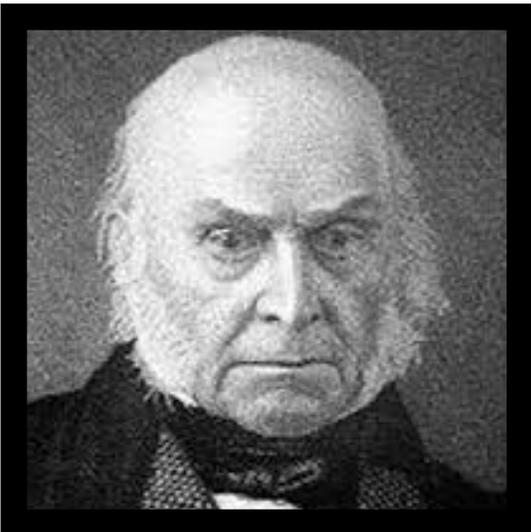
Alan Wenner



## 2017 Ice Cream Social



### Garden History: U.S. Presidents and Their Gardens



John Quincy Adams (1825-1829) launched the country's first forestry project, as a renewable supply of lumber for the Navy. The next generation of shipbuilders would, given his plan, have access to hundreds of acres of oaks growing in Florida. (He had negotiated the acquisition of Florida from Spain in 1819 while he was secretary of state under Monroe). The coastal live oak, *Quercus virginiana*, was his species of choice. It was prized for the tensile strength of its wood and an angled branching structure. In 1827, a tract of land in Florida's panhandle near Pensacola was cleared and planted. Politics soon sidetracked the effort and iron soon overtook wood for warships. But some of the live oaks planted for President Adams still grow today.

Source: The Presidents' Gardens by Marta McDowell)

**YCMGA Board Meeting Minutes June 14, 2017**

**Meeting called to order by Nancy Woodworth at 10:03 a.m. on above date.**

**May Secretary's report:** Minutes designated as draft minutes, not approved.

**Scholarship recipients:** Nancy Woodworth and Rita Canales took turns introducing the 5 students who came to the meeting to thank YCMGA. A short bio. on each student was read, and showed that these young adults are at the very top of graduates. Besides having high grades, all students are heavily involved in other activities such as sports, FFA, and ag-related pursuits. Upcoming majors will be in forestry, ag business, environmental science, ag and wine, and ag business management. These people are clearly an exceptionally highly-qualified group.

**Treasurer's report:** Carol Parks has not sent out the budget numbers yet, as she is working on balancing the budget. The current balance is \$42,372.76. Some accounts may be dropped, including scholarship account (but see change to this plan later in notes). There is a "fuchsia account" of \$500 which was donated to YCMGA to be specifically used for *fuchsia*-related expenses. Our organization is too small to have a separate capital improvement account, so that will be a budget line item instead.

**President-elect report:** Rita had no news, and Nancy ran the meeting in a most competent manner.

**The Heather report:** There is still a serious problem staffing the McMinnville Farmers' Market and clinics. The sign-up system works well but not enough people (both trainees and members) want to do it. To date Tom Canales has been doing the entire Farmers' Market.

**MHS Horticulture program:** Alan Wenner informed us that this program was cut from the school budget, unbeknownst to the public. Alan encourages people to write to the school board and the *News-Register* to protest the loss, and he volunteered to write to the *News-Register* as a representative of YCMGA. The motion was made to "let" Alan do this, Tom seconded it, and it passed. Alan also passed out a copy of a letter from the District #40 FFA adviser. He stated that the students elected to send all funds they have earned to be put into a fund, disbursed by YCMGA, to be given to MHS FFA members as scholarships, until funds are exhausted. Apryl motioned that this be kept as a separate item from the regular scholarship fund and that YCMGA be responsible for the funds. Callaham seconded, and it passed.

**Announcement:** Nancy reminded us of the opportunity for Master Gardeners to be in the closed Facebook group run by Gail Langellotto. We all received the information on this in 2 emails in the past weeks. The purpose of the group is to share questions, answers, suggestions, photos, and other plant-related information with other Master Gardeners only. If interested, ask Nancy for an application.

**Education/outreach committee:** The following events are pending: Community Garden class on 7/26; Harvest Fest 8/19 and 8/20. Field trips are on hold (with one in the works); we need suggestions for Lunch & Learn speakers (who receive a \$50 honorarium); propagation sessions count as .5 hours educational credit; Secretary will contact Patti for list of greenhouse activities to publish.

**McMinnville Community Garden:** Linda Mason reported a very successful day with Linfield volunteers and 26 gardeners; on June 6 & 7 middle-schoolers helped at the garden; there is a new wait list for raised beds; 203 pounds of produce were donated to YCAP; 319 pounds of tomato plants (yes, someone really did weigh them) also went to YCAP. Since the beginning of their year on November 1, 2016, the Garden has donated 753 pounds of food to YCAP. Family Planting Day (with "t" underlined to clarify it is not an "n") went well, with 15 kids participating; kids received their own industrial-strength tomato cages, and kids are planting and tending special gardens for YCAP. Here's something new: the irrigation system came in under budget! However, a tractor had to be rented for a while to replace the indisposed borrowed tractor. Ruth suggested someone (indicating Alan, of course) inform the *News-Register* of all the impressive accomplishments at the Community Garden.

**OMGA reps:** Linda reported that 1238 people have registered for the International Conference; people may get in free only for access to vendors on July 11 and 13. "Gardening with Pets" will be in the next newsletter; Linfield facilities have been reserved for July 12<sup>th</sup> through 14<sup>th</sup> of 2018 for the next "Mini-college"; officers are

needed for OMG and job descriptions for officers are on the OMG website. There is also a plant-themed Haiku contest, with Tonia Beebe in charge! Apryl mentioned that OMGA would like to build up a list of potential speakers for any future use, and she will check with those who are recommended.

**Web & Publicity:** Tom Canales would like to add a section to the website, containing photos and names of as many YCMGA members as possible. This was welcomed as an excellent idea, as newcomers need the reference. Tom still needs assistance, but appears to have given up any real hope of finding any. Not enough people with both the knowledge and the time.

**Seed-to-Supper:** The spring session has concluded, with 15 people signed up and 6 graduating, with every graduate receiving a free raised bed for use at home. More publicity is needed; there are 3 teachers working with the group; Fall classes may be in preserving, led by a Master Preserver. The classes are valuable ways to teach nutrition and economics (besides gardening) and reach kids well. So, Tom will prepare a press release to that effect, and speak with the *News-Register* re: publication of it.

**Propagation:** Stephanie reported that first cuttings for shrubs are now being made; the crew is seriously busy.

**Plant Sale Committee:** Ruth is contemplating a program wherein people "adopt" certain types of plants (to raise them for the sale). She reminded us of the upcoming propagation sessions, which are: cuttings; seeding; division & cuttings; insects; pesticides; and grow locations. Each session issues .5 hours of education credit. The group is buying 4.5" solid blue and variegated hostas which will be planted in gallon pots. Later the plants will be split and planted again in gallons, ensuring adequate margin when sold. In the spring, the group will buy more unusual plants for the plant sale. Doris is seeking seed for *scented* geraniums (geranii?), and details on the FarWest show will be in our *Grapevine*. Per Tom, Robert Dillicot plans to build a plant sale catalog. It would list people who donate certain types of plants or can supply cuttings, and would be used to systematically contact these people *l-o-o-n-g* before the plant sales.

**International MG convention:** The display bicycle is being built shrouded in deep secrecy, and it may be permanently displayed later.

**McMinnville Farmers' market:** The new location is excellent, and on pavement. Tom said they are making 40 to 50 contacts per day, but still need help for setup and breakdown. MG's are still needed to help run the booth for the rest of the summer and fall, and there is the possibility of dropping the booth at the market if enough help is not available.

**Policy & Procedures Committee:** Carol has requested a copy of the materials used by Marion County.

**Garden Tours Committee:** Polly has given a large choice of dates to Monrovia Nursery for a tentative tour, and will maintain contact.

**Plant Production Committee:** Sylvia reported that plant production is increasing every year.

**Inventory Status:** Donn initially received some reports on equipment, but there is still equipment out there that has not been reported or recorded. He will prod some members responsible in an effort to complete the list. It is probably at about 50% right now.

**Graduation/Awards Ceremony:** This will take place on November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017, and the venue has been reserved. Hours must be updated at least 2 weeks before, as Jade has to check and tabulate all hours for all members by the 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Plant Data Base Development:** Sheila Hunter and Patti will develop the database, and videotape the process. The "Gardenware" software used for the plant sale has very limited use, and even Tom finds it difficult to use! It needs to be updated or replaced, though Robert Dillicot might be building a program which replaces it. Whatever program is being used also needs to be installed on another computer so that Rita Canales can get help making labels (which turns out to be a horrendous task).

**Fall Planning Session:** Though this "retreat" usually takes place in November, it is now being scheduled for October 14<sup>th</sup>. Location will be our usual exotic destination resort, the Public Works auditorium. Beginning at 9:00 a.m., it will end when it is done (hopefully around 3 p.m.) Nancy will check with Jade and reserve that ever-popular auditorium.

**Surprise Fact!** Unbeknownst to any member joining in the last 5 years or so, the YCMGA actually has a "Sunshine Person" (Beth Durr), though it is not mentioned anywhere in writing.

**YCMGA Board Meeting Minutes****July 19th, 2017****Meeting called to order by Pat Fritz at 9:59 a.m. on above date. In attendance:****Carol Parks**

Cathy Burdett

Polly Blum

Gene Nesbitt

Eileen McBride

**Nancy Woodworth****Tonia Beebe**

Tara Townley

**Donn Callaham****Pat Fritz**

Linda Mason

**Linda Coakley**

Tom Canales

**Rita Canales**

Anna Ashby

Jade Wilson

Stephanie Janik

*Board members in **BOLD***

**May & June Secretary's reports:** Approval of minutes was motioned by Carol, seconded, and agreed upon by everyone. Carol also requested that information in May minutes be changed to reflect that there is no actual "Sunshine Committee," that Beth Durr handles that role in an unofficial manner. Pat motioned that June minutes be approved, Donn seconded, and agreement was unanimous.

**Treasurer's report:** Carol Parks has sent out all financial reports via email. Although the scholarship account, the check book and the bank statement reconcile, The Quicken financial reports show \$500 less in the account than is actually there even though there are no outstanding checks. It is unclear why and this is a figure that cannot be changed manually. The problem will be resolved when we close this account and transfer the money to the savings account. We did not create a line item in the budget for the IMGC since our obligation to provide support was completed last year. Nevertheless, there are expenses that will need to be reimbursed for the decorations. Carol moved to add a line item to the budget for the IMGC of \$500. Donn seconded the motion and the motion passed. We were surprised to learn that the funds earned by the FFA high school students and transferred to YCMGA was almost \$12,000. The money is reserved in a designated account for Mac high school students with a preference given to FFA students. They are requesting that if the FFA at Mac HS is resurrected that YCMGA grant them \$1,000 to restart the program.

**President-elect report:** Rita was concerned that the presidents-elect were responsible for doing a complete update of the resource manual. That's not written anywhere, but she had been informed of the responsibility. She was deeply relieved to learn that a committee is responsible for that, and that Rita & Nancy's job is to just review and edit after the committee has done the heavy lifting. Because of redundant redundancy, Cathy and Eileen believe they can make the manual half the size it is now. Anyone who sees a need for changes in the manual needs to contact the committee with their suggestions.

**The Heather report:** This was the "Jade Report" today but the content was the same: Volunteers for Farmers' Markets and various clinics ARE STILL SORELY NEEDED! As of now, Tom seems to be doing all the setup, operation, and takedown on Farmers' Market. Not Fair!

**Announcements/correspondence:** A note of written thanks was received from one of the scholarship recipients, and another from the Community Garden, for Master Gardener financial support of installation of the irrigation system.

**Education/outreach committee:** For Harvest Festival (at the Heritage Center) 2 people are now signed up for the clinic for both days. "Lunch & Learn" will not take place in July or August, nor October or November. September will have an L & L session, and there is hope that a member of the Hardy Fuchsia Society will present in December. Heather plans to do a second tree tour at Linfield because of the outstanding success and popularity of her first one, date to be arranged. Planning for "Spring Into Gardening" will soon commence, and ideas are wanted for a theme. Tara, Gene, and Nancy are all working (independently and together) on labeling and informational displays for the new

demo. gardens, and of course will be ready before the Yamhill County Fair. Polly has been struggling to arrange the tour of Monrovia, and finally was able to lock it in on July 25<sup>th</sup> beginning at 1:00 p.m. Though many are enthusiastic for the tour, she has been trying to get replies from Monrovia for months, and at this point it would be no surprise to see Polly begin to (politely) become enraged. Tara is building a full-year calendar of EOC (and EOC only) events to be used permanently, which will be highly valued. Rita reported that MG's had not had a clinic at the McMinnville Garden Fair, primarily because we were notified one week before the fair. In her usual fashion Rita piled all the blame on herself, though Nancy emphasized that she was just as responsible. They argued nicely and briefly, concluding by sharing the blame 60% and 40% (though we don't know who took what percentage).

**McMinnville Community Garden:** Linda Mason reminded us of the next garden class, which will be run by Heather on August 17<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 1:00 p.m. Cost will be \$10 per person, and Allen will take the money. (By chance we also learned that if the educational component of a class runs short, Allen plans to conscript all attendees to work in the garden for the remaining time). Members are in the process of thinning beets, drying staggering quantities of garlic, and harvesting tomatoes and peppers. This year the garden has donated 934 pounds to YCAP: they also received a plaque from YCAP for donating 14,625 pounds of food (enough for 12,188 meals) last year. On July 3<sup>rd</sup> 4 ag interns from Bailey Nurseries worked at the Garden, and Linfield volunteers will be helping the third week of August. People are already being placed on a waiting list for raised beds next year, and from now on beds will be limited to one per household.

**Web & Publicity:** Tom Canales has added a section to the website containing photos and names of as many YCMGA members as cooperate. For those slow to submit photos he cruised about taking photos himself. People violently opposed to having their photo on the website are allowed to avoid it. Tom has met with News-Register personnel, and will be able to submit coverage of MG activities in the "Viewpoints" section of the paper. Seed-to-Supper, then Community Garden will be first, with later entries on clinics, MG classes, the demo. gardens, and possibly other educational MG programs and events.

**Seed-to-Supper:** Gloria and Clay have 6 students (with 2 more possible) from the Department of Corrections in their class at the Whiteson Garden. Needed for other sessions are 2 Spanish-speaking teachers and 2 or more English-speaking instructors. There will be 1 or 2 sets of classes in McMinnville this year, and none in Newberg. Master Food Preservers will offer a class on salsa (the edible kind), and the Community Garden has 6 families from the S-to-S program now avidly involved. Two Linfield students will be working on gardens in containers for the S-to-S patrons. Help is needed for organization, and Gene would welcome a co-chair for the program.

**Propagation:** Cuttings are still being processed, and Stephanie would like suggestions as to what kinds of *berry plants* should be at the sale. The hostas are all now in foster homes, to be retrieved in the spring.

**Plant Sale Committee:** The first meeting will be in September, so right now Pat is just worrying about the sale.

**International MG convention:** Everyone who went to the convention was quite taken with it, and particularly impressed by the decorations and the quality of the food. An article with pictures will be submitted for the *Grapevine*, where you will also see photos of all the bicycle art. Sue Nesbitt and Yamhill County members prepared 700 hospitality bags and Gene manned the OMGA booth. He also was noted for being cooperative and following all the women's directions well.

**McMinnville Farmers' market:** Startled by hearing his name, Tom recovered quickly to ask for *much* more help with the clinic booth. There are 40 to 50 contacts per day, often handled by only one person. A tally of contacts is kept for each session, and Tom or Jade will create a formal form to use. However, Jade warned everyone *not* to record the contacts on records of hours, as that would

**YCMGA Board Meeting Minutes (continued)**

cause duplication and consequent mayhem. A brochure on becoming a Master Gardener is popular, and a procedure for listing (and later contacting) potential new members is needed. Jade will create a form for this.

**Policy & Procedures Committee has morphed into the "Guidelines & Processes Committee."** It began with the incorporation and bylaws, and now needs a brief but organized report from each committee chairperson. The report needs to cover goals, major tasks, and sequence of tasks for each committee, due by **September 13<sup>th</sup> at the latest**. The hope is that this will promote continuity from year to year as personnel disappear and are replaced. All material will be approved by the Board of Directors, who can make changes as necessary. Admittedly, this process will be long and slow and ongoing.

**Garden Tours Committee:** (See information under "Education/Outreach Committee re: Monrovia tour, which is free).

**Capital Improvement Committee:** This group has not yet met, and it is possible that it will be disbanded. For there to be one less committee in any organization can be deemed a stunning and commendable event.

**Sunshine Committee:** It simply wasn't, and isn't. Beth Durr unofficially sends cards/flowers when appropriate.

**Inventory Status:** Donn has given up prodding members to submit inventory items, because the 4 original people who participated were the only ones who participated. He is adding items as he finds them or hears of them. He will keep the inventory, such as it is.

**Bank Business Account:** Carol has been waiting for May and June minutes to be approved before she takes action.

**Ice Cream Social:** Although this could not be held as planned due to overbooking at the fairgrounds, as of now the overbooking was cancelled and again the social should be held at the fairgrounds on Saturday, August 26<sup>th</sup>.

**New Business:** Everyone is asked to think of presenting new projects during the "retreat." Tom will update the form for submissions, by adding space for the name of the proposer and for the estimated cost of the proposal.

Pat made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Carol.

**Adjournment** was at 11:35.

*Donn Callaham, Secretary*

*July 19th, 2017*



# ask

an **EXPERT**



Photo credit: [EESC slide collection](#)

We have been having pea shooter wars: will our ammo sprout?

**A:**

Thanks for your bean question. Unlike grass seeds (and many others that size), beans don't germinate when left on top of the soil. They need to be 1 to 2 inches below ground level, to get adequate moisture for the seed to germinate. In the temps we're having, they're more likely to shrivel up than grow. However, if you have wild or domestic burying helpers (such as dogs and squirrels), they may be planted without your permission. If you keep an eye out, though, you'll see the runners. They're easy to pull. And, while you least expect it, they (being legumes) are helping bring nitrogen to the plants you want there. In fact, some legumes (fava beans, red clover, etc.) are used as cover crops to protect the soil from rain compressing it in the winter and nourish it. Free service!

Kristena LaMar, Master Gardener Diagnostician, Clackamas County

## "CRIMES AGAINST NATURE"



### *Native Plant Society class:*

McMinnville Library

7:00 p.m.

Thursday, 9/28

Free class

**Everyone Welcome!**

Identify Conifers in NW Ore-

gon — Sept. 28 Using live

samples and photographs,

Oregon Master Naturalist

Ken Denniston will help us

learn to identify each of the

18 conifers native to north-

west Oregon. For more in-

formation on the topic, visit

Ken's website,

[nwconifers.com](http://nwconifers.com).



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## *The Grapevine*

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**CONTRIBUTORS VARY BY MONTHLY EDITION.**

**GRAPEVINE EDITOR: DONN CALLAHAM**

<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/yamhill/>

### **Yamhill County Master Gardener™ Association Executive Board**

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Presidents-Elect: Rita Canales  
& Nancy Woodworth

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Treasurer: Carol Parks

OMGA Rep: Linda Coakley

OMGA Alt.Rep: Apryl Garmon

Members at Large: Tom Canales  
Tonia Beebe

**Heather Stoven, Yamhill County Extension Faculty for Community Horticulture**

