

ATTENDANCE:

Heather Stoven	Tom Canales	Star Thomson
Kelly Moser	Terry Hart	Carolyn Nyquist
Gene Nesbitt	Donn Callaham	Sue Nesbitt
Gail Stoltz	Linda Mason	Nancy Woodworth
Susanne Beukema	Cynthia Norcross	Glenda Hewlitt
Alan Wenner	Maxine Wayda	Shelly Toombs
Mary Ann Nolan	Gin Galt	Pat Fritz

Sue Nesbitt called the meeting to order at 10:03 am.

WHETHER OR NOT to have Secretary's minutes published in the *Grapevine* was discussed. The conclusion (by a vote of attending members) was that they should not. Reasons given were that summarizing them would be extra work for the editor, they would come out 6 weeks after the meeting, and anyone who wants to read them can do so on the YCMGA website. Tom moved to *not* have the minutes in the newsletter, and Nancy seconded.

Meeting was then closed (motioned by Sue, seconded by Susanne). The mailing address for YCMGA was changed from Newberg to the extension office in McMinnville. Meeting then reopened.

SECRETARY'S MINUTES FOR JANUARY 2023: Tom motioned for approval, Susanne seconded, all approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Deposits have been updated. To date 41 people have registered for SIG, and approximately 50% of the members have renewed their membership for 2023. The question was asked if volunteers for SIG still should register, and the answer was affirmative. Sponsorship funds from SIG are all restricted funds, to be used for educational purposes.

February Heather Report: Marlena gave a slide how presentation illustrating financing for all of Extension services. She demonstrated why it is important for MG's to write cards, letters, and emails to legislators and the county commissioners in order to improve chances of receiving adequate funding for extension services. Form missives are acceptable, since the recipients are to record sheer numbers of contacts, rather than content. All Master Gardeners are asked to participate.

PLANT SALE: The impediments of using the fairgrounds, as we have previously, were listed and most impressive. Therefore the decision was made to have the 2023 plant sale at the "Church on the Hill" facility. A deposit on the venue has been paid. Thursday will be set-up for the sale, Friday will be a day-long sale, and Saturday the sale will run from 10:00am to 2:00 pm. The facility must be cleaned out by 8:00 pm. The event will be in the "Foundry" room, boxes can be stored in a trailer on the grounds, and some vendors may need to be outside.

There will NOT be a special after-the-event sale for Master Gardeners as there has been in the past. Instead, all remaining plants will be donated to various nonprofits for their own use or for resale. In the future, plant sale meetings will be held after board meetings, for the convenience of participants. Tom needs help picking up boxes daily. For convenience the boxes will be temporarily stored in a non-leaking part of Wiser Pavilion, then taken weekly to the sale venue for storage.

COMMUNITY GARDEN is resting, with plant growth unusually slow due to the weather. The time is being used for planning.

EDUCATION GARDENS: Alan states that he just takes orders from Donn, and Donn takes orders from Alan. In spite of that, the office garden has been cleaned up nicely, a number of ferns transplanted, dying bushes/trees removed, and a thick layer of nicely-composted all-natural donkey manure applied.

In the fairgrounds garden roses are being pruned, but not anything else as Neil Bell will be holding the pruning class for SIG there.

EDUCATION/OUTREACH: 2023 will see the same clinics as in 2022, with possible additions. There may be one on Earth Day (April 22nd) at Miller Woods. At McMinnville High School the new class has 20 new students, plus 15 in the advanced class. Ideas were floated that the students may do community service by helping at the plant sale or working in the Community Garden. The students will be holding their annual Mother's Day plant sale during the week, and plan to add seeding and propagation classes to their repertoire. New trainees are being trained in the use of ECCO, and have already inserted some intakes. Next meeting is on March 03 at 1:00PM in the auditorium.

MENTORING COMMITTEE: 23 of the new students have now been contacted by their mentors, and have begun the course. The

online-only class is no longer being offered. The job fair will be March ninth; Carla has stored all the posters needed, so the only work will be setting them up. We need to have at least some of the board members present to impress the students.

FARMERS' MARKETS (McMINNVILLE AND NEWBERG): the Newberg market needs someone to run it for the first half of the season.

PERENNIAL PROPAGATION: Seeding has begun. Since there is now available only about half the space as was available in the past, Master Gardeners will be nurturing many of the plants at home until the plant sale.

During the past month the propagationists organized and held 2 classes meant to encourage more people to participate in propagation. (The classes were not meant for earning hours). However, the committee was heatedly admonished for not opening the classes to all Master Gardeners. They were reminded that all classes must be through the Education/Outreach division. After some repetition of the point, Gin acknowledged that they had "learned their lesson", and finally the subject was dropped.

GARDEN-TO-TABLE: There are double the number of participants this year compared to 2022. That means 72 participants, with 60% of them low-income! The English and Spanish classes began February third, with some of the classes being online now. Willamina and Newberg classes will begin in three weeks, and more instructors are still needed. 20% of the active county Master Gardeners are involved this year in the program.

HOSPITALITY: Food (snack-type) is needed for Spring-into-Gardening. This will be in addition to the purchased lunch, but the snacks will need to be supplied in great quantities—enough for the attendees and all the MG's volunteering for it.

OMGA REPRESENTATIVES: Marlene's presentation at the beginning of this meeting (already described) was the core of the message from OMGA. For all the details go the OMGA.org website. Carla will be emailing to all membership details of what is being done to try to bring in the dollars.

PUBLICITY: SIG is the focus for the next month. Nancy reported that a large crew is placing posters for SIG in most towns in the Willamette Valley with over 52 posters being displayed. Nancy also has been studiously contacting all garden clubs, Master Gardener chapters, the News-Register, and others to get them to publicize the event. The committee is also initiating publicity for our pant sale.

SCHOLARSHIPS: All materials for applications have been distributed, and we are now waiting for students to express an interest.

SOCIAL MEDIA: David Gilbey is working on updating the sponsorships for SIG. A donation of \$200 cash or in-kind material earns the sponsor a "supporting" title; a \$500 or higher donation is labeled a "major" sponsor. Sponsors very often give objects or experiences instead of cash, but the value of these in-kind contributions has not been recorded in the past. It was emphasized that these records are an important part of our finances and should be maintained by the treasurer.

SPRING-INTO-GARDENING is collecting sign-ups for volunteers for the event. Kramer's Garden Center will decorate the facility with large plant specimens, which will be for sale at the event. Though the limit for workshops is 20 people, we could if necessary have more in the "Foundry" room.

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE: Members are reminded to let Susie Alin know if anyone is in need of encouragement or commiseration and she will see to it they are contacted. She has been at times delivering cards or gifts all over the county.

AWARDS COMMITTEE: Sadly, for the second month in a row, our president left this committee completely off the agenda, though she promises the oversight is not intentional. The committee has determined all the criteria for each of the awards given by YCMGA, which is the first time in recorded history this has been done! Someone suggested that for the Master Gardener of the Year, a list of remarkable actions by the nominee should be included. Page 3 of this document is the new list of qualifying factors for all YCMGA awards.

Tom motioned to adjourn the meeting at 11:52am, Gail seconded, and it did end.

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Master Gardener Of The Year

Due Date: 5/15 Presented at Mini-College
YCMGA event prior to Mini-College

- Number of years in YCMGA
- Number of hours in YCMGA
- Major leadership positions
- One outstanding achievement

Behind The Scenes

Due Date: 5/15 Presented at Mini-College
YCMGA event prior to Mini-College

- Number of years in YCMGA
- Number of hours in YCMGA
- Responsible & reliable
- Self-starting & an initiator

Golden Trowel

Due Date: Fall (Oct.) Graduation

Creation and development of a substantial project

(3) Of A Kind (New title of "One Of A Kind") Due Date: Fall (Oct.) Graduation

- Person has made a substantial impact on a project
- Number of hours dedicated to this project

Supportive Business

Due Date: Fall (Oct.) Graduation

Major sponsorship to YCMGA

Appreciation

Due Date: Fall (Oct.) Graduation

Number of hours for year

Committee Members: Sue Nesbitt YCMGA Pres.
Tom Canales YCMGA Pres-Elect.
Nancy Woodworth Awards Chairwoman