

H O E D O W N

September 2022



Snow on the mountain photo by Patsy Kestner

Board members 2022

President: Nancy Glick, 541-330-6260, nglick@bendcable.com

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President's message



Out in the late August garden, deadheading the lavender with thoughts of next summer's fragrant wands, I entertained myself with some familiar music (with apologies to the composers and their fans).

Summmmmertimmme and deadheading is eeeeeeeasy....

Hot town, summer in the city, back of my neck getting burnt and gritty.

Summer breeze makes me feel fine (and much cooler!).

Breaking rocks in the hot sun, I fought the weeds and the weeds won.

Sunshine on my shoulders make me sunburn.

We've only just begun...to weeeeeeddd...

April, plant she will
When soils are damp and full of weeds
May, we will weigh
Annual and perenn'l seeds

June, beneath the moon
In restless walks we're on our guard
July, we will try
To keep the deer from our backyard

August, prune we must
The autumn winds blow chilly and cold
September, we'll remember
Summer dreams have all been told.



IF YOU WANT TO VENT YOUR ANGER ABOUT POLITICIANS, DEAR - GO INTO THE GARDEN AND DEAD HEAD SOME FLOWERS.

COMGA Calendar *for contact persons go to gocomga.com*

September

- 1 Board meeting, 10:00am
- 6 OSU Demo Garden workday, 9:00am
- 8 Hollinshead Water-wise workday & meeting, 10:00am
- 10 Blog: Gardening in Central Oregon
- 15 Discovery CG mentor meeting & workday, 6:00pm
- 20 OSU Demo Garden workday, 9:00am
- 22 Hollinshead Water-wise workday & meeting, 10:00am
- 24 Blog: Gardening in Central Oregon

October

- 4 OSU Demo Garden workday, 9:00am
- 4 Gardening Get Good at it, 88.9 FM, 9-9:30am
- 6 Board meeting, 10:00am
- 8 Blog: Gardening in Central Oregon
- 13 Hollinshead Water-wise workday & meeting 10:00am
- 15 Hollinshead Community Garden closing, 10:00am
- 16 Discovery Community Garden closing, 9:00am
- 16 Hollinshead Community Garden closing, 10:00am
- 18 OSU Demo Garden workday, 9:00am
- 20 Discovery CG mentor meeting & workday, 6:00pm
- 22 Blog: Gardening in Central Oregon
- 27 Hollinshead Water-wise workday & meeting, 10:00am

November

- 1 Gardening Get Good at it, 88.9 FM, 9-9:30am
- 3 Board meeting, 10:00am
- 12 Blog: Gardening in Central Oregon
- 26 Blog: Gardening in Central Oregon

December

- 6 Gardening Get Good At It, 889 FM, 9-9:30am
- 10 Blog: Gardening in Central Oregon
- 24 Blog: Gardening in Central Oregon



PLANT OF THE MONTH

by Lisa Nakadate and Julie Hill

Featured Plant - Yarrow

Achillea

Height: 6 - 48"

Spread: 12 - 48"

Flower: White, red, yellow, pink

Bloom time: May - September



Why Should I Plant Yarrow in My Garden?

- Long blooming and very drought tolerant.
- Fast growing and can spread significantly or reseed.
- Makes nice cut or dried flowers.
- Provides nectar and habitat for lady-beetles (ladybugs) and butterflies and has special value for native bees and to populations of predatory and parasitoid insects.
- Deer resistant.

Fun Facts

- Yarrow, known botanically as *Achillea millefolium*, is named for the Greek hero Achilles who is said to have discovered its medicinal properties.
- Yarrow was known as "soldiers' woundwort" during the Civil War as it was widely used as a treatment for wounds.
- Native Americans used tea made from yarrow leaves harvested shortly before bloom to treat a variety of issues.

Information Sources

Water-wise Gardening in Central Oregon: <https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/em9136>

University of Arizona Cooperative Extension: <https://extension.arizona.edu/sites/extension.arizona.edu/files/pubs/az1256.pdf>

Discovery Park Community Garden – DPCG



Last Saturday morning, the Discovery Community Garden hosted its gardeners for a meet-and-greet. Gardeners had the opportunity to get to know each other and to compare their gardening challenges and successes. Gardeners noted the unusually cool start to the season including a late frost that caused several gardeners to have to replant. Since then however, growth has been spectacular. One gardener presented a very large and beautiful eggplant, and others wanted to show off their ripening tomatoes! Another gardener related stories of searching for and finding a good number of tomato hornworms. The generally warm temperatures this summer, especially the many nights of warmer night time lows, has benefited vegetable growth. Of course water hasn't been an issue due to the low pressure system used in each raised bed. Pests seem to be few including very little activity from our local ground squirrels. Bend Parks donated a volunteer group to pull weeds around the garden this year which made the garden look great. Pesky weeds as usual are cheat grass, pigweed, and that particularly annoying spotted creeping spurge which seems to be "having its year", this year. New wood chips were recently spread, and another volunteer work day will happen on September 15 starting at 6 pm. As September progresses, days get shorter and nights get cooler, and inevitably the garden will wind down and another season will come to a close. Gardeners will be cleaning up the last of their garden plants and will be getting ready for the garden gates to be locked for winter on October 16th.

Gary Weber
Contact discovery@gocomga.com



Newsletter Notes: Deadline for submission of material to the HoeDown is 1st Friday after the board meeting. All articles, notices and other journalistic efforts are welcome and appreciated.

All information provided by the "HoeDown" is believed to be accurate but readers must assume all responsibility for their own actions based on this information. Occasionally a product or company may be named in an article but this does not necessarily constitute an endorsement of said product.

Published by : COMGA Send ideas & articles to:
HoeDown Rocky Bessette, rockyb820@gmail.com

COMGA QUARTERLY MEETING

Thursday, Oct. 6

11:30 a.m.

at OSU Ext. and via Zoom

Agenda:

Vote for 2023 Board

Vote on 2023 Budget

Come enjoy cookies and friends

Community Education Report

A big shout out to Liz Anderson, who volunteered to join me answering questions sent to us on Facebook. Sometimes these are plant-clinic-type questions, but we also get questions about events such as classes, the garden tour, the June Garden Fair, etc. Thank you, Liz!

We will be presenting our last classes of the season this month. "How to Put Your Garden to Bed" will be presented at Discovery Park Community Garden on Thursday, Sept. 15 at 6 p.m. and at Hollinshead Community Garden on Saturday, Sept. 17 at 10 a.m. If you would like to volunteer to assist at either class, please contact Jan Even (even.jan@gmail.com or 541-280-5238).

Planning for Community Education in 2023 is under way, based on the assumption that it will be a "normal" year that enables us to hold classes in person, but we will also take a hybrid approach in some cases to take advantage of some of the conveniences of Zoom that have proved very popular – not having to leave your home, and being able to view a class recording on demand at your convenience.

Jan Even,

Vice President for Community Education

Dividing Perennials

by Kris Knoernschild

Are you one of those fortunate gardeners who has beautiful perennial plants overflowing in your garden? But are they growing too big for the spot they were put in? Or maybe some plants aren't looking as healthy as they used to.

Dividing your perennials can help your garden look its best. Herbaceous perennials are commonly divided for

three reasons: to control size, to rejuvenate plants, or to propagate a prized plant.

Vigorous perennials may grow so rapidly that they crowd out neighboring plants in your garden. Other perennials may decline in vigor if they're not divided at the appropriate time. And one of the easiest ways to have more of your prized plant is to divide it so it multiplies.

Perennial plants will give you a few signs that they need to be divided: a dead center may form in the crown area with a ring of plants around the perimeter. Or you may notice that the blooms on your plant are smaller and fewer while the growth appears crowded.

The best time to divide perennials varies with the different plant species. A general rule is to divide perennials in their non-bloom season. It's best to divide perennials in cool weather – this allows the roots to grow and get established before the heat of summer. Spring bloomers are divided in late summer or early fall, which is now through September. Basket of Gold is a common Spring bloomer that should be divided at this time of year.

Mid-summer to Fall bloomers should be divided in Spring when their new growth is just a few inches out of the ground. Asters, Bee Balm, Blanket Flower, Shasta Daisy, Stonecrop and Yarrow will all grow best when divided in the Spring.

Some plants aren't as particular and can be divided either in Spring or now. You can divide Coral Bells, Coreopsis, Daylilies, Veronicas and ornamental grasses now through September.

To give your divided perennials the best chance to grow well, take a spade or spading fork and dig around the outermost dripline of the plant. Try to leave as big a soil ball as possible around the roots, then gently lift the plant from the ground.

Divide plants by pulling them apart at obvious separation points, cut off divisions with a sharp knife, spade or sharp trowel. You can also use pruning shears dedicated to division but don't ruin your good pruners doing this job.

Select vigorous shoots with both root and crown sections. Discard woody centers and cut off unhealthy roots. Choose healthy roots that are white in the center – if a plant has become crowded and weak, the outer edges of the plant are usually the healthiest.

When you replant your divisions, make sure you give them room to grow. They should go into a hole that is at least as wide as its roots are when spread out. Make a mound in the hole to spread the roots over so that root tips are growing down as they would naturally. Plant the new divisions at the same depth as the older plant. A rule of thumb: if you take out a bucket of soil, replace the bucket full of soil. Here in Central Oregon, it really helps if you add amendments of compost and organic matter into the new planting hole.

After planting, water thoroughly to establish the roots. You don't want them to dry out. An old saying goes: After you divide a perennial, the first year it sleeps, the second year it creeps and the third year it leaps! And you get to see your perennial garden look better than ever.

OSU Extension Service Demonstration

by Karen Simonet

"I most often find happiness right where I planted it".
Unknown

August 2nd started at a cool 75 degrees with 9 volunteers to tackle trimming the suckers from Asian Pear and Crabapple trees, weeding, and deadheading around Bldg. 3, and more weeding in All American Selection (AAS) annual beds. Oh, did I say we were weeding?! Luckily, the conversation and camaraderie make us enthusiastic volunteers! We worked till 12 noon, and by then it was a very warm (okay HOT) 89 degrees. Thank you to Vicky Kemp, Shawna Larson, Rocky Bessette, Amanda Adams, Wanda Kuklis, Joel Marshall, Ed Rinker, Cindy Rinker, and myself.

August 16 proved to be on a cooling trend. We started out at 9am with 71 degrees and finished at 12 noon with a nice 83 degrees. We all stayed close together and tackled the weeding in the AAS annual beds. We quizzed Vicky Kemp to identify the weeds we were pulling. She knew them all and had fun facts to add too. Thank you to our volunteers: Toni Stephan, Stewart Taylor, Mimi Thomas, Vicky Kemp, Tim Schindele, Wanda Kuklis, Amanda Adams, and myself.



IT'S ELECTION TIME!

Elections for the 2023 Board are coming up. Come join this dynamic group to keep our organization running! Nominations to date:

President – Janet Dart
VP MG Education - **OPEN**
VP Community Education – Cher Hinerman
Secretary – Tammara Waterman
Treasurer – Marilyn Clark
Historian – Jenni Whelan
OMGA State Rep – Karen Simonet
Alternate Rep – Evie Cox

These two positions are appointed:
Membership – Deb Goodall
Communications - OPEN

If you like planning parties, you are perfect for the VP MG Education spot.
If you're comfortable with computers, the Communications spot is waiting for you.

Gentians

by Judy Shearer

When the dog days of summer are upon us I think it is the perfect time for the gentians to bloom. And right on time we found *Gentiana calycosa* at beautiful Three Creek Lake south of Sisters. The blue is so vivid I think it rivals the Penstemon's. An herbaceous perennial, its common names are Explorer's gentian or mountain bog gentian. A member of the family Gentianaceae, the plant grows 8-20 inches tall. The opposite leaves are egg shaped to round clasping the stem. The flower is a funnel shaped cup with five deep blue petals that can be spotted yellow or white (see photo below). The lobes are pointed at the tips. It is native to the mid elevation mountains of western United States and Canada from the Sierra Nevada of California to the Canadian Rockies. The genus honors King Gentius of Illyria, ruler of an ancient country on the east side of the Adriatic Sea, who is reputed to have discovered medicinal virtues in *G. lutea* from which a tonic of bitters is still made. In the species, *G. calycosa*, all parts of the plant including the nectar are poisonous if ingested. The plant is also capable of uptake of poisonous substances from pesticides and pollutants in the soil. Children are most vulnerable to the toxins. As for pollinators *G. calycosa* is of special value to bumblebees.



Flower picture by Samantha Shearer

References:

Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center. https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=GECA

Turner, M., and P. Gustafson. 2006. Wildflowers of the Pacific Northwest. Timber Press Field Guide, Portland, OR.

Oregon Wildflowers app.

IT'S TIME TO NOMINATE A NEW MASTER GARDENER OF THE YEAR!

From Vickie Minor

Nominations are now being accepted for our next **MASTER GARDENER OF THE YEAR!**

Every year, except for 2020 because of the pandemic, we have chosen an exceptional COMGA volunteer to be the "Master Gardener of the Year." This is an important award that honors someone who goes above and beyond the requirements for certification. A complete list of previous recipients is on the COMGA website, under the "Membership" tab. **This year, the deadline to submit a nomination is MONDAY, September 19, 2022, by noon.**

The pandemic continues to be a part of our lives but with *science and research* (things we, as master gardeners, know are important), life is returning to some level of normal, which includes being able to honor those who go "above and beyond" to help us thrive as a master gardening community. *You – our volunteers* - are involved in many COMGA projects and you have continued to help the OSU Extension Master Gardener Program maintain its traditions of *teaching, supporting, and promoting our program*. Your contributions come in many forms – some in person, some through remote work. **You are the ones who know best who might be deserving of this special recognition. Now is the time for you to consider your fellow volunteers, to see who should be nominated for the 2022 Master Gardener of the Year,** based on the qualifications described on the "Master Gardener of the Year Criteria" form. A copy of the form is included in this edition of the HoeDown. It is also available in electronic form on the COMGA forms page, or through the following link: <https://comga.tiny.us/2p9yyxbb>.

Once you have completed and submitted the nomination form (instructions on how to do that are on the form), Amy Jo will review all the submissions and forward them to the COMGA Awards Committee. The Awards Committee is comprised of active Master Gardeners who have previously received this award. That group will choose a finalist and forward the name to Amy Jo.

We encourage you to use the electronic form link, <https://comga.tiny.us/2p9yyxbb>. Click on the link to open the document, and click **START** at the top. Fill in the blue highlighted spaces and when finished, click the **DONE** button at the top and it will automatically go to Amy Jo. A paper form is still an option (print the form from the newsletter) but the **nomination must arrive at the extension office by 12:00 PM (noon) MONDAY, September 19.**

Amy Jo is working on having a Recognition Night this year, where the recipient of this award will be announced. Stay tuned for more information on the date and location of that event.

Thank you for helping us recognize the best of the best of our volunteers!

See page 9 for the form.

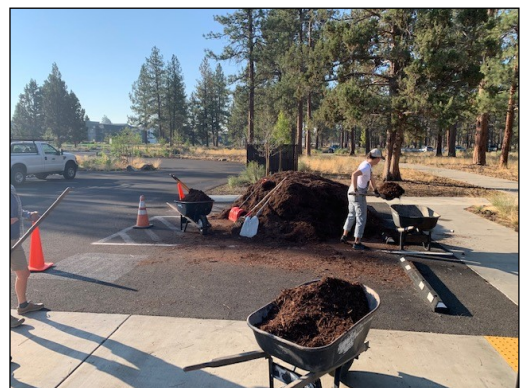
Alpenglow Demonstration Garden

by Lisa Nakadate

Thank you to the volunteers who spread mulch and decorative rock in the Alpenglow Demonstration Garden on Friday, September 2! These brave master gardeners weren't phased by the warm weather and hard work - we spread 11 cubic yards of mulch and three cubic yards of rock and the garden looks fabulous! Special thanks to Deborah Goodall, Jennifer Whelan, Kris Knoernschild, Neil Fredrickson, Elizabeth Weide, Curt Millington, Jill Kendall, and Lisa Cown!

Most of the plants are doing quite nicely. However, a few were getting too much sun and were moved to a better location. We are in the process of selecting native plants for the surrounding area and hope to have them planted in the next month or so. We are also working on individual plant signs. Stop by and see the newest garden in Bend!

- Lisa Nakadate & Janet Dart



LOWDOWN FROM THE BOARD

September 1, 2022

The meeting was held in person and via Zoom.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Nancy Glick, President; Janet Dart, VP Master Gardener Education; Tim Schindele, Treasurer; Marilyn Clark, Secretary; Mimi Thomas, Historian; Rocky Bessette, Communications Liaison; Jolene Dodge, Membership Coordinator; Jan Barron, OMGA Representative; Cheryl Hinerman, Liz Douville, Karen Simonet, Amy Jo Detweiler, and Toni Stephan.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. The board discussed the following:

The minutes of the meeting held August 4, 2022 were approved upon motion by Janet Dart and seconded by Rocky Bessette.

OSU Report from Amy Jo Detweiler: Regarding printing costs, the supply of Waterwise guides at the Extension office is low, however, the City of Bend has reported a good supply, but we may need some printed. We will need revised Firewise guides printed after final peer review, which should be ready for electronic publication this year. We should know before year end.

Outreach Program Coordinator interviews were conducted last week, and a candidate was selected. An offer is being written, and we hope to have an acceptance within a month. Thankfully, Toni is still working for us under contract. We hope to get someone hired in time to cross-train with Toni.

Amy Jo asked everyone to please get your hours entered ASAP into the OSU Volunteer Reporting System, since it will take us some time to review and update records. The recognition night dinner has been scheduled for October 27, 2022, 6:00 p.m., at 10 Barrel Brewing. She will be coordinating with COMGA to provide hours updates for the past years, since COMGA purchases the hour bars for Master Gardener badges.

Master Gardener training for next year will be a true hybrid, with some live classroom training here (Bldg. 3), and some online.

Toni Stephan reported that a group is in the process of looking at gardens for next year's High Desert Garden Tour. They visited four gardens last week and has several to visit next week and more over the next couple of weeks. Many gardens are in the north or northwest of Bend. Then we will have to figure out geography for best routes. We may look at Tumalo for following year.

BOARD REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report: from Tim Schindele

Following our Board approval of mini-college tuition support, Tim realized that the procedure was unclear on who should approve such a request, and suggested we need to clarify the policy for future inquiries.

2023 Budget Committee: The Committee consists of Tim Schindele, Marilyn Clark, Vicky Kemp, and Cheryl Hinerman. Completed budget forms are due to Tim today and the committee is meeting Saturday, September 4th to review. A few questions have arisen:

Where should Home & Garden Show materials expenses be included: Community Ed budget? Nancy Glick thought Community Education budget.

Alpenglow demo garden – Janet has submitted a budget expense for 2023, but we do not have an official "Project" for Alpenglow. Bend P&R is paying for initial signage, plants, supplies, etc., but who provides for ongoing maintenance expenses? After discussion, Amy Jo proposes to run it much like we run the Hollinshead waterwise garden, so Janet Dart will prepare a new project form and submit it to the Board Project Committee, (the Board) for approval. Janet will email it today so we can vote on it. AJ will look at the project proposal when she gets back on Tuesday.

Tim related that CD rates are starting to rise, and First Interstate Bank is now offering a 15-month CD at 2%. After discussion of our current checking balance and upcoming CD maturities, a motion was made to initiate a new 15-month CD in the amount of \$10,000 from our checking balance. The motion was made by Marilyn Clark, second by Janet Dart, and passed unanimously.

Rocky asked if the budget will be sent out electronically? Following discussion, it was decided that the compiled budget will be distributed to the Board in advance of the next Board meeting October 6th. Janet Dart will then call a Special Meeting at 11:30 a.m. October 6th to present the approved budget to the COMGA members. This Special Meeting of COMGA membership will cover both the Election and the Budget in the OSU training room and via Zoom.

2023 Board Election: Janet Dart related that online elections require that we call for a Special meeting. We will take votes in person as well as send out the online voting form via Survey Monkey. Nancy suggested Janet call it as a Quarterly Meeting. We will cover the Budget approval and Elections at that meeting: Our current slate of nominees is President - Janet Dart; VP MG Education – open; VP Community Education – Cher Hinerman; Secretary – Tammara Waterman; Treasurer – Marilyn Clark; Historian – Jenni Whelan; Membership – Deb Goodall; Communications – open; OMGA State Rep. – Karen Simonet; Alternate OMGA Rep. – Evie Cox. The Board Election meeting will be Oct. 6th, 11:30 a.m. in the Training Room.

Membership: Jolene Dodge met with Deb Goodall and gave her the information already.

Community Education: Jan Even was on vacation so sent a written report, read by Nancy at the meeting. See full report in the Hoedown.

Continued on page 8

LOWDOWN FROM THE BOARD Continued

Historian: Mimi Thomas met Jenni Whelan at the BBQ and will be meeting with her in the fall to go over transition.

ACTION/INFORMATION ITEMS:

Green Thumb Travelers group. Note: This is not a COMGA project – it is a trial fundraising event to benefit COMGA. Cheryl Hinerman related that Amy Jo discussed the proposal with Gail Langellotto and we are allowed to add the button to the COMGA website. Nancy will add the button to the website. As soon as Cheryl gets the conformation dates, she can advertise next year's travel plans. Cheryl also asked for suggestions of places our members would like to go. Nancy suggested that Jan Barron can share the details of this opportunity with the other OMGA groups. We can also advertise these events both in the HoeDown and can send out emails. The next OMGA meeting is Sept. 6th. Jan can advise them and put it in the next chapter report advising them it is something we are trying. We can also add a story for the Gardener's pen.

Master Gardener of the Year Nominations: Nancy Glick read Vickie Minor's report: Vickie Minor will be sending Rocky an article for the September HoeDown, along with a nomination form this this year's MGOTY. Thanks to Nathalie's work, we will also have a digital form that once completed, will automatically go to Amy Jo for review. The nomination deadline is 5PM, Monday, 9/19 and the awards committee will meet the following week to select a recipient. The link to the digital form will be in the article and is also here: <https://comga.tiny.us/3snmfx5a>. I am waiting until after 9/1 to circulate the link so we do not run into conflicts with the budget call, which is using the same DigiSigner license.

Update: The nomination deadline was revised at the Board Meeting and moved up to September 19th, by noon. To allow time for Amy Jo's review and preparation time for the October 27th Recognition night.

Trowel Awards: Nancy Glick asked for nominations by Sept. 15th.

OPEN FORUM:

Diagnosing Plant damage class will be held Sept. 7th at 10 am in the training classroom.

Tim asked if Spring Seminar classes will be in person or webinar. Rocky said we haven't finalized, possibly webinar. Committee meets Sept. 7th.

November begins new calendar year for training requirements.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:31 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Marilyn Clark



Photo by Patsy Kestner

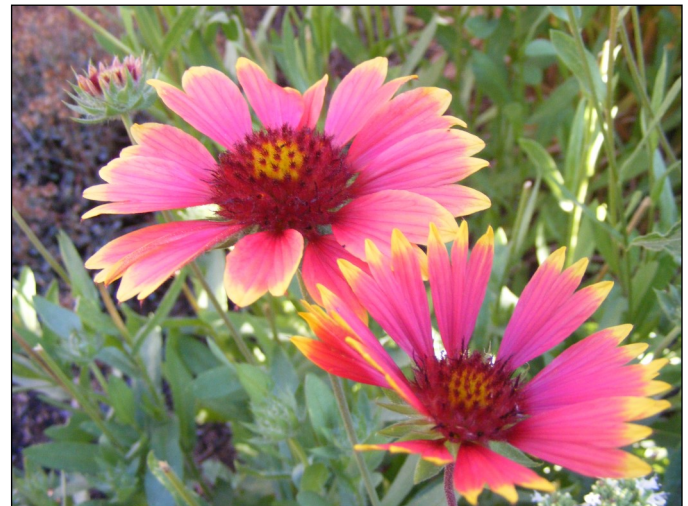


Photo by Patsy Kestner



Amy Jo and Jensine giving gardening advise at Hollinshead Open Garden

Master Gardener™ of the Year Criteria

The recipient of the award for Master Gardener of the Year works tirelessly on behalf of the Oregon State University Master Gardener program. Their exceptional efforts and ideas support the philosophy and educational goals of the local extension office.

This award requires a Master Gardener to exhibit an outstanding willingness to help coordinate numerous projects, and attend both Board and Quarterly Meetings. Maintaining a high number of volunteer hours validates exceptional participation, many of these without being asked. Continuing education through recertification is a priority for this special Master Gardener and he or she is knowledgeable on a variety of topics.

Important personal traits include a friendly personality, understanding nature and the ability to work well with others. Outstanding organizational skills and the unique ability to encourage others to teach in the community are part of the recipient's nature.

This is a distinct award that should be fully enjoyed and celebrated by one individual. The decision-making criteria should be based upon the fact that our main mission is to educate our "neighbors" and assist them in their landscaping and gardening problems. Therefore, in the case of a tie, and all things being equal between candidates, the final decision rests upon what the person has done to positively impact the public instead of efforts within the COMGA organization. To acknowledge an outstanding Master Gardener for continually serving the program, it is possible for someone to hold this distinction multiple times, but not two years consecutively.

Please return this form ***by September 19, 2022*** to: **OSU Extension Office, Amy Jo Detweiler, 3800 S.W. Airport Way, Bldg. #4, Redmond, OR 97756** or email to amyjo.detweiler@oregonstate.edu

My nomination for Master Gardener of the Year is:

In accordance with the mission of the Central Oregon Master Gardener Association, please identify what the candidate has contributed:

To Teach sustainable gardening practices which have their foundation in research-based information (such as, which classes or talks were given by the nominee?).

To Support the OSU Extension Service horticulture program in Crook, Deschutes, and Jefferson Counties (such as, what projects or other volunteer commitments contributed to the CO Horticulture program?).

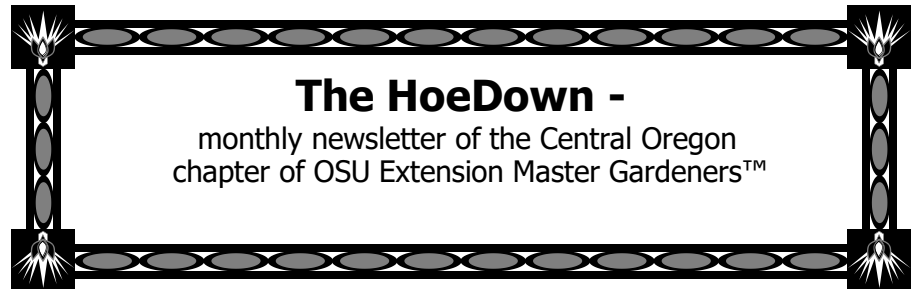
To Promote the OSU Extension Service Master Gardener program in Central Oregon (such as, what contributions has the nominee made that have led to better recognition of the CO & Statewide MG programs?).

Submitted by (optional):

Central Oregon Chapter of OSU Extension Master Gardeners™
3800 SW Airport Way Bldg.#4
Redmond, OR 97756



Crook
Deschutes &
Jefferson Counties



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