

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



## Barbara Davidson named OSU Master Gardener of the Year

By Lynn Kuntsman  
Master Gardener 2012

Our very own Barbara Davidson has been honored by being named OSU Master Gardener for 2020. We are so happy that Barbara has received this award after her many years of dedication to local and state Master Gardeners.

### Support of MG program educational mission

Barbara Davidson retired in 2000 after 30 years as a high school English teacher. She became a certified Master Gardener in 2004, and has been an active and valued volunteer and leader for JCMGA since then. Each spring, she attends the weekly Master Gardener class to guide, support, and mentor new students learning the art and science of gardening in the Rogue Valley. As a member of the Board of Directors of the Jackson County Master Gardener Association and its Community Outreach Working Group, Barbara chairs the committees that award grants to local



school gardens and community gardens along with annual scholarship awards to local students pursuing horticulture as a career. She has organized the JCMGA donation for the Mini-College silent auction, raises funds at the used book booth at JCMGA's Spring Garden Fair, and cheerfully joins the annual picnic and graduation decoration committees.

Beyond her work to promote education locally, Barbara is the JCMGA representative to the Oregon Master Gardener Association Board of Directors and has held that position since 2014. In that capacity, Barbara has served as co-chair for OMGA Mini-College.

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## Getting back in the Demonstration Gardens is a delight

It has been a joy for me to be back working in the demonstration gardens over the past few weeks. Because I was a mentor in the Practicum last spring, where I

and my students started some of the native plants from seeds or cuttings, I chose to volunteer in the native plant nursery. We are trying to catch up with moving each seedling or cutting into bigger pots before they die from

overcrowding. But besides the satisfaction of saving all those plants, there is delight in catching up with old friends and making new ones, while still observing COVID-19 protocols like social distancing.

Volunteer Susan Koenig noted that it seemed quiet at Extension compared with previous years, because we are limited to 20 persons on campus at a time rather than everyone showing up on Wednesday mornings. Nonetheless, she and Margaret Saydah were glad to get their hands dirty in the wheelbarrows of transplant mix under



**President**  
**Ronnie Budge**  
Master Gardener  
2011

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### JCMGA awards

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# Master Gardener(s) of the Year

By Lynn Kunstman

Master Gardener 2012

This year, we have chosen a team of FOUR individuals to be our JCMGA MG of the Year. Steve Hassen, Bill Elliot, Doug Kirby and John Kobal have worked tirelessly to make our campus and greenhouses the best in the state.

We LOVE them, and wanted to honor all of them.

**Steve Hassen** developed the Spring Garden Fair layout plan and has organized the laying out of all the booths for multiple years. Besides being a Practicum mentor, Steve helped develop the Greenhouse Monitoring and Mitigation Plan, rewrote and expanded greenhouse hygiene lessons, and led the Herculean effort to upgrade the Practicum greenhouses. He helped with repairing and upgrading the well pump and irrigation system for the gardens, led the effort to move and rebuild the Compost Garden shed, helped build new bins for bulk garden supplies, and helped rebuild fences in two gardens.

**Bill Elliot** has maintained all three greenhouses for several years, allowing the Practicum to do its work of growing plants. He installed an automatic watering system in Greenhouse 1 and keeps the heat at the proper temperatures in all three locations. He is on call whenever we need him to adjust something. He attends weekly mentors meetings so he can be aware of and respond to problems. At nearly every meeting he's the first one to say "I'll take care of that" when a volunteer is needed for almost anything.

**Doug Kirby:** In addition to assisting with all the above projects, Doug is in charge of the Perennials Demonstration Gardens at Jackson County Extension, as well as being in charge of all the grounds and irrigation for those gardens. His



Steve Hassen and Doug Kirby, at left, help move the shed to its new location last year.



John Kobal, left, talks to a friend at an Extension dinner. Bill Elliot, right, takes a break during last year's Greenhouse 1 rehab.



efforts, in collaboration with our program coordinator, to keep the gardens alive during the Covid shutdown, have been indispensable.

**John Kobal** was the lead MG on our greenhouse sanitation efforts last year - developing curriculum and protocols for pest management and greenhouse hygiene. He has been a mentor in the Practicum for several

years. John is also in charge of educational presentations at our Spring Garden Fair and is a speaker with our speakers bureau, doing ongoing outreach to our larger community.

When you see these guys on campus, be sure to congratulate and thank them for their outstanding efforts!

# Catching up with friends over a few weeds

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the direction of GEM Lynn Kunstman. (GEM means Garden Education Mentor. They guide and assist each of the volunteers who work in “their” gardens.)

For the 2020 students, working in the Demonstration Gardens is the first chance they’ve had (other than the Practicum) for some hands-on application of what they learned in their Wednesday (or on-line) classes. Romina Ramos said she loves learning about bees and butterflies from Lynn. We watched Lynn rescue a swallowtail butterfly that had flown into Greenhouse 2 where it was sure to die from the heat. Lynn used her cap in place of a net to capture it and return it to the outdoors.

Barbara Low is learning about daylilies with GEM Marsha Waite. She said the book learning was fine, and the class speakers were really good, but that it’s been hard not to put that learning to practical use, and especially not being able to work in the Plant Clinic. Her sister Linda Lowe is working with GEM Jane Sawall in the Dahlia Garden. Putting a positive spin on it, they’ve learned which dahlia bulbs are the survivors.

Frank Larson, who moved to the Rogue Valley from Bend, was glad to be earning volunteer hours towards graduation. He thinks the social aspects of working in the Demonstration Gardens are really important too, as he chatted with GEMs Jane Moyer and Marcie Katz in the Wanda Hauser Garden, where they did a lot of weed pulling. Marcie’s usual garden is Birds, Bees, and Butterflies right next to Greenhouse 1. On her first day back she discovered that the plantings there had grown so dense between March and July that the weeds were crowded out.



Susan Koenig and Romina Ramos work with the native plants, at left, while Fred Larsen, below, helps with clean up around the Demonstration Gardens.

Another with few weeds was the Perennials Garden, which GEM Doug Kirby had mulched 3” deep last summer and fall. A lesson for all of us: mulch, mulch, mulch. His assistant Char McKee, who was happily pruning and dead-heading, said that getting out and working with plants makes her day. There were gorgeous blooms throughout the Perennials Garden, but Doug said he missed seeing the early spring blossoms.

Two of the gardens where the weeds had grown thick and tall were the Orchard and the Rose Garden. Sean Cawley, another 2020 student, noted that the Orchard “needs help” and was glad to assist Joe Alvord to get the irrigation system going again.

I’m told that the weeds in the Rose Garden had grown 7’ tall while we were closed. Randy Costello said that on her first day back she kept saying “ow, ow, ow” and went home with her hands shredded and bloody because the rose bushes



were so overgrown. Diane Reiling said it was like “going after big game.” But by the time I visited, most of the weeds had been removed and rose lovers Linda Moran and Ann Sloan said they were really enjoying themselves pruning the shrubs into shape, and that it was wonderful to be back.

If you’d like to volunteer in the Demonstration Gardens, I’m told there are still opportunities on Monday and Thursday mornings. The first step is to contact the GEM for the garden where you’d like to work. For a list of the gardens and GEMs, see page 36 of the 2020 JCMGA Directory.

# Reclaiming the Demo Gardens

by Marcie Katz  
Master Gardener 2019

After a three month hiatus due to the COVID-19 stay at home order, the GEMs (Garden Education Mentors) slowly returned. It was a sight for sore eyes for sure; we had visions of how we left the gardens, all neat and tidy, pathways clear of weeds and grass, spring bulbs, hellebores and wind flowers all in bloom. We knew things would be overgrown, but Mother Nature detests empty spaces, and so she populated our gardens with WEEDS! Lots of WEEDS! Six and seven-foot-tall WEEDS! Every weed known to the PNW found a new home!

They especially liked the Rose, Daylily and Dahlia Gardens where the soil is like fine wine, pure and painstakingly developed over the years with organic amendments. You could barely see the flowers for the weeds. The Waterwise Garden completely lost its pathways, the Children's Garden grew thistles, and blackberries and foxtails abounded in every path, nook and cranny. It was overwhelming.

So, we just had to start somewhere, pick an area and go to work. Not all the GEMS came the first week, and the students weren't invited back as yet. Slowly they returned, and then students and other Master Gardener helpers came, and by the end of each consecutive week order was returning.

In four short weeks (three days a week, three hours a day, all the time we are allotted), the gardens were looking beautiful again and we completely filled a new compost berm and the burn trailer with our rejects! Granted, we missed some very pretty plants that bloomed while we were away, including the corpse plant in the Wanda Hauser Garden. (Pretty to look at, horrible to smell!)

It was a very good lesson about

garden density and use of mulches. Some gardens didn't have many weeds at all! The Birds, Bee, Butterfly Garden had nary a weed because it's packed to the brim with happy, fragrant, plants of all sizes. Doug and Char's Perennial Garden lost a few plants (to critters?) but had few weeds, and those they had were easy to mitigate because Doug brought in some superior, heavy wood chips that did their job! Marsha and her helpers had a huge area to tackle and now the daylilies are thanking them with their beautiful blooms. The Rose Garden was overwhelming for Eileen and her crew – full of blooms with roses falling over. The prickly lettuce was taller than most of us,

After many, many wheelbarrow loads, you can smell the roses and see them again. Monette has done an amazing job cleaning out the Waterwise Garden, where there are now pathways to walk on. Lynn had a huge job, transplanting hundreds of baby native plants into bigger pots

and moving all the plants that no longer had irrigation in the back area. Helpers new to some gardens did their best, not sure what plants are in the garden, but taking a risk of pulling things that looked like weeds. The GEMS and workers came for the Entry, Herb, Succulent, Native, Wildflower and Rain Gardens and have been busy as bees. The Garden Enhancement Committee worked every Thursday to clear the



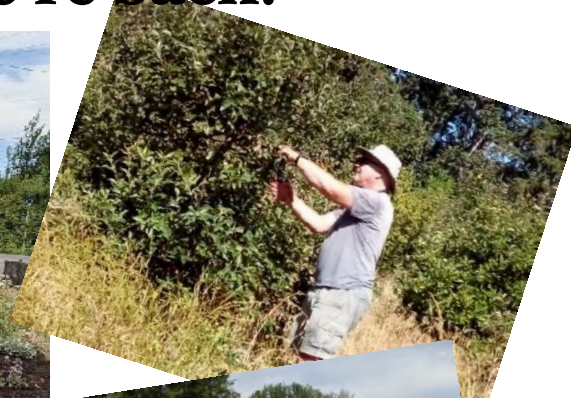
*Photos by Monette Hoffmeister*

The shutdown allowed gardens to become overgrown before being whipped into shape by volunteers.



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# Garden's restoration: We're back!



## Reclaiming the Demonstration Gardens

*Continued from Page 4*

pathways, our first project being to weed our Entry Sign Garden we had just planted before the shutdown. Joe even has a new helper to clean up the orchard in areas where the tractor can't fit.

Literally hundreds of hours have already been logged.

It is sad to see the Children's

Garden and the Kitchen Garden empty. We will clean them up and make ready for next year – hopefully we will be back to "normal" or a "new normal" by then. We had plans, we had goals, and we had lives that are much different now. So, taking a cue from our beautiful gardens, as the song goes, "we will survive!"

## Master Gardeners **WANT YOU!** on the JCMGA Board

We are looking for new, and experienced member Master Gardeners to serve on our JCMGA Board of Directors for 2021. Could that be YOU, or someone you could recommend?

Please consider becoming a board member. The board is the governing body of the association. It adopts the budget, sets policy, and generally oversees the present

and future direction of JCMGA. Meetings are held the second Friday of each month. Most board members also sit on one or several of the association's working groups and are among the first to volunteer when jobs need to be done!

Vice-president/president-elect, treasurer and assistant treasurer, recording secretary, membership

secretary, archivist, OMGA representative, and five members-at-large. Nominees must be members of JCMGA in good standing, and be willing to serve if elected. If you have questions, contact Vice President Lynn Kunstman at [kunlynn52@gmail.com](mailto:kunlynn52@gmail.com)

Deadline for nominations is **SEPTEMBER 1!**

# Barbara Davidson named OMGA Gardener of the Year

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She was in charge of arranging speakers and did such an exemplary job, she was told to stop recruiting because she had signed up so many. She also worked for many years to improve and expand the Master Gardeners Handbook, used in MG training classes statewide.

## **Leadership within the association**

Elected president of the Jackson County Master Gardener Association in 2008, Barbara has remained a member of its Board of Directors since that time.

She chairs the JCMGA School Grants/Scholarships committee. In 2014 she was elected JCMGA's representative to the Oregon Master Gardener Association and has continued in that position to this date. In 2016 she was OMGA's Mini-College speaker coordinator. She is a past OMGA secretary and has been the OMGA historian since at least 2018. She plans one OMGA board meeting in Jackson County annually and organizes the JCMGA donation for the Mini-College silent auction.

Barbara's responsibilities over the years have included:

Board member: 2006-present

Vice-president: 2006 which included programs committee

Mentor program chair: 2006

President-elect: 2007 which included nominating committee

President: 2008

OMGA alternate rep: 2009

School Grants: 2010-present

Scholarships: 2010-present

OMGA Rep: 2012-present

Social: 2016-2018

OMGA Mini-College speaker coordinator: 2016

OMGA secretary *pro tem*: 2017

OMGA historian: 2018-2020

## **Impact**

After Barbara Davidson's retirement in 2000, she became a CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) volunteer, helping abused and neglected children. She has appeared before the Medford City Council to testify on many issues,

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*Barbara brings suggestions, perspective, institutional memory and constructive advice to Board meetings and Mini-College planning and execution.*

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including the OSU Extension facility's value to the community. As chair of the JCMGA committee that awards grants to local school and community gardens, and annual scholarships to local students pursuing careers in horticulture, she has nurtured a love of gardening in young people and the broader community. These scholarship recipients go out into the world as our future biologists, entomologists, horticulturalists, educators, etc.

Barbara's commitment to and impact on the mission of the Master Gardener program – from the local to beyond – can be best understood from the following example. At a recent JCMGA Board of Directors meeting, it was proposed that a new Demonstration Garden be developed to explain the art and science of composting to new Master Gardener

students and the community at large. Planning had been completed, volunteers recruited, and the time for construction was at hand. The board was enthusiastic. However, the compost garden had not been anticipated when the annual budget was adopted and there were no funds to pay for the project. Barbara suggested that board members donate out of their own pockets to begin construction and offered her own gift to get the ball rolling. By the end of the meeting enough money had been raised to pay the

basic cost of the Compost Garden and its successful completion was assured. This garden is now a community educational resource.

Barbara also serves as OMGA historian, maintaining the historic record of the organization. She participates and leads the

Executive Committee, Board of Directors, and Annual Retreat functions. Barbara brings suggestions, perspective, institutional memory and constructive advice to Board meetings and Mini-College planning and execution. Barbara is a thoughtful and extremely supportive resource. Her willingness to take on additional tasks such as facilitating OMGA Board meetings or Mini-College responsibilities, demonstrates the high level of commitment and caring that Barbara Davidson has for our program. Her tenacity and leadership has impacts from local to state and beyond, as OMGA educational programs expand.

# This season's favorite wildflowers and a Phase II update

Dear Gardeners,

Can you believe August is already here? I hope everyone is staying safe and healthy while enjoying the beautiful weather. I will outline some program updates below, plus share some of this season's favorite wildflowers.

While SOREC has moved into Phase II as of late June and is open on a limited basis to the public, we have decided to continue with Virtual Plant Clinic, and not open the Plant Clinic in person until there is a significant drop in cases. The health and safety of you, our volunteers, is of utmost importance.

We reopened the Demonstration Gardens to work on a limited basis in June, and that has been going really well. Thanks to all the GEMs and volunteers who are coming out – you got the gardens back into shape in no time! Thank you all also for following the protocols set out, and respecting



**OSU Program  
Advisor  
Erika Szonntag**

the schedule and participant limit we have in place.

I hope that others have found joy in this year's truly remarkable wildflower season, amidst the turmoil the world has been facing these last several months. Here are some favorites I have encountered on recent hikes, mostly in the Ashland Watershed and near the Siskiyou Crest (of course while following physical distancing and trail closure guidelines!).

I encountered vast meadows of blooming monument plant (*Frasera speciosa*) on a hike near Wagner Butte in mid-June. Monument plant is a fascinating member of the Gentian family; it is a monocarpic perennial, meaning that it grows for years, but only flowers once in its lifetime. Monument plants will grow for 22-80 years, flower once, and then die ([Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory](#)). This is a mast flowering species, which means there are significant bloom events every 2-7 years, typically following an unusually wet summer 4 years preceding the bloom event ([Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory](#)). “Mast seeding, also known as masting, mast flowering, masting behaviour or mast fruiting, is synchronous and highly variable seed production among years by a population of perennial plants (Ims, 1990; Kelly, 1994; Kelly *et al.*, 2008)” ([Pearse et al., 2016](#)).

While mountain biking on a more remote trail in the Ashland watershed, I was lucky enough to come across both phantom orchid (*Cephalanthera austiniae*) and striped coralroot (*Corallorhiza striata*) in one day. These are both members of the orchid family, and are myco-heterotrophic,



Striped coralroot

meaning they obtain nutrients from the mycorrhizal fungi which they parasitize, instead of photosynthesizing. Both plants lack chlorophyll, which makes for a truly unique and sometimes ethereal appearance.

Enjoy the rest of your summer, and stay safe!



Phantom orchid/snow orchid



*Frasera speciosa*

# This rad is a dish

Nothing will dazzle your dinner salad or your dining guests like the ruby-fleshed root of the watermelon (also known as Beauty Heart or Red Meat) winter radish.

Although *Raphanus sativus*, the radish, is broadly distributed throughout the world, the the winter variety may not yet have graced your garden and table.

Despite tentative speculations on this radish's origins, the only true wild forms of this root are, well, rooted in Southeast Asia – as central China, Central Asia, and India seem secondary centers, given their differing-developed forms.

Even though radishes are recorded in the third century BC and detailed as crops by Greek and Roman agriculturists of the first century AD, they weren't introduced here until the arrival of European immigrants.

The first varieties to reach our soils were likely familiar mild spring radishes. So it's no wonder many people have never had the pleasure of sampling the red-fleshed winter radish.

There are spring radishes and then there are those spectacular winter varieties. They are in a whole other realm that evolved to enormous diameters, with dense interiors of the sweetest-crisp flesh in a profusion of color.

Like a watermelon, you'll find sublimely sweet, but with a pleasant bite of heat. Greenish shoulders melt

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



into white around a center that is saturated with a fluorescent shade of crimson. It also grows to a miraculous 4-5" in diameter, so there's plenty to share to spice up any salad, stir fry, or

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*The watermelon radish, like the melon, you'll find sublimely sweet, but with a pleasant bite of heat.*

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appetizer offering.

Bright with flavor, this bold radish flourishes on the edge between summer's last hurrah and the nip of Jack Frost's first bite. It's also loaded with antioxidants within those rosy interiors, vitamin C, fiber and almost no carbs if you're counting such things.

So what's the secret for this scarlet-fleshed radish's stardom? It's all in the

setting. By building up the soil exuberantly with compost, this latent-maturing radish will rise to its finest performance.

Sow your seeds by selecting, if possible, a day below 90°F. That's not always easy to do, but we who work the ground must watch the weather for cues on when to grow.

A thick blanket of fine mulch will be greatly appreciated by the plants and assist in keeping conditions consistently moist to encourage more rapid sprouting.

Once these babies have sprouted, they'll need to be thinned to about 4-6" apart so they'll have ample space to expand.

Given their spicy temperament, these guys are little bothered with fly-by insect feasters.

Around October, you should be able to start sampling your first roots. The beauty of these radishes is their resistance to light frosts so you can leave them in the ground and enjoy them even through December in a milder year.

What a treat to taste such beauties long after the garden has been put to bed for the winter.

So if you're looking for sighs of surprise, as well a splash of splendor for the eyes, set out for the prize of the red-flesh winter radish.

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**Winter radish salad**  
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# Behind-the-Scenes Master Gardener of the Year: Dee Copley

By Lynn Kuntsman  
Master Gardener 2012

Dee has been a Master Gardener for six years. Her contributions during that time have been most impressive.

For the last four years, Dee has organized and coordinated Seed to Supper classes. Dee's program coordinator, Emily Mann, reports that the class would not happen without Dee's help and dedication: spending hours each week from November-May recruiting MGs to teach the program; helping train volunteers; sending emails; connecting participants; and marketing classes. With between 6 to 8 six-week courses offered each year, it has been no simple task. Dee reliably and consistently donated her time to coordinate classes, bringing

hands-on gardening education to roughly 85 members of the Jackson County community.

With the 2020 classes postponed, Dee continues to keep the spirit of Seed to Supper alive--participating in community conference calls, continued communication with past and current participants, and working on a succession plan for when she finally retires from her volunteer position.

JCMGA Greenhouse 2 would not be a reality without Dee's expertise and hard work. As a

realtor, she was uniquely qualified to navigate the complicated Jackson County permit process. Due to

zoning restrictions, procuring the required documents was especially challenging. Dee worked with various county offices clarifying regulations, ensuring requirements were met, and working with JCMGA members to carry out specifications - always with good humor, clarity, and endless patience.

Congratulations, Dee, and thank you from all of us for your dedication and hard work.



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## Recipe: *Winter radish salad*

### Vinaigrette

Juice and zest from 1 organic Valencia orange

1/4 cup organic cider vinegar

2 tablespoons honey

2 tablespoons Dijon mustard

2 peeled cloves garlic, pressed

1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil

2 teaspoon fresh rosemary, minced fine

1/8 teaspoons each fresh ground pepper and sea salt

Put all ingredients in a jar with a tight fitting lid and shake well to blend. Best made 24 hours ahead and can be refrigerated for about two weeks.

### Salad

8 cups arugula, washed and drained

1 4" or 2 smaller, red meat



radishes, washed and peeled then sliced paper thin (a mandoline is useful for this or thinnest slicing blade on food processor)

2 organic blood oranges, peeled and cut in lengthwise wedges then each cut in half again

4 fresh scallions, washed and cut in thin slices

8 pitted Kalamata olives, sliced

1/3 cup pistachio nuts

4 oz goat cheese

Put all ingredients (except goat cheese and nuts) in a large salad bowl, add about half vinaigrette then gently mix to coat everything. Sprinkle goat cheese and nuts over each serving. Serve immediately to 4-6 eager recipients.

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### Seed sources

Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds

[www.rareseeds.com](http://www.rareseeds.com)

Pinetree Garden Seeds

[www.superseeds.com](http://www.superseeds.com)

Johnny's Select Seeds

[www.johnnyseeds.com](http://www.johnnyseeds.com)

# What did you do during quarantine?

By Marcie Katz

Master Gardener 2019

I have found that as gardeners, we seldom sit still, always looking for that stray weed, plants that need extra care, a branch that needs pruning and all the other myriad of things that a garden requires. Only then can we sit back and enjoy the fruits of our labor and the serenity created in our beautiful gardens large and small!

If you're like me, after 4 months in captivity (during the stay at home rule, LOL), on those days too hot to be outside, you found the desire to open closets, drawers and even that scary garage and tool shed, and said to self, "Why do I have so much stuff?" and "What do I do with it?"

Or, maybe it's just time to downsize, because realistically, you know your kids really do not want all



those wonderful things we treasure and accumulate, and do we want to place that burden on them when the time comes?

Well, I have a solution for you, Community Yard Sale! Yes, you can take all that good stuff you have purged from your life and donate it to a great cause!

Roberta Heinz is graciously offering her property for a Community Yard Sale on Saturday,

Aug. 29 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

All proceeds will go toward supporting gardening education here in the Rogue Valley.

So gather all your stuff and drop it off on Friday, Aug. 28 between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. at 3939 Tami Lane, Central Point.

We ask that NO CLOTHING, BOOKS, ELECTRONICS, BROKEN or NON-WORKING items please!

If you have an excess of plants as well, we will be accepting those in containers with labels for the native and non-native plant sale that will run in conjunction to the yard sale.

Please contact Marcie Katz by [email](#) or call 541-301-8464 if you have folding tables (to loan) and/or a truck or trailer to help move items or wish to volunteer. All remaining inventory will be donated to non-profits after the sale.

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## Directory photo contest begins

By Patrice Kaska

Master Gardener 2016

Will your photograph be on the cover of next year's JCMGA Chapter Directory?

The JCMGA Member Services Working Group is now accepting photo submissions for its first annual Photo Contest. The winning photograph will appear on the cover of the 2021 JCMGA Chapter Directory — and don't your tireless efforts of spring and summer deserve to be admired by us all?

Information and guidelines include the following:

- ♦ The 2020 JCMGA Photo Contest is open to all current Jackson County Master Gardener Association

members.

- ♦ Photos may be submitted from Aug. 1 through Aug. 31, 2020. We are able to accept one (1) photo from each member, so send us your very best!

- ♦ Photographs are limited to those taken in the Master Gardener's own home garden and are limited to flora (no fauna, please).

- ♦ All photographs must be at least 1500 x 1575 pixels (5"x5-1/2" at 300 dpi) and all submitted photos become the property of JCMGA.

Email your entry to: [jcmgmembership@gmail.com](mailto:jcmgmembership@gmail.com). Please include your name, phone number, email address, and a short description of the flora pictured.

Identifying information will be removed and the contest will be judged by members of the Member Services Working Group and the editor of the *Garden Beet*.

If you have questions, please email Patrice Kaska, Membership Secretary, at [forpatricek@icloud.com](mailto:forpatricek@icloud.com).

The winning photograph will appear on the cover of the 2021 JCMGA Chapter Directory, and four runners-up will have their photographs featured in the *Garden Beet*. Winners will be announced in the October *Garden Beet*.

Whether your garden consists of several acres or a single plant in a hanging basket, we'd love the opportunity to honor the beauty you have created and nurtured.

# Giving our finances a boost

By Jane Moyer  
Master Gardener 2005

WAIT! Before you decide you're not interested in reading an article about finances, stop and ask yourself some what-if questions. What if the Jackson County Master Gardener Association ceased to exist? What if you could contribute to its continued existence with absolutely no cost to you in either time or money? Has your interest been piqued? Keep reading!

As you probably can guess, the main source of income for JCMGA is the Spring Garden Fair. Other sources include the Winter Dreams Summer Gardens Symposium, sale of *Garden Guide for the Rogue Valley* (two volumes), the yard sale, pop-up plant sales, the Holiday Gala, collection and redemption of eligible cans and bottles, numerous other once-a-year endeavors, and member dues. With the current COVID-19 pandemic, 2020 income has been reduced to the sales of *Garden Guide for the Rogue Valley*, member dues, and the collection of redeemable cans and bottles. (Reminder: the funds collected from students for the Master Gardener class tuition supports the OSU Master Gardener Program, not JCMGA.)

What does JCMGA do with the funds collected each year? Since the main purpose of the association is education, the bulk of the annual budget goes to the Practicum (Reminder: Practicum is a function of JCMGA to supplement the Jackson County Master Gardener program and receives no financial support from other sources, including OSU or SOREC.), Demonstration Gardens, school grants (pre-K to 12th grade), plant related scholarship(s) at OSU, community garden grants, Plant Clinic, Community Education classes (Reminder: the funds collected for these classes go to the OSU Master Gardener Program, not JCMGA.), Speakers Bureau, and the costs of

## Help JCMGA when you shop at the Grange



### Buy tools, plants and supplies

Say "Jackson County Master Gardener" account #15333

### Grange sends us money

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 (account 15333) 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.

running our association of volunteers (no salaries).

In March, when the pandemic started, the Board of Directors voted to freeze all but the most essential 2020 expenses. However, some costs had already been incurred and some simply could not be skipped this year, for example a broken underground pipe in Greenhouse #1 had to be repaired. So, while the usual amount is not being spent, looking forward to 2021 and beyond, the usual carryover will be greatly diminished.

Which brings us back to the first question: what can each of us do to support JCMGA financially with no cost in time or money? We will be reviewing the current fundraising options one at a time each month with the hope we will all make use of the many ways we can contribute. This month we will look at the Grange rewards program.

The Grange gives a rebate credit to members who spend over \$500 in any year. Many of us shop at the Grange, but how many of us are not members or spend less than \$500 in a year? Instead of letting a reward go unused, we can ask that our purchases be credited to the Jackson County Master Gardener Association. Since the Grange has stores in other counties, these exact words have to be used: "Please credit this to the Jackson County Master Gardener Association. Just in case your cashier is unsure how to do this, asking to have your purchase credited to account #15333 is the surefire way to accomplish it.

The Grange rewards will be used toward materials used by the Practicum, the Demonstration Gardens, the JCMGA booths at the Spring Garden Fair, and any other activities that require gardening supplies.

# Recycle ... and help support JCMGA

Stop treating  
us like  
garbage



Jackson County Master Gardener Association is trying to raise funds for projects in 2020, including awards scholarships, community gardens and community education classes.

One way for us to pick up a little spare change is by recycling the bottles and cans that you have around the house.

Mobilize your family, friends and neighbors – collect cans and bottles from them all! It's for a great cause!



How to do it? Pick up a special blue bag during volunteer hours Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays at the sign-in table at the Extension.

Please pick up no more than two bags at a time.

Fill each bag to the brim! JCMGA is charged 40 cents for each bag to participate in the fundraising process so every little bit more in a bag adds up. We lose 20 cents for every bag that ends up sitting in someone's garage.

For more information, contact Jane Sawall at 541-301-5412 or email her at [Janes435@outlook.com](mailto:Janes435@outlook.com)



## Recycle this!

Water, beer, and soda bottles and cans along with most other beverages, including tea, coffee, energy and sports drinks, hard cider, fruit juice, kombucha, and coconut water.

**Once your blue bag is (very, very) full, take your bottles and cans to:  
Medford Redemption Center, 1179 Stowe Ave., Medford from 7 am-7 pm  
Allied Environmental Services, 2645 Avenue G, White City 8 am-4:30 pm**

*Don't wait in line at the Medford Redemption Center! The drop door location is at the side of the building. Simply scan the bag tag to open the secure door. Up to 10 blue bags can be dropped at a time.*

We are no longer accepting drop-offs at the Extension



# The garden checklist for a hot August

It's August and like the song says, it's going to be Hot-Hot-Hot! Here are a few things to keep your garden in shape.

**Order unique bulbs** for your Spring garden.

**Gardens talk!** This is prime time to listen, observe, and assess what is working, what is not, and note what changes you want to make. Plan the best time to divide, remove, or move plants as their season ends or they go dormant.

**Vacancies?** Some of your annuals have faded and left holes in the landscape. Fill these with late-summer heat-loving blooming annuals for end-of-season color and overall garden pick-me-up. Keep these well hydrated to cope with extreme heat.

We need to keep pinching and deadheading our flowering plants in containers and in the ground. Deep water camellias to develop flower buds for next spring. Protect ornamentals and garden plants from extreme heat with mulch 2" to 4" deep. Stay on top of irrigation needs.

**Saving seed?** Let annuals, perennials, and grass seed pods ripen on the plant for seed production. Seeds from hybrids could yield surprises. Propagate more of your favorite plants from seeds, cuttings, and divisions.

**Pests and diseases:** Are we harnessing nature as our first line of defense? Nature, birds, frogs, and good insects will flock to the buffet we provide by interplanting the vegetable garden with an abundance of flowers and herbs. Create bird habitat with bird baths, bird (bat and owl) houses, various feeders, bug hotels,



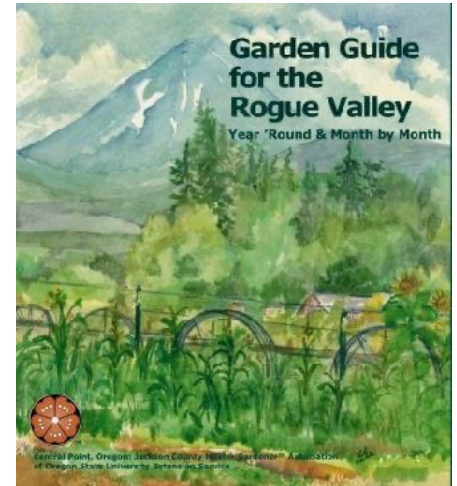
**Garden Guide**  
by Janine Salvatti  
Master Gardener 2019

and some open soil.

**Check out this interesting YouTube video** "Managing Squash Bugs & Bad Insects with Nature, Birds, & Good Insects" by Gary Pilarchik of the Rusted Garden.

Now we are harvesting the fruits of our labor – literally. Eat fresh, share, can, freeze, donate to ACCESS.

**Plant** your winter crops. Plant green manure if harvesting leaves



open areas.

Fertilize cucumbers, summer squash, and broccoli to maintain production.

Tip: Plan for the inevitable discovery of zucchinis gone wild. You know the enormous zuchs that rival the size of a small dog? Hire a neighbor kid to winch it out of the bed and drag it to the compost pile? Make another 27 zucchini breads?

Prune cherry trees before fall rains to allow callusing in dry weather to minimize the spread of bacterial canker.

Excuse me now while I go visit with my garden and see what cautions and secrets it will share with me today. There are a few ripe strawberries calling my name. My garden remains a haven and a place of respite, an inspiration, a lesson in patience, and a sweet and often brow-furrowing mystery. I wish you the same joy.

Best references for our area:

PNW Handbook on squash bug and eggs

Garden Guide for the Rogue Valley: Pages 119-123

OSU Extension Service: [August Garden Calendar](#)

# **Jackson County Master Gardener Association**

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

### **July 10, 2020**

#### **Announcements**

At the June meeting, the board approved getting a ZOOM subscription. However, Ronnie learned it has to be in the name of one person who has to arrange every meeting which defeats the intended purpose. It was decided to use the subscriptions that many of our board members have unless/until they prove inadequate.

The OMGA quarterly meeting was held via ZOOM. Barbara Davidson was unable to attend, but Ronnie Budge and Lynn Kunstman observed. Both expressed gratitude for Barbara being willing to be our representative.

#### **Updates on Master Gardener program**

Erika Szonntag was unable to attend the meeting. The Master Gardener Program updates are in her board report on Dropbox. The June report was inadvertently headed as May. It will be changed. The meaning of "Growing Gardeners" was asked. It was suggested the meaning might be



#### **Recording Secretary**

**Jane Moyer**  
*Master Gardener 2005*

to encourage more diversity and clarification will be requested. Erika will be asked to invite Gail Langellotto and the new OSU Outreach Coordinator to attend the August board meeting to discuss how JCMGA can best utilize the services of the new Outreach Coordinator.

#### **Updates from Gardens Working Group**

\*Janine Salvatti reported the Enhancements Committee has evaluated the gardens and thank the GEMs and volunteers who have been

making remarkable progress on cleaning them up. They have decided they will concentrate on clearing the pathways. They will also repaint the tables and chairs in the Kitchen Garden. Jane Moyer will contact GEMs who have not yet come to the gardens.

\*Only a few of the new plantings around the SOREC sign have been lost. Erika will be asking the mowers to keep the foxtails out of the planted area around the sign. Lynn Kunstman suggested seasonal cover crops be planted to crowd out the weeds.

\*Lynn Kunstman asked about cutting the Himalayan blackberries along the Weyerhaeuser fence line. Janine will bring it to the Gardens Working Group.

\*A Gardens Working Group ZOOM meeting has been scheduled for July 20.

#### **Updates from Fundraising Working Group**

Sandy Hammond reported that a community group will be holding a yard sale the last weekend of August. The organizers say they plan to donate the proceeds to JCMGA.

#### **Updates from Community Outreach Working Group**

\*Rebecca Jurta reported there will be no Winter Dreams Summer Gardens this year. Instead Ronnie Budge and Lynn Kunstman will present free online discussions of vegetable gardening and gardening with native plants using photos from their gardens on Saturday Nov. 7. Notifications will be sent to all Master Gardeners and past WDSG attendees. Attendees will be asked to send questions in advance, if possible.

\*Lynn Kunstman reported that the July 14th Community Education Class will be presented online.

#### **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.

*Continued on Page 15*

# Board minutes: July 10

*Continued from Page 14*

\*It was suggested a donation button be included for all online presentations.

\*Jim Buck reported Sherri Morgan is working on an online tour of local native plant gardens (8-10 gardens) two weeks after Spring Garden Fair (mid-May). Volunteer helpers will be needed.

\*Jim Buck had a ZOOM meeting with Erika Szonntag and Brooke Edmonds to brainstorm ideas for online gardening presentations. A volunteer with expertise in putting together presentations is needed. Jane Moyer will compile a spreadsheet showing student interests and Patrice Kaska will send perennial MGs' interests. Sandy Hansen will check with OLLI about sharing their format for online classes. An online OLLI class based on the *Garden Guide for the Rogue Valley – Vegetables, Melons, and Berries* will be considered. Jim Buck moved that JCMGA create a YouTube channel and develop a playlist of science-based gardening videos with particular relevance to the Rogue Valley. Patrice Kaska seconded. Unanimous approval. Séan Cawley volunteered to work with Jim.

## **Updates from Communications Working Group**

Ronnie Budge read a report from Kate Hassen.

\*Jane Moyer will be writing an article for *The Garden Beet* August edition on the Grange rewards program.

\*Jack Ivers, editor of *The Garden Beet*, sent a style sheet to the writers.

\*An effort will be made to have more ads posted in the classified section in the members section of the JCMGA website.

\*The format of the JCMGA online directory is being updated to make it more user friendly.

## **Updates from Spring Garden Fair Working Group**

\*Plan A (SGF at the Expo) and Plan B (SGF online) are being developed.

## **Updates from Member Services Working Group**

\*New members are being added to the directory.

\*Rules for the photo contest will be in the August *Garden Beet*.

## **Donate practicum plants to community garage sale**

\*Lynn Kunstman moved that plants carried over by the Practicum be donated to the community yard sale. Janine Salvatti seconded. Unanimous approval.

## **OSU scholarship**

Barbara Davidson moved that JCMGA support distribution of funds from JCMGA's OSU Endowment Scholarship Fund in the amount of \$2,500 each, provided our requirement qualifications are met, to Student #1 (senior horticulture student wanting to continue his family nursery business) and Student #2 (senior horticulture and agriculture major wanting to work in either food production or greenhouse production). We also request that OSU provide the recipients with the following information and ask that recipients let us know when they receive the scholarships: (Jackson County Master Gardener Association, 569 Hanley Road, Central Point OR 97502, Attn: Barbara Davidson, JCMGA Scholarship Chair.) Second by Kathy Apple. Unanimous approval.

## **Ideas for celebrating winners of OMGA awards**

Winners of the 2020 OMGA Awards were announced:

\*OMGA Master Gardener of the Year: Barbara Davidson

\*JCMGA Master Gardener of the Year: Steve Hassen, Doug Kirby, Bill Elliott, and John Kobal jointly.

## **JCMGA Behind the Scenes Master Gardener of the Year: Dee Copley**

Usually the OMGA Awards are given at the August picnic. Due to Oregon COVID-19 restrictions, there will be no picnic this year. Ideas for how to present the awards were brainstormed. Lynn Kunstman will investigate the possibilities.

## **Ideas for reaching out to 2020 students**

Board members expressed concern over keeping the 2020 students involved in JCMGA activities. Lynn Kunstman and Jane Moyer will compose an email to students to reiterate the process for working in the gardens to earn volunteer hours. A list of the GEMs' email addresses will be included so students can contact those for the garden(s) they want to work in. Jane will contact the Practicum mentors asking that they reach out to students in their session to encourage continued participation. Lynn will contact Gina Velandi to ask that she do the same with the Garden Buds. Patrice Kaska and Jane Moyer will send spreadsheets of member interests to Barbara Davidson as she searches for members interested in working with OMGA. Lynn volunteered to arrange ZOOM meetings to facilitate these efforts.

**Next meeting: Friday, Aug. 14, 2020, 9:30-11:30 a.m.**

## **Shop and support Master Gardeners™**

**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](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!)

## 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.

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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*

It's time for those tall corn plants to start donating to your barbecue or dining room table. What a summertime treat!

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



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