

**Benton County Master Gardener Association
Board Meeting
June 3, 2013**

In attendance: Debbie Wray, Cynthia Wallace, Kathi Tucker, Lynn Trimpe, Janet Throop, Ellen Tappan, Judy Shaw, Steve Naberhuis, Janet Magedanz, Pami Opfer, Jennifer Klammer, Susan Hoffman, Nancy Hart, Allan Haight, Sherry Goeden, Bill Glassmire, Barb Fick, Jeanette Fair, Kevin Collins, Richard Little, Mary Mellard.

The regular board meeting of the Benton County Master Gardener Association was held at the Benton County Extension Office on June 3, 2013. President Bill Glassmire called the meeting to order at 1pm.

Mission Moment: Bill thanked Judy S, Jennifer, and Lynn for their work in investigating having a person in charge of publicity for the association. He thanked Allan for bringing cookies. Judy S shared hearing positive comments about the plants at the library, and from a person who attended the Seeds to Supper classes. Steve mentioned that the clinic table was at the Willamette Landing garden walk through. Bill thought the Van Bloem handout at the General Meeting was outstanding. Kathi said the Corvallis Evening Garden Club toured and was impressed by the MG garden at Central Park.

The minutes were approved as amended. Nancy thanked Bill and Susan for their help in describing the Produce for the People discussion.

Committee Reports

Plant Sale: Kevin Collins, plant sale chair, reported that the plant sale was a huge success. What he learned: start operational meetings as early as September, increase public outreach to include mission statement and information as to how earned money is used, (such as on a display board), be more selective on what plants are sold. Only 23% of plants were not sold, and those were donated and used in other MG projects, such as the Central Electric Training Center grounds.

There were 10 plus people on the committee and Debbie L tracked spending. There were 6660 plants in inventory and 5098 were sold. Veggies were the best seller, fruit and shrubs, the least popular.

Kevin has agreed to be the plant sale chair in 2014.

Mason Bee Project: Rich Little reported that the project began at the start of this year and has been a success. Accomplishments include 90 new mason bee systems, or 4,000-5,000 tubes set up. They have been put in demo gardens, community gardens and school gardens, as well as in private home gardens. Purchasers have reported observations, which he has found helpful and interesting. There is enough material to build 40 more bee houses. Next year he would like to introduce leaf cutter bees and bumble bees to the project.

He has given 16 presentations, reaching over 400 people, and is getting calls from people who have purchased mason bee houses elsewhere in need of further instructions. The

fall and spring advanced entomology classes will continue. In October he will hold four workshops specifically for those who purchased the mason bee houses, although anyone is invited.

Officer Reports

President: Bill listed his “parking lot” subjects. (See attached President’s Report). He is going to buy one trifold display board, using money from the President’s Discretionary Fund. This month he will appoint the special allocations committee, including one person who will continue on the committee. He asked for volunteers. Bill will appoint a new member to the scholarship committee to replace Kathy Clark, whose term expires. At the May membership meeting six Mini College scholarships were awarded to Christina Clark, Becki Goslow, Valerie Hervey, KJ Lee, Sandy Piper, and Rosalind Hutton.

President Elect: Janet has most of the gifts for the Mini College silent auction, and will be calling Shonnard’s and Garland’s to request donations.

Vice President: Susan announced the summer garden tour schedule.

June 19, 6pm---Garden of the Gentle Breeze

July 10, 10am---Frazier Creek Farm

July 31, 10am---Pacific Regional Compost Facility (PRC)

August 7, 10 am---Dancing Oaks Nursery

August 21, 10 am---OSU Sustainability Garden

Treasurer’s Report: The report showed a bank balance of \$42,579.89, with available funds, of \$37,494.67, and scholarship funds of \$4,835.21.

OMGA Representative: Ellen reported on the meeting held the previous Saturday in Pendleton. Marie Madison was elected Secretary. PNW handbook prices are increasing 20%. Benton County hosts the OMGA meeting on August 10. Neither Ellen nor Cynthia can attend, so an alternate will be selected at the July board meeting. JanetM volunteered to be BCMGA’s rep at the audit group meeting, held before the regular OMGA meeting. Funding problems were discussed. The OMGA’s endowment is doing well. It is used to pay Gail Langelletto’s expenses. Mini College registration is now open. Dates are August 7-9, with Leadership Day being Wednesday, August 7. It was decided that 20 year veterans will receive a service bar. OMGA needs a Historian. Educator awards were presented. Each county is offered \$200 for Mini College scholarships from the Send-a-Friend program.

Extension Report

Barb reported that the County Budget Meeting has been held, but they have not released the information yet. Many county horticulturists are retiring and it is unknown if these positions will be filled. A second planting day was held at the Training Center where unsold plant sale plants were part of what was planted. On Thursday, June 15, at 5pm, a program, Oregon Originals, will be presented in the Sunset Building.

Pami announced a mid year push to report hours. A contest with prizes will encourage MG's, especially Trainees to report volunteer hours. New loupes have been ordered, and will cost \$20. She has new BCMGA business cards available, as well.

New Business

Judy S reported on behalf of the ad hoc committee, consisting of Jennifer, Lynn and Judy, formed to investigate the establishment of a publicity person or publicity outreach committee. The purpose of this position/committee would be to ensure consistency with required logos, and anti-discrimination and disability statements, to use talents of a known group of MG photographers, speakers, and writers, and to display the "face" of BCMGA in a readily recognizable format. This position will advise committees, who will continue to do their own publicity.

Bill suggested having a notebook available containing this information as an alternative to a person or committee if a volunteer is not found.

The committee will continue to meet to define the position, and will present their findings at the August board meeting.

In regard to funding issues expected at some point in the future, Bill asked the board's opinion of formulating plans for cuts in funding of extension. He remarked that increased publicity for outreach is a valuable tool in making the public and the county commissioners aware of the importance of extension programs. Discussion followed on ways to increase visibility of the BCMGA program and mission. Ellen will email Gazette Times reporters she knows to suggest articles about Mini College or MG projects, and Janet T will talk to Chris Peterson, who writes a column about local food and agricultural related subjects.

Action Items

Horticultural scholarship winners will be sent to GT to be included in "At Our Best" column.

The 20 year BCMG veteran list will be updated and sent to OMGA by membership secretary.

Kevin Collins name will be submitted to GT for their column "Good Words," for his work as plant sale chair.

Meeting evaluation

Pro: Lively discussion, enjoyed committee reports, thanks for attendance on a beautiful day, OMGA report was informative, meeting was relaxed, members are involved and step up, group is very vital, so much to talk about, liked hearing about other extension programs, lots of ground covered, good time management, knowledgeable group, starting to feel like she knows what she is doing (yay, Janet M!), enjoyed Rich's bee presentation, Kevin's candor in sharing where he thinks he can improve, enjoy seeing these people, ideas at the end of the meeting, good president!, lots of interaction.

Con: apologies for taking more time than allotted, would like more time for new business, likes reading reports before presented, would like county to release the new budget.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:08pm

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Hart, Secretary

Attachments---

President's report

Treasurer's report (office copy only)

President's Report
Bill Glassmire
June 2013

For some background about the discussion of funding for the Extension Service, you could read the fifth paragraph of the May 2012 president's report. There is also information about an unexpected potential cut to Jackson County Extension funding at <http://www.mailtribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20130416/NEWS/304160329>

Barb Fick has suggested that BCMGA purchase three trifold display boards, for spring garden festival and occasional displays. She recommends a board made by Jensen Display in Portland, priced about \$236 in Feb 2013. I am thinking about ordering one, using money from the President's Discretionary Fund. Comments? objections?

Whether or not BCMGA buys one now, the Extension Service could apply later this year for a special allocation to buy display boards.

June is the month to appoint the special allocations committee. If you are (interested in/willing to serve on) this committee, please let me know. According to the September 2012 board minutes, the 2012 committee was Kathy Clark (chair), Allan Haight, Janet Magedanz, and Judy Shaw.

The allocations process is described in the "Finance" policy of the BCMGA policies and procedures, section 2.7. The PDF policies and procedures document is at http://extension.oregonstate.edu/benton/sites/default/files/bcmga_policies_and_procedures2013.pdf, and section 2.7 is on Adobe Reader page 14.

At the May membership meeting BCMGA awarded two Marie Madison Horticulture Scholarships, to Signe Danler and Jeannie Klein. Thanks to the members of the scholarship committee – Kathy Clark, chair, Jeanette Fair, and Jennifer Klammer.

This month I will appoint a new member of the scholarship committee, to replace Kathy Clark. The appointment is for a two-year term. If you are (interested in/willing to serve on) this committee, please let me know.

The committee is described in section 1.4.18 of the BCMGA policies and procedures. That section is on Adobe Reader page 10.

Also, six mini-college scholarships were awarded at the May membership meeting. Recipients included Christina Clark, Becki Goslow, Valerie Hervey, KJ Lee, Sandy Piper, and one person I do not remember.