

"We learn,  
practice and teach the art and  
science of gardening in the



## OMGA: What's in a name

Did you know that as a member of the Jackson County Master Gardener Association you are also a member of the Oregon Master Gardener Association?

OMGA is a statewide organization that helps promote horticultural education by supporting Oregon State University's Master Gardener Program. It advocates for funding to deliver the Master Gardener program via local Extension services like our Southern Oregon Research and Extension Center.

Every county Master Gardener Association may become a "chapter" of OMGA and send one representative and one alternate to serve on its Board of Directors. Barbara Davidson was elected by you to be JCMGA's representative to OMGA, and Kathy Apple is our alternate. As it happens, Barbara is also the Historian for OMGA, which gives her a place on the Executive Committee of the state organization. That makes for a lot of meetings that Barbara attends!

To support OMGA and its work, \$7 of your annual dues go to the statewide organization. And what do you get for this money, besides



**President**

**Ronnie Budge**  
Master Gardener

helping ensure that Master Gardener education remains an important part of OSU's mission? Well, on a practical level, OMGA prepares and files all the legal and financial paperwork with the IRS and with the State of Oregon that allows JCMGA to exist as a non-profit organization. That is how we can earn money from plant sales and solicit donations without paying federal taxes.

At quarterly meetings and via written reports, chapters share their experiences about what has worked well for them, so other chapters can learn and adopt these "best practices." During the most recent meeting, Barbara and Kathy described our "Garden Buds" program that welcomes and mentors new students. Next November, the plan is to discuss different ways the chapters propagate plants for their spring sales now that we cannot "dig and divide" donations grown in garden soil.

As part of its educational mission, OMGA holds a Mini-College every other year. As I write this column, the 2020 event, with a theme of "Grow Provide Sustain," is still scheduled

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## Updates on program, 2020 class, recertification

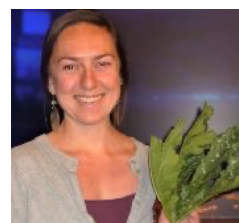
*Dear Master Gardeners,*

I hope this all finds everyone healthy and well! I will outline some further updates we have regarding COVID-19.

Based on guidance from the CDC and OSU, all face-to-face Master Gardener activities, events and meetings – no matter how many people may attend – are suspended

pending further notice. I look for updates daily from OSU, so please use email communications from me or Mailchimp as your primary source for program closures. Additionally, the Extension office on Hanley Road remains closed to public, volunteers, faculty, and staff.

The Plant Clinic window will be closed until further notice. I am working to redirect questions to [OSU's Ask an Expert service](#) and will continue to work with OSU as far as how best to serve the public regarding Plant Clinic questions. We are working on setting up a way to do Virtual Plant Clinic to serve our clients, since



**OSU Program  
Advisor**

**Erika Szonntag**

*Continued on Page 2*

# Recertification for perennial Master Gardeners

*Continued from Page 1*

gardening season is well upon us!

Again, volunteers may want to catch up on their continuing education credits by reading approved publications, or by participating in the Advanced Training Webinar Series for Master Gardeners.

Please continue to prioritize your personal health and wellness. Take the time to regularly review updates from the [CDC](#) and [OHA](#) websites, as well as [OSU's COVID-19 webpage](#).

## Regarding the class of 2020:

After meetings with coordinators around the state (including our statewide coordinator Gail Langelotto), we decided to reduce the number of volunteer hours required of the 2020 MG class to 40 hours, the minimum required by National Extension Master Gardener standards, in fairness to students and

for how COVID-19 is potentially impacting daily life. Students will have until October 2021 to complete these hours, though they are still welcome to complete hours this year as well if they are able. If we have

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more than 2/3 of the class complete requirements, we will hold graduation in October 2020, invite all to attend, and give badges and certificates to those who need the extension later. If we do not have enough people finish this year, we will hand out badges and certificates

as folks finish requirements but hold graduation in October 2021.

**Regarding perennial (i.e. veteran) Master Gardeners:** Normal hours requirements annually include 10 hours of continuing education and 20 hours of volunteer service. *Due to COVID-19, recertification requirements will be waived for 2020. In 2021, these normal hour requirements for recertification will continue.* Please review the [Balance of Volunteer Service Hours](#) page on the [MG Volunteer Reporting System](#) online for details on hours completion (click on the "New Categories 2016 and Later" on the left-hand side of the homepage). Please let me know if you have any questions, concerns, or need clarification.

**General Recertification Guidelines:** To volunteer in **\*\*any\*\*** capacity, individuals need to have the *Conditions of Volunteer Services* form filled out and on file with OSU. Forms can be found [here](#).

*Recertification is required for Master Gardeners who are delivering educational advice or information to the general public. This includes:*

- ♦ Plant Clinic
- ♦ Teaching as a Practicum Mentor (specific to Jackson County)
- ♦ Teaching a class as an MG
- ♦ Offering advice at an MG plant sale or other public venue, formally or informally, etc.

So, recertification is only required if giving direct educational advice or information.

Thanks for your cooperation everyone. Again, I hope you are finding more time to spend outside and are all well, and hopefully, we'll return to business as usual soon!

– Erika

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## Services, programs from OMGA

*Continued from Page 1*

for July 24-25 in Corvallis. It will include a keynote speech by Robert Michael Pyle, author and founder of the Xerces Society, and classes and workshops on hydroponics, insects and diseases, plants like hosta and peonies, and more. OMGA's Executive Committee will decide on May 15 if the Mini-College can proceed in light of COVID-19.

OMGA provides grants, scholarships, and awards. In 2019 JCMGA received a \$200 grant to help install an automatic summer watering system for Practicum plants. Back in 2017 we received \$350 for a walkway to the compost garden. And every year OMGA gives each Extension office print copies of the two PNW Handbooks on disease and insect management. These are essential

resources for the Plant Clinic. The statewide and county awards are for Master Gardener of the Year and Behind the Scenes Master Gardener of the Year, and also for longtime membership.

Lastly, I'll mention The Gardener's Pen, a quarterly newsletter not unlike our Garden Beet. The April issue had an article on beneficial insects and how to attract them; another on vegetables to grow in containers; and another on what NASA has learned through "astroculture," i.e. growing food in space. (Astronauts Scott Kelly and Kjell Lindgren were allowed to eat space-grown produce for the first time on August 10, 2015: some leaves of lettuce!) Each time The Gardener's Pen is published, a link to the issue is provided to you via Mail Chimp.

All this for only \$7 a year!

# The mistress of Master Gardener propagation: Peggy Corum

By Maxine Cass  
Master Gardener 2015

"I was born (89 years ago) of farming Nebraskans in a small town, at a wide place in the road in a corner of Missouri." Flags were always waving on Peggy Corum's birthday and it was years before she knew that the date – Nov. 11 – was Armistice Day (later Veteran's Day).

"Everyone in my family was plant-orientated," she declares. "I pestered the little old lady next door, so she gave 4-year-old me butterbean seeds. I planted them and that's how I probably helped feed my family during the Depression."

When she was 7, Peggy's mom told her dad, "In Oregon, the cherries are so big, they look like plums!" and they moved west. Our Master Gardener propagator grew up in Portland, attended a secretarial high school, and laughs when she remembers retiring three times – as office secretary for Medford's Construction and Laborers Union, from her husband's claims adjustment office, and as a propagator at Rogue Valley Roses.

She lived for a few years with her husband in Germany and has visited China to see rhododendrons. Peggy learned propagation while she lived in Washington State from an expert rhododendron mentor who believed, "Anyone willing to put in work should have a connection to the best (plant material) there is," and taught plant genetics and DNA long before those subjects were common knowledge. She learned about greenhouses and the less costly

propagation tents later used in Peggy's Propagation Garden.

She became a Master Gardener in 1989, and soon was sharing what she had learned from the Pacific



Peggy Corum

Rhododendron Society in a new Extension-based Grandma's and Grandpa's Garden. Peggy has always enjoyed visiting with friends while propagating and gardening. She worked on the *Garden Beet*. Over the years, Peggy has taught propagation to new Master Gardener classes, spoken at the Spring Garden Fair, held classes at Winter Dreams/Summer Gardens, given community

education class talks and been on the Master Gardener Speaker Bureau roster.

"I've always worked in the elements. Gardening is my reason for getting up in the morning," Peggy

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I pestered the little old lady next door, so she gave 4-year-old me butterbean seeds. I planted them and that's how I probably helped feed my family during the Depression.

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says. While her favorite flower changes with the season, "I love most all of the plant world – but not poison oak!"

Peggy smiles and admits, "I have a love affair with seeds; I can't keep my hands off them. It's so interesting when they 'hatch.'"

Peggy, who lives in Ruch, has 4 children, 7 grandchildren, and 13 great-grandkids. When she's not out in the elements, she knits, crochets, reads, and, "I still *love* to bake – cakes, cookies and pies."

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## 2020 OSU webinars for Master Gardeners

Dr. Brooke Edmunds, Extension Master Gardener Faculty in Oregon, is hosting free, advanced training webinars for Master Gardeners. While the presenters and focus tends towards Oregon, the topics would be of broad interest to Master Gardeners, in general. Each class counts as one hour of continuing education for your recertification.

Tuesday, May 19 at 10 a.m.  
**Winter Squash Research at OSU** | Dr. Alex Stone | Associate Professor, Ext Vegetable Crop Specialist and Lane Seaman, assistant professor. Free webinar for

Master Gardeners. Pre-register [here](#).

Thursday, May 28 at 10 a.m.  
**Oh Rats! Dealing with Non-native Rodents in the Garden** | Dr. Dana Sanchez

Free webinar for Master Gardeners. Pre-register [here](#).

Thursday, July 16 at 10 a.m.  
**Solve Pest Problems: A New Resource for Master Gardeners and the Public** | Weston Miller  
Free webinar for Master Gardeners. Pre-register [here](#).

Check [here](#) to see if additional webinars have been scheduled.



# What's happening in the May garden

Ready, set, go! It's May.

We will likely be staying home in May again, thanks to the coronavirus. Through the hardships the "stay at home" order has created, perhaps we have found some respite and comfort in our gardens.

In years past Master Gardeners have been able to collect food from our personal gardens to share with ACCESS. This has likely crossed your mind again this year. As of this date, ACCESS is not able to accept donations of fresh produce from our home gardens. This is a tremendous hardship for them and our community since the need for food is steeply increasing. They are limited to ordering through approved vendors. **ACCESS is in dire need of cash donations so they can order through these vendors.** If you are in a position to give, go to their [website](#) to make an online donation or mail your donation to them directly.

Checklist for May:

Direct sow: beans, beets, cantaloupe, carrots, chervil, chives, cilantro, corn, cucumbers, dill, edamame soy beans, leeks, lettuce, spinach, okra, parsley, parsnips, potatoes, pumpkins, scallions, squash, summer savory, sunflowers, swiss chard, watermelon.

Get any summer flowering ornamental bulbs or tubers in the ground or pot pronto!

Transplant your veggie and flower starts into their beds, pots, or bags. This includes artichokes, basil, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, cantaloupe, cucumbers, eggplant, leeks, oriental greens, pak choi, peppers, squash, sweet potatoes, tomatoes, watermelon.

Photo by Janine Salvatti

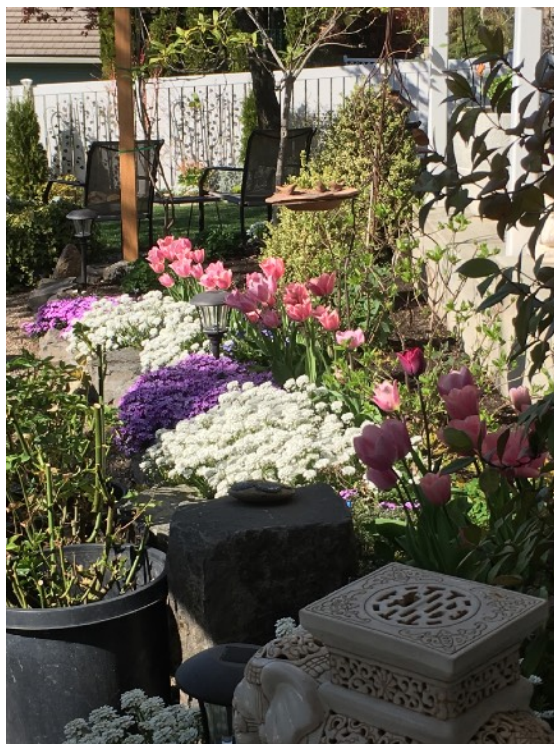
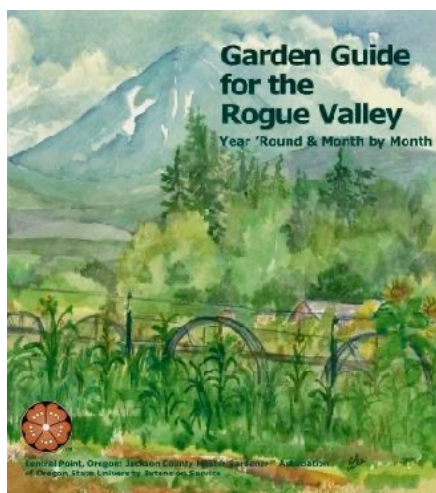
The flower bed in my backyard at right.



By Janine Salvatti  
Master Gardener 2019

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## May Garden Guide



Bait for slugs! Squelch diseases early, or better yet, before they appear. Common pests for May include pea weevil, and root maggot fly. And then there's powdery mildew to watch out for.

Acidify your *Hydrangea macrophylla* (a.k.a. big leaf hydrangea / mophead hydrangea) plants if you want blue flowers.

Lawn maintenance: Let the pollinators have the dandelions and clover, if you don't mind them. Sharpen your mower blade. Mow leaving grass height 3" to 4". If you don't compost your grass clippings, leave them on the lawn. Set your watering system. Fertilize with an earth-friendly product. Nitrogen is easily depleted in most soils. Seed bare spots.

If you are still pruning, check for nesting birds before you address hedges and evergreens.

Maintain irrigation. Visually inspect your drip system thoroughly. Repair drip system leaks. If a line or emitter has failed and remains unidentified, you could lose a valued plant.

Control the heat in the greenhouse and address greenhouse hygiene.

Outdoor pots: these pots should be elevated off the ground/cement just a bit to permit good drainage. Feed potted plants regularly because frequent watering washes away the soil nutrients.

Start planning your Fall and Winter garden!

Oh, and don't forget one of the most important items on the checklist. YOU! Take time to enjoy your garden whether it's a pot, a plot, or a field.

# Crisis schooling for kids

By Seán Cawley  
Master Gardener  
Student 2020

What many parents, staying at home with your school age children, are doing is not truly homeschooling but crisis schooling. And guess what — if you are providing a warm, loving and safe environment, good, nutritious food for the table and a chance for your children to learn about various chores around the home - you are doing a fantastic job.

But what if you want to take these lessons a bit further and maybe help them learn about growing their own food, learning where food comes from, creating a garden, and what kind of insects or weeds are beneficial or harmful? What can you as a parent do? If the children are a bit older, maybe incorporate some

basic chemistry, biology, botany and mathematics into these projects. Or maybe you just need to have some creative activities for them. Maybe you are an organized person who wants to instill some structure into these homeschooling (crisis) lessons in the form of a lesson plan.

Here are some links to online sources to help you entertain and teach your children about gardening and sustainability:

- ♦ [Garden ideas for kids, parents and teachers](#)
- ♦ [Gardening for pollinators](#)



- ♦ [Fun activities for families](#)
- ♦ [Teaching kids about sustainability](#)
- ♦ [Your garden is a treasure trove of activities](#)

## ♦ Learning at home with bugs

If you find these links helpful you might find a way to help.

And if you want to go a bit further, how about inspiring your children for the rest of their lives?

TED talks have some wonderful short videos by inspiring people like [Suzanne Simard](#) on how trees talk to each other, gardening tips from [TED speakers](#) and an [entire section](#) from TED talks about kids.

Happy and inspiring gardening!

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## 10 top essentials during social distancing

By Janine Salvatti  
Master Gardener 2019

As the reality of the COVID-19 pandemic has filtered into my consciousness and the implications for our futures loom brooding and amorphous, I wondered what I would consider essential supplies or activities during this period of “social distancing.” Here are a few of my absolute must haves to keep my spirits up:

1. Chocolate: Taken as needed.
2. Books! Gardening magazines, mysteries, the internet!
3. Potting soil, Sluggo, seeds, and various gardening accoutrements.
4. Paper and pen for finally starting that long-procrastinated

garden journal.

5. Connection with my gardening and non-gardening friends via email/phone/text, walks with friends at a socially responsible distance.

6. Music

7. My favorite podcasts/YouTube videos: Margaret Roach, Ken Druse, Monty Don, Gardener’s Corner, Charles Dowding, and ??

8. Trying a few new recipes.

9. Day trips to explore new-to-me



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outdoor nature areas.

10. Wishing I had taken the Master Food Preservers course!



# Radish cravings

By Seán Cawley  
Master Gardener  
Student 2020

Ahh, springtime. The time when Nature seems to gush forward with new life. Young green shoots and wildflowers abound. I recently received a video from my friends in Ireland of twin lambs frolicking with and over their mother in sheer abandonment and excited to just be alive.

After the long, wet and cold winter, fresh greens are what I enjoy eating. Sometimes I crave them.

One of the spring plants I always think of is the radish – *Raphanus sativus*. It comes in such varieties and colors and has one of the shortest propagation times of any garden vegetable. It is part of the mustard or *Brassicaceae* family. Just like most mustards, they shoot up fast from seeds, bloom, set their seeds and die off while many other vegetables in the garden are just starting their cycle. This makes them a great family of plants to use in companion gardening.

## Health benefits

Radishes contain significant amounts of vitamin C and several other vitamins and minerals, and a few not-so-familiar phytochemicals such as indoles.

Radishes are high in Vitamin C, folic acid, and potassium. These

vitamins and minerals are good for healing cuts and bruises, keeping your memory sharp and for maintaining fluid balance in your body, according to the [University of Arizona Extension Service](#). Radishes have also been used to treat coughs, liver problems, and arthritis.



To liven up a salad and get some healthful benefits at the same time, grow a bunch of radishes and slice them thinly in your next tossed salad. Zingy!

The green leaves are good cooked and are high in beta carotene. In England they were known from the mid 1500s and used for various medicinal purposes including the treatment of kidney problems. Radish seeds grow in pods and these were often pickled and served with ale. Radishes vary in color from white to scarlet and there are green and lavender shades.

## Companion planting

Plant radishes near beans, beets, celeriac, chervil, cucumber, lettuce, mint, parsnip, peas, spinach, squash, and tomatoes. Avoid planting near

potatoes. It is said that planting 3 or 4 icicle radishes around the mound where you plant squash, and allowing them to grow and bloom, will prevent most squash and cucumber pests.

## Culinary uses

If you think radish is just for salads, think again. I found recipes for roasted, grilled, braised, pickled, sautéed with greens, kimchi and garnished radishes.

## Micro-greens

I have experimented using radish seeds in my micro-greens seed tray. I learned to keep them in a separate tray because they sprout so quickly. The young sprouts mixed with sunflower shoots and pea shoots

make a wonderful spicy salad with just a bit of oil and vinegar. And they can be grown indoors as a family project for young gardeners.

## Wild radish

The radish has a wild variety which (according to the book *Wildflowers of the Pacific Northwest*) populates Jackson County especially in disturbed fields at lower elevations. According to many sources, the wild variety of *R. sativa* is edible. Many wild harvest enthusiasts harvest the fresh green seed pods in summer to make a wonderful salad addition. The flowers are also edible. The root of the wild radish does not seem to be as bulbous as its garden cultivated variety.

# Toro! Toro!

Although this bull sports its sets of splendid horns, its sweet temperament won't get it to the matador's ring. It will instead more likely spice up a celebratory suppertime setting.

While its name implies a bovine orientation, Corno di Toro, also known as Bull's Horn or Cowhorn, is neither bull nor cow. Classified as *Capsicum annuum*, this Italian heirloom chili pepper is a member of the Solanaceae (nightshade) family along with the tomato.

Shaped like a "horn of the bull," as the Italians have appropriately named it, this specialty pepper is an heirloom descendant of Central and South American peppers introduced to Europe (via Spanish and Portuguese explorers) in the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries.

As a tradition and symbol of Italian heritage, Corno di Toro chili pepper seeds were passed down through many generations. Carried along as parting gifts, these highly prized pepper seeds landed on American soils with the arrival of their Italian immigrant guardians in the early 1900s.

They're still cultivated in home gardens and as small farm varieties in Italy, other European regions and in American Italian gardens as reminders of the family roots they grew from. While you can find them today in American farmer's markets,

**Gardening Gourmet**  
by Sydney Jordan Brown  
Master Gardener 2000



better yet, why not in your own garden patch?

It seems most appropriate during these most challenging, as well

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With a shape of the "horn of the bull," as the Italians have appropriately named it, this specialty pepper is an heirloom descendant of Central and South American peppers

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historical times, when we humans have been advised to "stay at home" to avoid a lethal worldwide virus, we gardeners may still venture out to sow in our soils and plant in our pots.

With this in mind and trowel in hand, you'll surely want to include these heirloom peppers that you'll likely not find in the dwindling produce at the grocers, or the Rogue

Valley Growers and Crafters Markets.

If you've never been the fortunate recipient of these delightful peppers, you'll be most grateful you've

included them in your vegetable patch. These often eight-inch-long tapered beauties will not only brighten your garden with their glossy-mature crimson, yellow or orange hues, but also tantalize your taste buds with their spicy honey-sweet flesh.

Starting these vigorous plants in spring will bring forth a bountiful harvest. Towards the latter part of summer or early autumn, you should be able to fill your garden cart with your own green or ripened peppers ready for the grill.

Corno di Toro pepper plants will grow to impressive heights of 3-4 feet (large wire tomato hoops work well to keep plants secure and branches from breaking) as long as they're fed a good quality well-balanced fertilizer, get plenty of compost, and receive regular moisture.

Whether in a pot or in your garden plot basking beneath the season's most brilliant sunshine, get ready to roast or grill these great heirloom bull horn peppers of plenty.

Toro! Toro!

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**Grilled Corno de Toro Peppers**  
**Page 8**

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# A dandelion by any other name

What did you say a weed is?

In previous months I have written about the possible joys (?) of ants and skunks; maybe this month should be about the lowly dandelion?

(*Taraxacum officinale*)



First of all, little kids love to pick & gift you with a hand-held bouquet and they are never scolded, "Don't pick the yellow daisies."

Deer also love vacuuming their fair share

of blossoms, with lips moving rapidly as they graze along the ground. It must be calming because they keep right on munching while cars whiz past on the nearby road.



## Peggy's Propagation

by Peggy Corum

Master Gardener 1989

Although I can't say I'm fond of this spinach substitute, dandelion leaves can be considered tasty to some and, three cheers, with the deer helpers a mower is not necessary to keep this lawn mowed down low. Just when you think the crop is declining, the blossoms point out your wrong thinking.

In the past, I heard stories about one little older aunt who was known and appreciated for her fine and

famous dandelion wine. She didn't herself imbibe alcohol of any kind, but just loved making wine. I'm sure there were those who liked sampling/judging her endeavors. I never heard if it's made from the flowers, leaves, roots, all of the above, or what.

Dandelions are perennial, so there is no need to keep planting them year after year. If you don't have time or money to plant a solid daffodil lawn, my aunt had the solution.

And don't forget the bees! The blossoms appear early and the bees are soon out there, happily flitting around their very own, beautiful, early spring finds. Must be similar to our finding that first spring morel mushroom.

How many wild things do you know that have so many uses?

The other weed ... hemp ... next month? Sorry, that's not my expertise. It may be growing "in my backyard" but I haven't gone there.

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## Recipe: Grilled Corno de Toro Peppers

Note: Any thick-walled pepper will do well in this recipe.

12 green or ripe Corno de Toro peppers (or other similar peppers of your choice) washed and dried on toweling

Virgin olive oil

Sea salt

Heat grill then turn down to medium low. Put about 1 tablespoon of oil in a one or two gallon sized locking plastic bag. Put in peppers, seal closed then gently massage until all are lightly coated with oil. Sprinkle in a bit of sea salt if desired then massage again until all is distributed.

Place peppers on grill and roast about ten minutes until brown marks appear. Turn over and cook another ten minutes or so until the skins are



browned and starting to pucker off.

Remove peppers and place in a heat-proof dish, then cover with plastic wrap or bag and let steam until cool enough to handle. Slide skins off by holding on to stems. Split lengthwise and remove seeds.

Peppers may be used immediately

or frozen flat and packaged for longer storage. They are great stuffed, cut in strips for topping salads, sandwiches, eggs, fish, poultry, chopped in omelets or sauces and pureed with some garlic and olive oil for a delicious spread (use 4 cloves of garlic and 2 tablespoons of oil for 6-8 peppers).

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### Sources

Pine Tree Garden Seeds  
[www.superseeds.com](http://www.superseeds.com)

Seeds of Change  
[www.seedsofchange.com](http://www.seedsofchange.com)

Territorial Seeds  
[www.territorialseed.com](http://www.territorialseed.com)

Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds  
[www.rareseeds.com](http://www.rareseeds.com)



# Mandatory downsizing

By Lynn Garbert  
Master Gardener 2014

Visitors who've seen photos of my cottage garden blooms or have spoken with me think my main garden is behind my home, but actually it is a mere patch of wonder.

During the summer of 2018, toxic forest fire smoke filled our valley and lungs, and hindered garden activity. As the smoke dissipated, a project was being weighed in the balance of, "What's the best way to begin?" The project was downsizing my cottage garden from 10 sq. ft. down to 5 sq. ft. It was complicated, yet feasible. It had the promise of a new structure to create, yet I was disappointed it needed to be done immediately because of the smoke's adverse effect already on the plants. I was concerned due to the stability and health of next year's plant growth and bloom display and of impending problems that could happen if pests and disease showed up. Why? Because stress matters and can occur if there's not enough sun, too much water, and poorly planned transplanting – I lost my prized dahlia by transplanting it in June.

I made a paper grid with names down the side and plant names along the top. Then I contacted friends to inquire if they'd want bulbs, plants, or rhizomes.

For one full day (with beautiful blue skies) I fetched my tools, sun hat, knee pads, back brace, and a tarp (to place plants, dug up debris and soil upon). I brought out my 3' wide folding patio table, two 14" tables, three 1-gallon buckets, many double-bagged regular-sized paper grocery bags, and both larger-sized (12"x12") plastic grocery bags & tiny (8"x12") plastic grocery bags.

Next, I dug up my plants and divided them, placing a single variety in each larger plastic bag. After that I grabbed the tiny bags and placed



individual plants/bulbs in them along with a 3"x5" index card where I wrote the name of that plant. Then, counting and deciding how many plants I'd give away, I put the number of each item a friend would receive on the grid I made.

Lastly, I wrote names of each recipient (one being me) on the paper grocery bags and began moving the tagged tiny bags into each paper bag.

In the midst of my 5 sq. ft. garden is a concrete step (allowing for three inches of soil where I had chives, Shasta daisy and iris). That spot now has two stepping stones with a 3-gallon pot sitting atop each stone. I drew a map for my new garden and

began planting.

I was thrilled to see the looks on my friend's faces as they received their gifts of plant starts from my snapdragons, daisies, chives, daffodils, crocosmia, rudbeckia, lilies, and iris.

Whether for a large or small garden, downsizing can be productive and purposeful, providing pleasure to friends who also enjoy getting soil under their fingernails, and watching the plants I kept thriving as they gained strength. I was saddened to lose the space but it's my perspective that counts: The joy in sharing with friends was the best blessing I could have experienced.

# Haydn Lee • August 18, 1934 – March 28, 2020

By Jane Moyer

Master Gardener 2005

A poem titled "The Dash" by Linda Ellis tells us the dates listed for a person's life span aren't what matters. It's the dash between the dates, representing the body of their life's work, that is important. What a dash Haydn Lee has created!

Haydn was born and raised in California, earned his B.A. in Agricultural Engineering from Cal Poly, served two years in the Army Signal Corps, and went on to get a Masters Degree in Civil Engineering with emphasis in Hydrology before going to work for the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. He retired in 1989.

His life as a Master Gardener started when he and wife Cora took the Jackson County class in 1994. They became so active, they were named co-Master Gardeners of the Year in 1996. Barbara Davidson recalled, "It was a rarity to see one without the other being on the grounds somewhere." They worked together to establish the Demonstration Gardens along with Kelly Leonard. In 2004, along with Ellen and Jim Scannell, and Dottie and Jim Becker, they developed and built the Lavender Garden with Cora doing the design, Haydn planning and installing the irrigation, and all helping to plant it.

Haydn was chair of the Plant Clinic the year after he took the class, was a board member from 1995–2008, president for 2.5 years, OMGA Representative for two years, alternate OMGA rep for seven years, Parliamentarian for two years, Spring Garden Fair chair for two years, and Bylaws Chair for five years. He also developed the irrigation system for all the gardens, maintained both the electrical and irrigation systems until



Haydn and Cora Lee

2009, and was head gardener for the orchards for four years. It's no wonder that he was named Outstanding Cooperator by OSU in 1999.

In his spare time, Haydn was an avid miniature railroader. Working together once again, Cora designed and Haydn helped develop and build Railroad Park in Medford where, to this day, free train rides are provided two Sundays per month during warm weather. In addition, they worked together to create an outdoor railroad feature in their garden, featuring a fully operational miniature train route complete with a train station and other landmarks.

Claudia and Bob Law remember Haydn's warm personality. Along with his easy and friendly ways, his rock solid devotion to the Master Gardener program was unforgettable.

Jean Buck recalled, "Haydn was the 'Man On Campus' when I took the MG course in 2003. Over the next few years Haydn was a treasured backdrop to all my memories of

Master Gardener activities."

Dave and Carol Rugg recollected that Haydn loved to talk about the first Spring Garden Fairs held at the Armory when the Master Gardeners put up two 40' tents and from there gave gardening advice and sold plants. "What we remember most about Haydn was his calm, well-thought out approach to solving problems."

Linda Holder fondly calls Haydn to mind as "one of the most authentic, kind, gentlemanly people I've ever met – soft-spoken, even-tempered, gracious, unassuming, and ready to help anyone at any time."

Marjorie and Alan Neal reminisced "The year he was president of the JCMGA Board was a year when no chair for the Spring Garden Fair emerged. Haydn summoned the board officers and said, 'Let's do it.' so we divided up the responsibilities and put on one of the most successful fairs to that date."

Peggy Corum stated, "When I think about Haydn I see a quiet, gentle voiced, smiling man, always there when you needed a go-to guy, definitely one of our good guys. You couldn't help but love him."

Nickie Van Vleck recounted, "His contributions to the Master Gardener program were past a gold standard. He had ready solutions and common sense answers to our many questions."

Ellen and Jim Scannell reminded us that one of the several advantages of being a Master Gardener is the lasting friendships. In their case it has been a 25-year friendship. Their final words: "His legacy will live on!"

Condolences and memories can be sent to Cora at 12813 NE 42nd St., Vancouver, WA 98682.



# Changing times call for changing rules

By Patrice Kaska

Master Gardener 2016

In the April edition of the *Garden Beet* (Was that only a month ago? It seems much longer.) the JCMGA Member Services Working Group announced their upcoming Photo Contest to choose a photograph to appear on the cover of the 2021 JCMGA Chapter Directory. At that time, we limited the photographs to those taken in the SOREC Demonstration Gardens.

Well, a lot has changed since that article was written. At this point, no JCMGA member, with the exception of Erika Szonntag, is even allowed to be on the Extension property, nor do we know when we will be allowed back to our beautiful gardens. In

addition, my guess is even when we can return, the gardens will, sadly, not be having their loveliest year ever.

Because of this situation, it seems appropriate to modify the location in which contest photographs may be taken. Considering our stay-at-home lives these days, it might just be that Master Gardeners are spending much of their time in their own gardens. And what better place to take pictures?

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The specific entry date will be published later in the year, but please consider this an invitation to use your cameras, phones, and tablets to capture the beauty of your own

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## 2020 Jackson County Master Gardener calendar

Events, community education, classes, JCMGA meetings

### MAY

**Monday, May 4** | 1 pm – 3 pm  
Communications Committee | Kate Hassen, chair  
Subcommittees include the Beet, Mailchimp, Facebook, and Public Service Announcements.

**Friday, May 8** | 1 pm – 3 pm  
JCMGA Board meeting | Ronnie Budge, president

### JUNE

**Monday, June 1** | 1 pm – 3 pm  
Communications Committee | Kate Hassen, chair  
Subcommittees include the Beet, Mailchimp, Facebook, and Public Service Announcements.

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Location unless others stated: OSU Extension Auditorium, 569 Hanley Road in Central Point, OR 97502 • Pre-register and pay online [here](#) or call 541-776-7371 • Classes are \$10 if pre-registered & pre-paid at least 24 hrs in advance. • Classes are \$15 at the door (unless otherwise noted) • Additional \$5 discount for MGs & other Extension volunteers. All MG classes are eligible for MG recertification education hours. • Refunds only available 48 hours before class.

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All events may be cancelled due to coronavirus restrictions. Please check our website for details.

**Friday, June 12** | 1 pm – 3 pm  
JCMGA Board meeting | Ronnie Budge, president

**Wednesday, June 24** | 5:30 – 7:30 pm  
Grapevine Nutrition & Irrigation Management | Dr. Alexander Levin, Oregon Wine Research Institute  
Learn how to properly feed and water your grapevines to optimize yield and fruit quality in your home or small-scale vineyard. (Part of a series.)

### JULY

**Monday, July 6** | 1 pm – 3 pm  
Communications Committee | Kate Hassen, chair  
Subcommittees include the Beet, Mailchimp, Facebook, and Public Service Announcements.

**Friday, July 10** | 1 pm – 3 pm  
JCMGA Board meeting | Ronnie Budge, president

**Tuesday, July 14** | 5:30 – 7:30 pm  
Inviting Nature into our Yards and Gardens | Lynn Kunstman, Master Gardener  
Growing native plants in our yards, cities, and common areas provides the best hope for saving our pollinators. Based on the work of Dr. Doug Tallamy, this presentation will teach you why and how to add native plants to every yard.

# **Jackson County Master Gardener Association**

## **Board of Directors Executive Committee Meeting**

### **April 10, 2020**

#### **Announcements**

1. The meeting is being recorded.
2. Alec Levin, the research viticulturist, had arranged to have some research grapes in the Practicum greenhouse. The electricity was turned off when the 2020 Practicum was cancelled due to COVID-19. Now that the weather is getting warmer, the greenhouse is getting up to 120°F, so he asked to have the fans turned back on with the electricity expenses coming from his grant.
3. Lynn Kunstman will appear on The Jefferson Exchange (JPR 102.3FM) at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, April 15 to discuss gardening.

#### **Update on Master Gardener Program and related**

1. Watering in the Propagation greenhouse and the Practicum outside areas is being done by Erika. She will add the new plants by the OSU Extension sign to the watering list. Doug Kirby will be contacted about hooking up the irrigation.



#### **Recording Secretary**

**Jane Moyer**  
*Master Gardener 2005*

2. Voluntary online Practicum sessions are being done by Zoom 11 a.m.-12 p.m. every Tuesday in April and may extend into May. Erika will send reminders on Mondays.
3. There have been no changes to the OSU recommendation to reopen on May 11.
4. Students had three weeks of the Master Gardener class remaining when the Extension closed. They completed the classes for Integrated Pest Management and Plant Diagnosis

with online modules. The Plant Clinic training is scheduled for May 11 if the Extension is open. The final exam will be done together in late summer or early fall. Because of lost time, the volunteer requirement has been reduced to 40 hours across the state. Graduation will take place in October if 2/3 of the class has completed the requirements. If necessary, students can complete their hours in 2021.

5. Recertification hours will be waived for current Master Gardeners.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

1. To protect board members in the event of a lawsuit, a Directors and Officers Insurance Policy has been purchased. The 2020 budget has been revised to reduce all line items by 1%, except the \$1,000 that goes to the endowment fund and the \$2,400 for the reserve fund. President Ronnie Budge has to pre-approve all purchases.
2. Treasurer Annette Carter reviewed how to read the budget reports.

#### **JCMGA activities during "stay home" order**

1. Continuing activities during closure – presentations on Jefferson Exchange, The Garden Beet, MailChimp, Zoom meetings, and updating the website.
2. Lynn Kunstman asked for more nominations for Jackson County Master Gardener of the Year and Jackson County Behind the Scenes Master Gardener of the Year. Send the nominations to her along with a brief description of what the person has done.
3. Erin Scott asked if JCMGA could help develop home lessons for students being taught at home during the COVID-19 school closures.

#### **Roberts Rules of Order Cheat Sheet**

We are a decision-making body. Although we do have reports listed on the agenda, most reports are filed on Dropbox to conserve time. To keep the focus on decision making, we need to understand the following procedure:

To speak in the meeting, you must be recognized by the Chair (and/or be on the agenda).

To discuss something, you must make a motion about it. (Usually best to write the motion out or prepare something ahead of time.

To make a motion, say "I move to \_\_\_\_\_". The motion needs a second. Say, "I second the motion."

Debate should be on the subject and not personal.

Or someone says, "I move the previous question." If this happens, we vote on calling the question. We need 2/3 vote to stop the debate.

*Continued on Page 13*



# Board Minutes: April 10

*Continued from Page 12*

Rather than starting from scratch, the following existing materials were suggested:

- ♦ The Junior Master Gardener Program materials from Texas A&M
- ♦ Thomas J. Elpel's *Botany in a Day* children's botany book, and *Shanleya's Quest* by the same author
- ♦ OSU produced [videos](#) for children
- ♦ Ask school grant recipients for ideas.

Pam Hillers suggested putting these resources in a Beet article and asking for others. (See Page 5)

## Cancel Children's Garden 2020?

After discussing the COVID-19 projections, the amount of time needed to prep for the Children's Garden once the Extension is open, parent uneasiness about sending their children into a group setting where coronavirus might be present, and volunteer mentor worries about being around children who could be non-symptomatic carriers, Annette Carter moved the 2020 Children's Garden

program be suspended. Roberta Heinz seconded. Unanimous approval.

## Grant for Greenhouse Vent Screens

Jane Moyer moved and Kate Hassen seconded a motion that the Practicum write a Karl Carlson Memorial Fund grant application for vent covers for Greenhouse #2. Unanimous approval.

## May 22 Board Retreat: Communication/Coordination Among Working Groups

Assuming the Extension may still be closed on May 22, having a Zoom retreat was discussed. A straw vote was taken with the result being a two-hour Zoom retreat with only one subject would be held on May 22.

## Report on OMGA Quarterly Meeting

Barbara Davidson reported on the March 7 OMGA quarterly meeting:

1. The Educational Forum discussed "What an OMGA representative does."
2. On Nov. 7, the forum will discuss best practices (Dig and Divide). Location TBD.
3. Mini-college is still scheduled for July 24 & 25. Early registration

ends July 1.

4. Deadline for grant applications is May 15.

5. Second quarter *Gardener's Pen* (OMGA newsletter) has been received by Ronnie. She will send it to Kate Hassen, chair of the Communications Working Group, who will send it to Keltie Nelson, Mail Chimps chair, to be sent to all JCMGA members.

6. Barbara is going to seek advice from the OMGA treasurer concerning what to do about school grants given in the fall but not yet used.

Pam Hillers thanked Patrice Kaska for getting the directory out to keep us connected during the closure and Jack Ivers for getting the Beet out to keep us informed.

Next meeting: Monday May 11, 2020, 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Location TBD.

**Remember  
to log your  
volunteer  
hours!**

## Support Master Gardeners™ when you shop here

**Every time you shop at the Grange** we can earn money! How cool is that? Whenever you shop at any of the Grange Co-Op locations, tell the clerk you are a Jackson County Master Gardener and they will credit our account with the amount of your purchase. At the end of the year, JCMGA will receive a percentage of all our accumulated credits back in the form of cash! This is like free money since we all buy plants, tools, and garden supplies! With that one caveat aside, this is one of the simplest and easiest fundraisers we can do.



**Amazon will donate** a portion of all you spend at AmazonSmile. Here's a great way to support Master Gardeners: **amazon smile** You shop. Amazon gives. To get started go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and login the way you normally login to Amazon or Amazon Prime. Right under the box where you'd search for items to buy, click on the "Supporting:" button. Go down to "Pick your own charitable organization." Type in Master Gardeners Association. This will bring up a list of similar programs. Make sure to select the one in Central Point! (Typing Jackson County Master Gardeners will bring up one in Texas!)

**Donate your car or truck** is an easy and convenient way to support us. You'll get a tax write-off when you donate your used car, truck, SUV, motorcycle, RV, or boat on a trailer. And you'll get a tax write-off to boot! Just complete the online car donation form or call 888-227-5500. They'll need some basic information about you, your vehicle and where your vehicle needs to be picked up, then they'll schedule a pickup time.



## Beet Box

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All articles and photos are due by the 15th of the preceding month and have a maximum of 500 words. Photos submitted cannot be less than 600x800 pixels. Oregon State University Extension Service offers educational programs, activities, and materials without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, or disability as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Oregon State University is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

All information provided by the Garden Beet is believed to be accurate. A product named in an article does not constitute an endorsement of said product by JCMGA.

## Just one more thing ...



*Photo by Seán Cawley*

A lady bug beetle visits an onion - Allium

*See something fun or creative in a garden or around the Extension? Send it to [jcmgabee569@gmail.com](mailto:jcmgabee569@gmail.com)*



[www.facebook.com/jcmgaor](http://www.facebook.com/jcmgaor)



**JACKSON COUNTY  
MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION**  
Southern Oregon Research and Extension Center  
569 Hanley Road, Central Point, OR 97502



# Enjoy photography? Win our contest!

By Patrice Kaska  
Master Gardener 2016

Why should the JCMGA Membership Secretary have all the fun – and responsibility – of deciding on the cover photograph for the JCMGA Chapter Directory each year?

The Member Services Working Group is pleased to announce the first annual JCMGA Photo Contest. The winner will have her/his photograph on the cover of the 2021 Chapter Directory, and four runners-up will have their names and photographs published in the *Garden Beet*. Any submitted photograph will also be eligible for use in other JCMGA publications. Although the submission dates for contest photographs will not occur until late summer, the spring blooming season is here, and we want to encourage you to begin your

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