



# CENTRAL GORGE MASTER GARDENER

FEBRUARY 2019

## CGMGA & OMGA

### CGMGA

*From the desk of your CGMGA President . . .*

I'm looking forward to the new year! As you know, there are a lot of changes in our program this year. Thank you to everyone for spending time writing articles and keeping us informed on important chapter information.

Rachel and CGMGA members communicate to us in a variety of ways, including the CGMGA Newsletter, [CGMGA Website](#), Facebook, and email.

Central Gorge Master Gardener Association



In addition, you will also find state information on the [OMGA Web site](#) and in the OMGA newsletter, [The Gardener's Pen](#). We're fortunate that OMGA President, Eric Bosler, keeps us informed at the state level.

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at our first class on Wednesday, February 13!

If you haven't already done so, please follow and "like" our [Central Gorge Master Gardeners - OSU Facebook](#) page.

*Renee Taylor*

### OMGA

#### New Master Gardener Manual

Since there are so many changes this year, there is more to learn and keep

track of! There are slight changes to everything this year including training, plant clinics, and projects. The manual is typically designed to give new Master Gardeners a reference for all information regarding the program, but I need all Master Gardeners in our group to be informed. Make yourself a cup of tea and read the manual so you are informed on the changes.

#### Central Gorge Master Gardener Association Webpage

Since the OSU Extension website got a facelift about a year ago, we are still working out some kinks. Mostly, how to communicate both with our internal group and the Association versus the general public. Based on the new OSU Extension website's design, the [Hood River County Master Gardener](#) page will be geared towards the public trying to either find us, find a plant clinic, or learn more about our offerings. I recommend that you send interested community members to the county page.

We have a different website for internal information. [The Central Gorge Master Gardener Association blog page](#) is where you can find the calendar, previous newsletters, the volunteer tracking sheet (it will be updated to the 2019 version soon), and other "internal" information. This website is updated regularly by Renee and me so it is the best place to find information. It is recommended to bookmark it today.

*Rachel Suits*

### Month at a Glance

**February 12:** Tuesday 10-12pm: CGMGA Exec Committee Meeting, extension meeting room, everyone's welcome

**March 6:** Wednesday 5pm: [Dinner at Three Rivers Grill](#), p6

**May 11:** Saturday: CGMGA plant sale

**May 17:** Friday 3pm: 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the Japanese Heritage Garden

**June 22:** Saturday 9-4pm: Central Gorge Garden Tour

Additional calendar information at the [CGMGA Website](#)

**MAKE A CUP  
OF TEA  
&  
READ THE  
NEW MASTER  
GARDENER  
MANUAL**

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## EDUCATIONAL TIDBITS



**Important!  
Mini-College Update**

The January [Gardener's Pen](#) has important information about Mini-College for 2019.

Eric Bosler wrote in the January 2019 edition of the [Gardener's Pen](#) "after long consideration and consultation with the members of the Exec Committee it has been decided to post-

pone Mini-College for 2019. This will provide time to further re-define Mini-College and to recruit people to move this outstanding OMGA program forward in 2020."

Please read the entire article in the [Gardener's Pen](#) for complete details, and to find out how you can volunteer.

**MINI-COLLEGE  
POSTPONED**



## Extension Gardener 2019 Class Schedule February & March

Date	Topic	Presenter	Location
2/13	Understanding Plants	Chip Bubl	HRVCC
2/20	Growing Herbs for Health	Talia Hammond	HRVCC
2/27	Building Healthy Soils	Claudia Goth	HRVCC
3/13	Native Plants in the PNW	Christina Mead & Sarah Callaghan	HRVCC
3/20	Edible Native Weeds	Savannah Teller-Brown & April Gerlick	HRVCC
3/27	Design Your Landscape	Signe Danler	HRVCC

[2019 Class Schedule](#), February to October.

## VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

### HOSPITALITY

VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED FOR OUR  
HRVCC CLASSES

CONTACT RENEE AT  
RCTILAU@GMAIL.COM OR  
714-595-9158 IF YOU'RE  
INTERESTED



CONTACT  
RACHEL SUITS OR  
SANDY MONTAG

TO LEARN MORE  
ABOUT

FRIENDS OF THE  
EXTENSION

SANDYHMONTAG@GMAIL.COM

### Hospitality

Classes begin February 13, and hospitality volunteers are needed to serve on the Hospitality Committee. The hospitality committee is greatly appreciated and makes an important contribution to our meetings. I know I look forward to a hot cup of tea during our meetings. If you're interested, please let me know. You can contact me at 714-595-9158. or [rcitlau@gmail.com](mailto:rcitlau@gmail.com)

Thank you! *Renee*

### Outreach Support Needed

Dear Master Gardeners, Hood River County has announced their plans to add a prepared food and beverage tax as well as an operating levy for extra revenue in order to maintain County services. Many of you have asked how you can help. One thing you can do to start is to share your experience and impact that Extension programming has on your life. As an Extension office, we are in the beginning stages of creating our outreach plan. In the last Executive Board meeting and newsletter I asked volunteers if they are interested in writing a letter to the editor. Thanks for

being willing to write a letter! Because Freedom of Speech is pretty important (especially right now!), I don't want to tell you what to write. I do want to make sure you are aware of some pretty important Extension facts. If we all have the same message, then community members will get the same message from us.

- Hood River County Oregon State University Extension Service is partially funded by Hood River County funds. Other funds come from the State, Federal Government, and Grants.
- Hood River County Extension Service includes lots of great programs like 4H, Strong Women, Master Gardeners, Small Farms, Horticulture, Open Campus, Juntos, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education, Forestry and Master Food Preservers. All these programs fall under the Extension umbrella.

•If the Hood River County Extension Service does not receive funds from the county budget, then the office will shut down and

none of the above programs will exist in the county. OSU has an all or nothing program policy with the counties.

Also, we are in the early stages of building an outreach plan until the May ballots and possibly beyond if we go out for a service district. The service district is not something that we are broadly advertising in the public because we need to support the county in their efforts now in order to be granted the green light to go for a service district in the future. However, part of our internal organization includes forming a "Friends of Extension" group. This group will help us outreach our programs by conducting presentations to community groups alongside Extension employees in the short term. In the long term, if we do go up for a service district, this group will become an important lobbying group for Extension, since we, as Extension employees can't do that and need help.

Please let Sandy Montag ([sandyhmontag@gmail.com](mailto:sandyhmontag@gmail.com)) and I know if you are interested in writing a letter or being a Friend of

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## VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

SANDI  
ROUSSEAU'S  
LETTER TO THE  
EDITOR FOR  
JANUARY 19

[TAX APPROVALS](#)



THE FISH FOOD  
BANK NEEDS

SURROGATE  
SEEDLING



PARENTS

CONTACT SIDNEY  
FISHGARDENVC@GMAIL.COM

Extension. Because we want to space out the letters and outreach efforts, Sandy and I will recommend a timeline for you to write and submit a letter.

Thank you for your continued support.

*Rachel Suits*

### Hood River County Food and Beverage Tax and Operating Levy

In order to save the Master Gardener Program here in the Gorge we need to organize and educate the public about the benefits of the Extension. The first order of business are Letters to the Editor in the Hood River paper. I have a few names of people willing to write a letter but I need a couple more. I will help anyone who wants assistance in preparing a letter. You may have noticed Sandi Rousseau's letter on 1/19/2019. If you haven't read it, you can read it online at [Letters to the Editor for January 19](#) or I can send you a copy. We are planning on submitting letters every two weeks during January, February and March and then weekly until the election. We also want to form a Friends of the Extension Committee. We

would love some volunteers to brainstorm what that might look like.



Please email me at [sandyhmontag@gmail.com](mailto:sandyhmontag@gmail.com) if you will write a letter or volunteer for our "Friends Committee".

*Sandy Montag*

### FISH Food Bank Garden

First, an update. We're getting excited for spring already! After careful reflection on last year's growing season, however, the plan is to try things a little differently this year. We are in the process of administering a survey to food bank clients that will help us understand the specific demand and cultural relevancy of the produce the garden supplies to the food bank. Instead of counting on unknown seedling donations in May per usual, we will design a more efficient and targeted plan for the 2019 season based off the results of the survey and incorporating the specific vegetables clients want. Though this method will require us to grow our own seedlings, it will reduce garden and food bank waste as well as improve the cultural relevancy of the garden. That

brings me to my ask: the fish garden is in need of surrogate seedling parents. You will be supplied with a growing kit (seeds, containers, soil) for the specific plant variety required. All you need is space (especially if you have access to a greenhouse!), sunlight, and some time! If you are interested or know someone who might be, please contact me: Sidney, at [fishgardenvc@gmail.com](mailto:fishgardenvc@gmail.com).

### More Construction

We will soon be expanding the capabilities of our Greenhouse facility to enable us to propagate a broader variety of plants for the annual CGMGA Plant Sale. The addition of a hoop house will provide shade for young starts which have been moved out of the greenhouse. This will allow us to grow up plants to augment our vegetable offerings and avoid the "dig and divide" project from years past. OSU Extensions' best-practices mandate regarding the Japanese Beetle. This precludes moving plant material in soil which has not been certified as pest free. Growing our own plants will avoid this risk and provide us

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## VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

*(Continued from page 4)*



with yet another educational experience. Watch for a call out...many hands make light work.

*Eric Bosler*

### Plant Sale Information

Hey all you wonderful, returning MGs. Plant Sale planning is moving along apace. As you've read in this newsletter, we will have a new hoop house for protection of plants as we move them out of the greenhouse. What a great thing.

We will announce our schedule for plug planting, seed starting and transplanting in the mid-month reminder and at the classes in February. Parties will be held on Wednesdays prior to class unless we plan something special. They usually start at 3:00 and go until 5:00. MGs can then grab a quick dinner before class.

We're always looking for extra help. If you want to be on our email list let us know. If you have a particular part of the process you are interested in let us know that as well.

Thanks from the Plant Sale Partners,

Laurel and LJ

detar@gorge.net

gardeningwith-lovehrv@gmail.com

541-387-2116

Home 541-386-2324

Cell 541-288-8256

### Hood River Soil and Water Conservation District

#### Order Your Native Plants Now!

The Hood River Soil & Water Conservation District is taking orders for our annual native plant sale. We've got a great selection of native plant species at low prices. We offer a variety of native conifers, deciduous trees and shrubs. These are 1-2 years old bare-root seedlings and will be ready to go in the ground soon after pick-up. The orders will be filled in the order in which they were received, so get your requests in soon to ensure availability. Native plants are adapted to the unique climate and soils of the Hood River valley. They require less water, fertilizer and other inputs to maintain. Not to mention the benefits of enhanced wildlife habitat, soil stabilization and water conservation that you'll enjoy. Check out our website at [www.hoodriverswcd.org](http://www.hoodriverswcd.org) to download your order form and gather information on plant descrip-

tions and site suitability. For more information or guidance when making your selection, call (541-386-4588) or stop by our office at 3007 Experiment Station Rd. Purchases will be available for pick up on Friday April 5th and Saturday, April 6th at the Cold Storage building.

### Volunteer Opportunity

In order to prepare for the SWCD's Native Plant Sale we need lots of help! At our sale we offer dormmate bareroot seed-



lings which end up being hard to tell one species from the other. We need help to flag all the plants as well as bundle the orders for the presale orders. This is a fun couple of days and has been a great way to earn volunteer hours! We will need help on Tuesday April 2nd and Wednesday 3rd from 9am -12pm and 1-3pm on both days. More the merrier, come join us and spend time learning about native plants, their different characteristics, and the

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WATCH FOR PLUG  
PLANTING, SEED  
STARTING AND  
TRANSPLANTING  
PARTIES

BEGINNING IN  
MID-FEBRUARY

HOOD RIVER SOIL  
& WATER  
CONSERVATION  
DISTRICT

NATIVE PLANT  
SALE

[DOWNLOAD  
ORDER FORMS &  
READ PLANT  
DESCRIPTIONS](#)

## VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

(Continued from page 5)

IF YOU'RE  
INTERESTED IN  
BEING A GARDEN  
LEADER,

PLEASE CONTACT  
HEIDI OR RENEE

HEIDISHOUP@YAHOO.COM  
RCITLAU@GMAIL.COM



benefits they add to the landscape! Every year we are so grateful for the help the Master Gardeners provide, we hope you will join us again...there might even be a free plant of your choosing in it for you!

Call or email Kris if you are interested:  
541-386-4588 or  
kris@hooddriverswcd.org

### Garden Leaders

The Garden Tour Committee selected nine beau-

tiful, diverse gardens for the June 22, 2019 Garden Tour, and we need a garden leader for each garden.

If you are interested in being a Garden Leader for one of these beautiful gardens, please let us know.

You can see a brief description of what being a garden leader entails on the [Garden Leader Google Document](#). There is also a list of all of the gardens.

If you see a garden that interests you, and it doesn't already have a gar-

den leader, you can go ahead and add your name directly to the [Garden Leader Google Document](#). Or let us know, and we'll add your name for you.

We'll be scheduling a garden leader meeting in the next few months.

If you have questions, please let Heidi or I know.

*Renee Taylor*

Heidi Shoup  
heidishoup@yahoo.com

Renee Taylor  
rcitlau@gmail.com

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Arranging Nature: Flowers in Art

Arranging Nature: Flowers in Art is a FREE Public program to be held on Tuesday, February 12, 7PM (doors open 6:30PM) at the Hood River County History Museum, 300 East Port Marina Dr.

Museum Director, Dr. Lynn Orr, will share observations about the Western development of art featuring flowers as the actual focus. From ancient wall paintings and scientific botanical drawings, to the great flourishing of still life painting in the 17th century, modern art and photog-

raphy. Experience the visual delights western artists created for their audiences, whether seeking simple decoration or exacting detail.

Refreshments provided by the Hood River Valley Evening Garden Club will be served after the program.  
*Margo*

### Dinner at Three Rivers Grill

As we've done for a number of years, we will again enjoy dinner at Three Rivers Grill!!

With a bit more flexibility of class schedule, I have

scheduled the upstairs room for the evening of Wednesday, March 6, starting at 5pm so that we can enjoy time together before dinner at 6pm. This is a 2 for 1 dinner (not free) event, so you will want to pair up with another MG/spouse or partner. We are limited to 46 people upstairs, though if there are more, we should be able to find seating downstairs. Please save the date and contact me to reserve your place. I will need our final numbers by Monday, March 4.

*Shari Bosler*

sharibosler@hotmail.com

THREE RIVERS  
GRILL

MARCH 6  
5 PM

CONTACT  
SHARI BOSLER  
TO RESERVE  
YOUR PLACE

## GARDENING RESOURCES



(<https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/sites/catalog/files/project/pdf/em9027.pdf>)

- ◇ [Hood River County Master Gardeners](#)
- ◇ [Growing Your Own](#)
- ◇ [OSU Publications](#)
- ◇ [Monthly Gardening](#)
- ◇ [Calendars](#)
- ◇ [PNW Handbooks](#)
- ◇ [HortSense](#)
- ◇ [UC IPM](#)
- ◇ [OSU Gardening](#)
- ◇ [WSU Gardening](#)
- ◇ [Week Identification](#)
- ◇ [Columbia Gorge Co-operative Weed Management Area](#)

## NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS



In order to allow time for formatting the CGMGA Newsletter, please submit articles or calendar items by the last Thursday of the month.

Send newsletter information to Shari Bosler at [sharibosler@hotmail.com](mailto:sharibosler@hotmail.com). Thanks!