

*"We learn, practice and teach
the art and science of gardening
in the Rogue Valley."*



Reopening guidelines expected soon

Few activities continue until Extension reopens

As I write this column, we still have no firm date for when the Extension will reopen to volunteers and the general public, except that it will be after June 13 per Gov. Kate Brown's directive to public universities to remain closed until the end of the school year. Erika Szonntag, our Master Gardener Coordinator, is in close touch with those at OSU who will decide on dates and guidelines for reopening.

We do have directives from the governor about our other personal activities. Phase I of Jackson County's reopening, which began on May 15, allows groups of up to 25 people if social distancing is maintained. If this is successful, then 21 days later we may be able to attend events with up to 100 persons. But because of the need for social distancing at all activities, the JCMGA board has cancelled the Children's Garden sessions and our August member picnic.

Until there is a vaccine or effective treatment for COVID-19, larger and closer gatherings will not be allowed.

We certainly hope that scientists will create a safe and effective vaccine by early 2021 so these can resume next year.

So have all JCMGA activities come to a standstill? What is happening with our beautiful Demonstration Gardens? Will the plants die in the summer heat and drought?



President
Ronnie Budge
Master Gardener
2011

The answer to the third question is a definite no. There is an automatic watering system in the gardens and Erika is hand-watering the few areas without it. There will be a lot of weeding to do, but the plantings themselves should be just fine.

Your Board of Directors continues to hold its regular monthly meetings via Zoom. We've been tidying up administrative matters and planning for the future.

The JCMGA [website](#) is being updated page by page and made more user-friendly. And our [Facebook page](#), with new content added regularly, has more followers every month. Its "reach" is now 50,000 people who see our posts in their news feeds.

Lynn Kunstman is a guest on the Jefferson Exchange most Wednesday mornings, explaining what to plant

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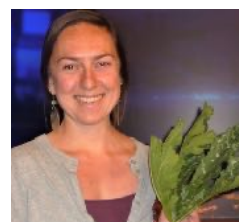
There's a little light at the end of the closure tunnel

Dear Master Gardeners,

I hope this all finds you and your loved ones healthy and well. I will use this space to communicate updates and happenings regarding COVID-19.

With how quickly things are changing, however, guidance may be updated after this article is in print. Please continue to check email messages from me or via Mailchimp regarding program reopening. With states and counties beginning to reopen around the country, there is now a little "light at the end of the tunnel" to which we can all look forward.

We are still waiting for direction and guidance concerning Extension volunteer programs. County governments operate under a different executive order from institutions of higher education (such as OSU). That is why **OSU activities are not reopened at the same time or in the**



**OSU Program
Advisor**
Erika Szonntag

reopened at the same time or in the

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Finding a way to thrive in trying times

Dear 2020 MG Students,

Alas, 2020 is not the Master Gardener program that everyone envisioned. Fortunately, gardeners are a resilient bunch. Not all seeds germinate, veggie starts can keel over when planted in the garden, and the weather provides yet another roll of the dice. But plants and humans always figure out a way to thrive in the conditions at hand.

I am guessing that most of you entered the Master Gardener program because of your love of gardening and all things plants. The classroom is locked and dark, the binders are on the shelf, and everyone is anxious to get their hands dirty in the demonstration gardens. Peggy Corum (Master Gardener 1989, Propagation Garden) reminds me that she and her cohorts started Grandma's Garden to give Master Gardeners an opportunity to continue gardening at the Extension long after the classes ended. The concept was a keeper, and several more gardens were added over the years. But the sentiment continues: meet – greet – garden. You will learn lots from these seasoned gardeners (some of it even garden related ☺). But more importantly, the Demonstration Gardens provide the perfect 'bookend' for your Master Gardener program experience because they nurture both plants and humans.

Enjoy your summer and I hope to see you in the gardens.

– Rebecca Jurta
Master Gardener 2017

Searching for the perfect strawberry



Photo by Seán Cawley

Members find ways to stay busy

Continued from Page 1

and how to do it. Tune in to 102.3 FM or 1230 AM at 8:30 and maybe throw her a softball question or two.

Some of our Practicum students and mentors continue meeting weekly via Zoom, sometimes for lessons and sometimes for informal sharing of gardening advice. These sessions have been recorded and you can watch and listen by going to the member portion of the JCMGA website and clicking on "Practicum."

Our thanks go to those of you who sent in names of those who deserve special OMGA awards. The awards committee reviewed these and chose nominees for "Jackson County Master Gardener of the Year," "Jackson County Behind-the-Scenes Master Gardener," and "Oregon Master Gardener of the Year." These individuals are truly outstanding but they are a secret for now!

And I'm happy to announce that to further our goal of increasing food

security, JCMGA made grants to improve community gardens in Eagle Point, Phoenix, Central Point, and Medford, in amounts from \$380 to \$600.

But how, you may be asking, can JCMGA afford to give out grants when its major source of income was eliminated by the cancellation of the Spring Garden Fair?

With similar concerns in mind, the board held a Zoom retreat on May 22 to consider new ways to fundraise and to brainstorm innovative methods for teaching the art and science of gardening. Recommendations from the retreat will be considered at the business meeting on June 12. I'll report the results in next month's *Garden Beet*.

And remember, members are welcome at all meetings, whether via Zoom or in person. Or contact me directly with your questions and comments.

Volunteers staff virtual Plant Clinic

Continued from Page 1

same way as other entities which follow county government directives. The university is still working with the governor's office to clarify when and how we may again come together for face-to-face events, activities and instruction. Specifically in the Master Gardener Program, we are developing guidance (which will be subject to administrative review) for how we can begin work in Master Gardener demonstration and community gardens.

Thus, we are in the situation that Jackson and Josephine counties are in Phase 1 of their county's reopening, while OSU units (including Southern Oregon Research and Extension Center) remain closed and are not yet able to move to Phase 1. **SOREC is in the process of requesting approval to move into Phase 1** as soon as possible. Once SOREC has received approval to move into Phase 1 and OSU administration has approved our reopening plan for the Master Gardener program, we will slowly

begin to resume activities on a limited basis and increase activity as we continue to move into Phases 2 & 3 over the next few months. **We are still under a moratorium on face-to-face educational classes, trainings, or events until at least June 13**, unless the university, with guidance and direction from the governor, says otherwise.

Despite the closures and restrictions, we have had success with some online programming. I want to thank Ronnie Budge, Marcia Harris, John Kobal, Lynn Kunstman, Sherri Morgan, Jane Moyer, and Jody Willis for hosting some Practicum lessons via Zoom to students during April and May.

We also have our first Virtual Plant Clinic up and running. Clients are able to email or submit an online intake form, and mentors are able to work from home. This is a great service to the public as interest in gardening has increased greatly this year. I would like to thank Matthew Allen, Viki Ashford, Carol Bogedain, Jan Carlson, Diane

Engelhardt, Katy Mallams, Emily Miller, Marty Rosen, Dianne Smith, and Dolly Travers for being brave and volunteering to give this new system a try. We have already served quite a few members of the public this way and hope to continue to do so until the Plant Clinic at SOREC reopens. Questions are still being submitted to [OSU's Ask an Expert service](#); a big thanks to Sharon May and Marjorie Neal for taking on additional questions.

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](#).

Thank you all for your continued cooperation and patience. This has certainly been a trying time and I appreciate the positivity and teamwork the Jackson County Master Gardeners continue to exhibit. Hope all remain well and talk with you soon,

– Erika

Visible efforts appear in the June garden

We are still living in the shadow and uncertainty of COVID-19, although the “stay-at-home” orders are loosening. We pine for, and worry about, our dear Demonstration Gardens.

On the brighter side at home, beautiful exuberant June has arrived! We have been impatient, watching for every spurt of growth. Our efforts in the garden are fully visible now. We can see where holes in the landscape need filling in or editing out. As plants mature, they may be crowding their neighbors and need moving when they go dormant.

On the shadow side, we are noticing that our perennial pests and diseases are starting to show themselves and we ready our arsenal of eco-friendly agents for a frontal assault. The “[Garden Guide for the Rogue Valley](#)” has a wonderful section on dealing with pests and diseases. I noticed in my own garden that I have planted some plants too closely together and powdery mildew has taken the opportunity to assert itself. Slugs and earwigs have found my emerging dahlias. And SOMETHING is chewing on the leaves of my lupines! Arrgh!

Walk your garden daily. Slowly. It is a calming prescription and keeps us in touch with day-to-day garden conditions.

Have you checked and made repairs to your irrigation? Don’t forget to monitor moisture in your pots and grow bags. Irrigation systems have pros and cons, but they do reduce tedious, time consuming hand-watering and they are reliable with nominal oversight. I haven’t quite convinced my other half to adopt one of the new “smart” irrigation systems, but I remain hopeful. I like the idea we could use a cell phone to eliminate the slogging back and forth from one end of the yard to the garage to turn the various



By Janine Salvatti
Master Gardener 2019

June Garden Guide

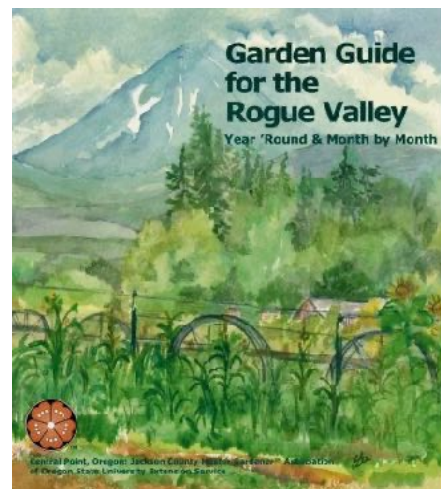
zones on and off as geysers “blow” and repairs are tested.

Weed! I don’t mean to nag. Just a few minutes each day makes a difference. Or, plant perennial or evergreen ground covers that will shade weeds out; it’s a living mulch that also conserves soil moisture.

Continue to bait for earwigs, snails, and slugs. Copper strips are brilliant snail/slug stoppers! Ironite is another option. And I may be the last to know, but recently I started using spent coffee grounds around my “all-you-can-eat” snail buffet. It’s working well; it seems slimy things don’t like coffee Americano. Next, I plan to



Jane Sawell’s dahlia garden



experiment spraying these plants with drip-brewed coffee. I hope it is as effective as touted.

Procrastinators: If you have seeds or bulbs/tubers/rhizomes you have not planted and you feel too guilty to plant these now, think again! What do you have to lose? Plants want to live. They are tenacious. Plant them!

It should be safe to plant out your tender plants but keep an eye on the quirky weather at this time of year.

Divide the clumps of bulbs now that blooms and foliage have faded.

Deadheading starts in earnest now if you want to encourage recurring blooms. And **pinch tips** to encourage bushy growth.

Stake plants BEFORE they need it when you know flopping is inevitable. Secure with stretchy garden tape or something similar that will not damage the plants as they grow.

Keep bird houses clean and birdbaths fresh and topped up. Remember that hummingbird feeders need fresh sugar-water every day or two in hot weather. Did you know we should not use red food coloring in the sugar-water?

For veggie gardeners, your best local source for what to do in June is the “[Garden Guide for the Rogue](#)”

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“Passionate Gardening” inspires

By Janine Salvatti
Master Gardener 2019

Reading has been a most appreciated and companionable presence while staying at home during the COVID-19 “stay home” order. Thankfully, one of my gardening friends loaned me the book “Passionate Gardening”. It’s now 20 years old, but it’s still a lively and humorous sojourn into the minds of experienced and artful gardeners.

This book is not tired or tiresome due to age. It covers a lot of still fertile ground. Included are some basics, some garden design, common gardening challenges and seasonal guidance. Lots of beautiful pictures describe the authors’ favored and diverse plant materials and combinations. These were so enticing that I immediately went in search of several plants to create new combinations in my own garden.

I loved some of the chapter titles. “Ode to Clay” really captured my attention because I have enough clay to supply a potter’s wheel for decades. “Learning to Love Latin”,



Book review

“Passionate Gardening” by
Lauren Springer and Rob Proctor

“Ruthless People” and “Pretty Poison” grabbed me. However, what I’d like to share with you is a few bits of the authors’ wit and perspective that resonated with me:

“The search for the perpetually beautiful garden has much in common with the quest for eternal youth. A frost-hardy annual serves the same purpose for me as the

newest vitamin elixir does for others.” (I am guilty of this.)

“If nature had intended her junipers to look like poodles, she’d have given them a different kind of bark.” (Shoot! I’m guilty of this, too!)

“Poets may write sonnets about sweet spring, lovely spring, but the season can turn on the gardener like a mad dog.” (...on steroids!)

“A classic case of overzealousness happens when late snows threaten. Gardeners race out to put a warm blanket on their bulbs. That’s like putting a mink stole on a husky. The poor dog doesn’t need it, and neither do the bulbs.”

I finally did return “Passionate Gardening” to the good friend who loaned it to me, but not before I ordered it (used) for my own humble library. It’s going to live next to my chair in the garden for a while so I can enjoy bits and pieces with my morning coffee, maybe instead of coffee cake?

Busy time in the June garden

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Valley Year Round and Month by Month.”

Tomatoes: Stake/cage at planting time. Pinch side shoots throughout the season. If your tomatoes are planted in the ground discourage bacterial infections from splashing water by putting a “splash guard” of composted leaves, rice straw, grass clippings, even plastic or weed cloth, if you already have it on hand. Just make sure to perforate the plastic so water can easily penetrate. At minimum, keep the leaves from touching the ground.

Sow for transplanting fall and winter crops: Brussels sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower.

Direct plant: Amaranth, basil, bush beans, pole beans, beets, carrots, chervil, cucumbers, dill, edamame, leeks, lettuce, Malabar spinach, okra, parsnips, pumpkins, scallions, summer savory.



The dreaded leaf mold.

Transplant: Cantaloupe, celery, eggplant, peppers, tomatoes, watermelon.

And, my friends, don’t forget to enjoy your labors. Find a comfy spot to have your iced tea (or G&T) and relax. Breathe in the fragrance of the garden and breathe out your stresses.

June is Brusseling out all over!

June is Brusseling out all over

Nourished by the growing compost hill

Stalks springing up with sprouting

Will have every gardener shouting

As diners groan

From splurging beyond their fill

In reality, it's too bad *Brassica oleracea* has often suffered an undeservedly poor reputation. Although Brussels sprouts aren't exactly on the top ten lists of most delectable vegetables, they might be if given another chance.

For those whose only experience has been the unfortunate recipient of sprouts steamed to a slimy submission, please try again. The prompt says. The proper pass code is to either *respectfully roast* or *gently steam* them. Either of these will enable you to enter a most sensational indulging in these regal vegetables.

Brussels sprouts belong to the *Brassica* family which is the largest vegetable family known. It's said these vegetables have been cultivated for thousands of years given their great tolerance to limestone, salty and other harsh soils.

Although we do not know exactly when these plants were started, it's speculated they likely came from a wild form of leafy kale. Those plants were then later crossbred to create the varieties we are familiar with today.

Brussels sprouts' relatives include: broccoli, cabbages, collards,

Gardening Gourmet

by Sydney Jordan Brown

Master Gardener 2000

cauliflowers, kale, kohlrabi, rutabaga and turnips. After its discovery, the sprightly sprout was then popularized near Brussels (probably where it got its name) in Belgium during the 14th century.



The Europeans must have known the secret to a superlatively prepared sprout since they were enjoying these tasty vegetables before the 19th century.

Apparently the European recipe did not arrive with the U.S.'s first

fiber. Their sage green or burgundy foliage, (yes, they also may be had in red), is satisfyingly statuesque when sown in the most respected garden patch.

Although Brussels sprouts need close to 100 days to mature, there's still time to squeak them in. If sown early this month, you'll likely be able to harvest sprouts from November through February.

Whether started indoors earlier in spring or by direct seeding, sow seeds about ½" deep (in sterile start mix indoors or richly composted beds outside). Space transplants or thin those directly seeded to about 18" apart in rows

18-20" apart, enhancing beds with extra compost, dried manure and bone meal.

Once the stalks stand stoically above their beds and sprouts begin to surge from their stems, snip off the growing tip of the plants to encourage optimal production.

When sprouts swell to 1"-2" spheres, twist from stems. They may be stored refrigerated in bags for several days. However, to enjoy them at their best nutty sweetness, cook them the same day after harvesting.

So what are you waiting for? It's definitely time to start Brusseling out to try these tiny sprouts as you've never tasted them before.

It's said these vegetables have been cultivated for thousands of years given their great tolerance to limestone, salty and other harsh soils.

immigrants. Even during the mid 19th century, Brussels sprouts still had not at all gained a good or acceptable reputation in the U.S. Definitely our loss.

Fortunately, though, they've come up in their status as a sublime addition to the supper table, as well gaining rank among the "super veggies" – adding a healthy dose of nutrients, including vitamins K and C, and

Maple glazed Brussels sprouts Page 7

Discover your inner Hemingway in 500 words

Everyone has a good story or two, especially when it comes to gardening.

We'd like to hear yours!

The Garden Beet needs writers to share their stories with the rest of us. Whether it's a success, a disaster, a learning experience or a piece of humor, we'd like you to tell it (or tell on yourself).

Possible stories could include:

- * Garden successes (planned or unplanned)
- * Garden disasters, how you coped and what you learned
- * What kind of garden do you have, and why? (Formal, butterfly, container, natural, zen, Mother



Nature knows best)

- * How do you manage your garden?
- * How often do you redesign your garden?
- * What do you do to re-energize your garden?
- * Minding melons, pumpkins, and squash
- * Basics for beginners and those

having issues.

- * Good gardening practices.
- * How to start seeds in winter.

Come up with your own topic or idea!

When submitting an article, please spell-check your story and give it one last look to make sure it says what you

want in the way that you want. Include photos if you have them.

Send your story to the Beet by the 15th of the preceding month and have a maximum of 500 words. Photos should be submitted in a jpg, tiff or png format and cannot be more than 8x10 inches.

Let us know what would you like to see in the Beet. Contact Jack Ivers

Recipe: *Maple Glazed Brussels sprouts*

Ingredients

- 1½-2 pounds Brussels sprouts
- 2 tablespoon extra virgin olive oil
- ¼ teaspoon sea salt
- ¼ teaspoon fresh ground white pepper
- 1 tablespoon fresh minced rosemary
- 3 tablespoons water
- 3 tablespoons maple syrup (or if you prefer honey, or agave)
- zest of one organic lemon
- ½ cup coarsely chopped roasted hazelnuts (toasted almonds or walnuts are also great)

Directions

Preheat oven to 375°

Cover a large baking sheet that's at least 17"x9", or a jelly roll pan, with heavy foil.

Wash and halve sprouts. Put oil, salt, pepper, and minced rosemary in a large zip-type plastic bag then massage to mix. Drop in sliced sprouts, close bag then gently toss between your hands until all are coated.



Place sprouts cut side down on prepared baking sheet. Sprinkle with water. Place in oven and roast for about 25 minutes. Pour maple syrup over the sprouts and gently stir to coat, using a wooden or silicone

spoon. Return to oven and roast another 15 minutes until tender and lightly browned on edges. Toss with lemon zest and nuts, then serve immediately. Serves 4-6.

Sources

Pine Tree Garden Seeds

www.superseeds.com

Both red and green sprout seeds

Territorial Seed

www.territorialseed.com

They have green, red, and a new hybrid "Kaylettes" – a frilly edged sprout that resembles mini kale heads on a stalk

Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds

www.rareseeds.com

They have green as well as red sprout seeds

The annual 'pondemic' strikes again

By Sydney Jordan Brown
Master Gardener 2000

A short, but seemingly way-too-long at the time, bit of nonsense that will hopefully bring a smile to a season that's been challenging to all.

This little quip is for all who have one of the well-sought-after water features (more commonly defined as a pond, with or without added aquatic accents) or those who still long for such garden accoutrements.

We – me (my first experience), my husband (likely his last experience) and our two Jack Russell canine companions gazed beyond the rim of the pewter-pond rock. We weren't at all fooled by its duplicitous, glassy, lily-pad concealed surface, well knowing that there lurked beneath something far more ominous than the golden fish entertaining my two girls.

Yes, indeed, we were in the midst of another "Pondemic." There was no escaping or hiding from it.

Come it does, this pondemic stocking up each spring with an arsenal of well-stowed sludge emanating long before the spillway.

It's the dawn of Aquarius – algae adhering to filter pads, volcanic rock bags and me as I sling them (and nearly myself) to the gravel pathway where they splatter their glop while awaiting a thorough wash-up.

Digging in, we scoop the slop from the bottom of the filter's rectangular chamber, leaving us ensconced to our armpits in the slimy greenery.

The girls are thrilled they're going

fishing, as well a hovering heron somehow knowing the net's down. I fling a fistful of muck, alerting the heron that the only meal on the menu today is an airborne muckwich.

Meanwhile, the all-knowing fish

future skirmishes.

Beyond the portable pump's success at removing water, it was hand bailing to the bottom. When my husband removed a rock in the pond wall to pluck free a plant, I glared at him for the resultant avalanche.

Demoted to dumping dishpans of their dubious contents, we are still speaking with terms to be decided. We were convicts in a chain gang, continually reconfiguring rocks requiring repositioning.

While refilling the pond, I was on to curtailing the culprit leaking stream bed. When I emerged from the pond – being rinsed from its "green-glory-of grime" – looking like Sasquatch of swamp land wasn't enough. I was now

venturing into, (there's no around this stuff), a layering of landscape lava foam.

Transfixed by extruding black-volcanic goo relinquished from its aerosol containment, I was unaware of its full capabilities. Not only did it adhere to loosened rocks and hardened to a concrete, ebony gloss, its adhesion seemed even sturdier once affixed to me and the paws, as well as the fur, of my assisting Jack Russells.

Needless to say, after a shearing to remove and biscuit to sooth the dogs and some Goo Gone to remove the muck stuck to my back, the pondemic was over: gone away for a season, but not at all beyond, it's laying low in the now clear waters of that great aquatic pond.



flee beneath any cover still available in the nearly drained pond. They initially refuse to enter my inadequate net where they'll ultimately be flipped

*Yes, indeed, we were in
the midst of another
"Pondemic". There was
no escaping or hiding
from it.*

into the undesirable water-filled wagon.

I entrapped all except for one I noticed swimming about in my plastic bag-ensconced shoes that contained more water than the pond. Discarding the bags, I flipped the fry in the wagon and vowed to order waders for

2020 Jackson County Master Gardener calendar

Events, community education, classes, webinars, JCMGA meetings

JUNE

Monday, June 1 | 1 pm – 3 pm
Communications Committee | *Kate Hassen, chair*

Subcommittees include the Beet, Mailchimp, Facebook, and Public Service Announcements.

Tuesday, June 9 | 12 pm - 1 pm
Home Composting Q&A ** | Linda Brewer, OSU Department of Horticulture
Free webinar for Master Gardeners presented by OSU. For more information, or to pre-register, click [here](#).

Friday, June 12 | 9:30 – 11:30 am
JCMGA Board meeting | **Ronnie Budge, president**

Tuesday, June 23 | 3 pm - 4 pm
Tree School Online: Insects in the Trees ** | Christine Buhl, Forest Entomologist, Oregon Department of Forestry
Free webinar for Master Gardeners presented by OSU. For more information, or to pre-register, click [here](#).

Wednesday, Thursday, June 24-June 25 | 8:30 am - 5 pm **Sustainable Landscape Seminar** ** Check for additional information on this webinar.

Tuesday, June 30 | 10 am - 11:30 am
Tree School Online: Managing Root & Butt Rot of Conifers **
Free webinar for Master Gardeners presented by OSU. For more information, or to pre-register, click [here](#).

* Master Gardener class information

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 Master Gardeners & other Extension volunteers. All Master Gardeners' classes are eligible for Master Gardeners'z recertification education hours. • Refunds only available 48 hours before

All events may be cancelled or have limited class size due to coronavirus restrictions.
Please check our website for details.

Tuesday, June 30 | 3 pm - 4:30 pm
Tree School Online: See the Forest for the Bees **

Free webinar for Master Gardeners presented by OSU. For more information, or to pre-register, click [here](#).

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 | 9:30 – 11:30 am
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.

Thursday, July 16 | 10 a.m.
Solve Pest Problems: A New Resource for Master Gardeners and

the Public ** | Weston Miller. Free webinar for Master Gardeners presented by OSU. For more information, or to pre-register, click [here](#).

AUGUST

Monday, Aug. 3 | 1 pm – 3 pm
Communications Committee | *Kate Hassen, chair*

Subcommittees include the Beet, Mailchimp, Facebook, and Public Service Announcements.

Tuesday, Aug. 11 | 5:30 – 7:30 pm
Capturing Carbon for the Climate: Part 2 | * *Scott Goode, Master Gardener*

Build upon what was taught in the first class by looking at outcomes from various carbon sequestration techniques. Scott will discuss results of research performed with the Desert Research Institute and Tikun Olam Research and Teaching Farm. You will also have the chance to see carbon sequestration in action at the Master Gardener Carbon Sequestration Victory Garden at SOREC. (Part of a series.)

** 2020 OSU webinars for Master Gardeners

Dr. Brooke Edmunds, Extension Master Gardener Faculty in Oregon, is once again hosting free, advanced training webinars for Master Gardeners, marked with an * (above). 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.

Jackson County Master Gardener Association

Board of Directors Executive Committee Meeting

May 11, 2020

Announcements

*Lynn Kunstman will appear on The Jefferson Exchange (JPR 102.3FM) at 8:30 Wednesdays through June to discuss gardening.

*Jack Ivers reported Jackson County will be among the first to move to Phase 1 of the Oregon plan to reopen. SOREC will continue to follow guidance from OSU.

Treasurer's report

*All SGF refunds were received in April except the Pear Blossom Parade refund. (Sandy Hammond reported it was received in May.)

*Garden Guides have been selling well through the Grange and the JCMGA website.

*Many Master Gardeners have been asking how to get the blue Bottle Drop bags. Kate Hassen needs ideas on how to make them available.

Update on Master Gardener program and related

*Erika Szonntag reported there has been no date announced for reopening



Recording Secretary

Jane Moyer

Master Gardener 2005

extension centers. OSU is working on a plan based on the governor's guidelines. It is anticipated reopening will be by the end of June. In the meantime, Erika will be working with Plant Clinic mentors on providing a virtual Plant Clinic. Student Plant Clinic training will take place soon after SOREC reopens.

*Erika has been checking the gardens and doing watering where there is no irrigation. Except for being weedy, the gardens look good.

*OMGA has cancelled the 2020 Mini-college.

Implications for JCMGA of governor's three-phased plan for reopening Oregon

*No gatherings of 100 or more people can be held until at least the beginning of October. Kate Hassen moved, due to the COVID-19 emergency and guidelines, the August Master Gardener picnic be cancelled for 2020. Sandy Hammond seconded. Unanimous approval.

*Graduation will depend on the guidelines for gathering in place in October. It has already been decided graduation would also be contingent on 2/3 of the class finishing their requirements. If less than 2/3 are able to do so, the 2020 graduation will be combined with the 2021 graduation.

*Sue Koury updated the Board of Directors on preparations for Winter Dreams Summer Gardens and reported on possible alternate plans if Phase 3 has not been entered. To enter Phase 3 requires the availability of either a COVID-19 vaccine or a cure. Because it is unlikely either will be available by November, Kate Hassen moved, due to the COVID-19 emergency and guidelines, the 2020 Winter Dreams Summer Gardens Symposium be cancelled. Keltie Nelson seconded. Unanimous approval. Sue Koury will contact presenters who have already been arranged and invite them to present in 2021 instead.

May 22 retreat

The topic of the retreat was changed from "Communication/Coordination among Working Groups" to "Where Do We Go From Here?" to discuss how JCMGA will continue to provide gardening education to the community and how we will continue to have the financial ability to do so. Lynn Kunstman volunteered to organize and moderate the two-hour retreat on Friday, May 22, 9:30-11:30 by Zoom. She will contact Virginia Brown for help. Sean Cawley has also agreed to help. A Mailchimp invitation will be

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.

The chair will repeat the motion and a vote will be taken.

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Board minutes: May 11

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sent to all Master Gardeners along with information on how to join.

OSU scholarship

JCMGA currently has an agreement with the OSU Foundation to manage our scholarship endowment fund. The agreement specifies the annual scholarship will be awarded to a graduate of a Jackson County high school. In December 2019, the board voted to add, "Scholarship awards will be awarded to graduates of an Oregon high school when there is not a qualified applicant from a Jackson County high school." Jane Moyer moved to amend the policy to "JCMGA will provide at least one annual scholarship award in the amount of \$2,500 to an OSU student at the junior level or above, majoring in a field of study related to the plant kingdom. Priority will be given to OSU students who have graduated from a Jackson County high school or are a resident of Jackson County. Scholarship awards will be awarded to graduates of an Oregon high school when there is not a qualified applicant from Jackson County." Kathy Apple seconded. Unanimous approval. President Ronnie Budge will contact the OSU Foundation to request an amendment to the Scholarship agreement to conform to this policy.

Proposed policies on board meetings

Right now, some board policies are mixed in with Articles of Association and By-laws and some policies are in a third document called Policies and Motions but not in any particular order. Kathy Apple and Pam Hillers have been working on a Policy Manual to separate them out and organize them in a logical way to make them easier to locate and/or change. They discovered instances where policies need to be updated or adopted so they conform to procedures currently being followed, or to conform to requirements for non-profit organizations such as JCMGA. Kathy Apple emailed eight proposed new or amended policies to the board in advance of the meeting. Each is listed separately on the agenda.

*Proposed policy on board meetings: Kathy Apple moved the board approve the revision to the policy titled "board meetings" to include a new section related to board meeting absences by board members. Kate Hassen seconded. Unanimous approval.

*Proposed policy on board transition: Kathy Apple moved the board approve the revision to the policy titled "board transition" to include a new section related to badges and swingers. Keltie Nelson seconded. Unanimous approval.

*Proposed policy on board orientation: Kathy Apple moved the

board approve a new policy titled "board orientation". Keltie Nelson seconded. Unanimous approval.

*Proposed policy on conflict of interest: Kathy Apple moved the board approve a new policy on conflicts of interest. Kate Hassen seconded. It was proposed board members should annually sign a document stating they have no conflicts at this time and will disclose if one arises. Kathy and Kate withdrew the motion and the second. Kathy and Pam will draft new language pertaining to such a document and email the proposed policy to the board for consideration at the June board meeting.

*Proposed policy on operating reserve fund: due to time constraints, this item was postponed until the June board meeting.

*Proposed policy on acceptance of gifts: Due to time constraints, this item was postponed until the June board meeting.

*Proposed policy on school garden grants: Due to time constraints, this item was postponed until the June board meeting.

*Proposed policy on JCMGA event & Master Gardener program grants: Due to time constraints, this item was postponed until the June board meeting.

Next meeting: Friday, June 12, 2020, 9:30-11:30 a.m. (Location TBD)

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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:  To get started go to 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 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

This Aloe vera flowering succulent is a beautiful thing to behold. An evergreen perennial, it originates from the Arabian Peninsula.

See something fun or creative in a garden or around the Extension? Send it to jcmgabee569@gmail.com



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