



February 2021



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**Board members 2021**

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**Table of Contents**

<b>President's Message</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Calendar</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Getting to Know You</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Vermicomposting</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Discovery Park Garden</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Message from Nancy Glick</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Mini-College update</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Lowdown from the board</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Winter Landscape Garden</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Annual Dues Renewal form</b>	<b>9</b>

# President's message



## Have you registered for your Elevated Skills and Level Up classes yet?

The Dashboard for my registered classes looks so exciting, I can't wait to start. I opened the "See Overview" for each one so I know just what I'll be learning in class. I really like that if I miss the "opening" date, I can watch the recorded presentation any time after that date.

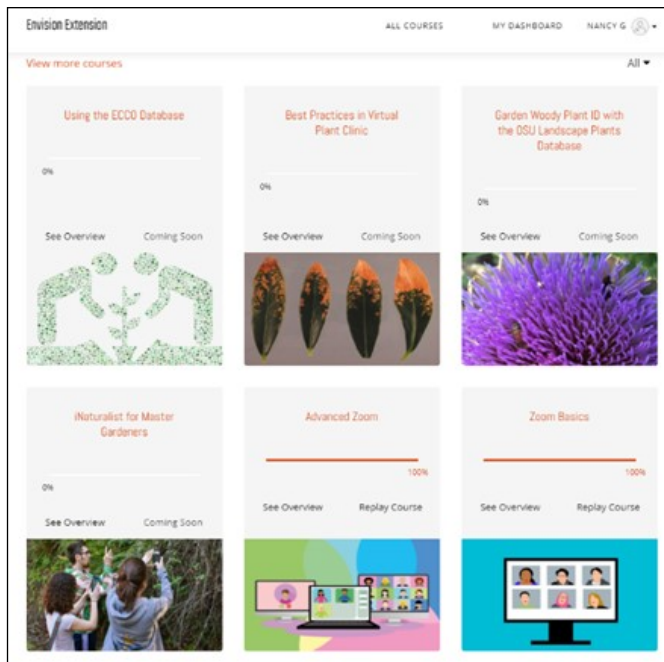
If you haven't gone there yet, check out the **Elevated Skills** classes to earn Advanced Training credit: <https://blogs.oregonstate.edu/mgcoordinators/2021/01/20/elevated-skills-training-for-current-master-gardener-volunteers-is-ready-for-you/>

You can also take some **Level Up** gardening classes being posted on the second Tuesday of the month, at 3pm, January-November 2021. You also can earn Master Gardener's Advanced Training credit: <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/growing-oregon-gardeners-level-series> Click on the class title to learn more, register for classes through the April 13<sup>th</sup> "Dazzling Dahlias" and read about the others that will be offered through November.

Our own Professor Detweiler will be teaching the Fire-wise Landscaping Class on July 13<sup>th</sup> so be sure to register when it opens!

Bookmark the links, you'll want to visit them all year.

### See you in class!



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

### **February**

- 2 KPOV radio 88.9 FM, 9-9:30am, Tooling Around Your Garden
- 4 Board meeting, Zoom, 10:00am
- 13 Blog: Gardening in Central Oregon [www.gocomga.com](http://www.gocomga.com)
- 16 KPOV radio 88.9 FM, 9-9:30am, Save by Starting Vegetables from Seed
- 27 Blog: Gardening in Central Oregon [www.gocomga.com](http://www.gocomga.com)

### **March**

- 1 Hollinshead Community Garden lottery opens
- 2 KPOV radio 88.9 FM, 9-9:30am, Choosing Seeds for Your Garden
- 4 Board meeting, Zoom, 10:00am
- 13 Blog: Gardening in Central Oregon [www.gocomga.com](http://www.gocomga.com)
- 16 KPOV radio 88.9 FM, 9-9:30am, Seed Packets Are Mini Reference Guides
- 27 Blog: Gardening in Central Oregon [www.gocomga.com](http://www.gocomga.com)
- 30 KPOV radio 88.9 FM, 9-9:30am, Butterfly Gardens

### **April**

- 1 Board meeting, Zoom, 10:00am
- 2 Hollinshead Community Garden Lottery closes
- 3 Discovery Community Garden Lottery Drawing
- 3 Spring Seminar class: Pruning Shrubs 10:00am
- 3 Spring Seminar class: Growing Berries 1:00pm
- 5-11 Discovery Park Community Garden registration
- 6 OSU Demo & AAS Garden workday, 9:00am
- 6 KPOV radio 88.9 FM, 9-9:30am, Dazzling Dahlias
- 10 Blog: Gardening in Central Oregon [www.gocomga.com](http://www.gocomga.com)
- 15 Discovery Park CG volunteer meeting, 9:00am
- 17 Discovery Park Community Garden opens, 8:00am
- 17 Spring Seminar class: Irrigation, 10:00am
- 20 OSU Demo & AAS Garden workday, 9:00am
- 20 KPOV radio 88.9 FM, 9-9:30am, Happy Apples
- 22 Hollinshead Community Garden workday
- 22 Discovery Park Community Garden workday, 9:00am
- 24 Blog: Gardening in Central Oregon [www.gocomga.com](http://www.gocomga.com)
- 24 Hollinshead Community Garden opens
- 25 Hollinshead Community Garden opens

## **IT'S KPOV TIME GARDENING: GET GOOD AT IT**

Tune in to The Point on KPOV 88.9 FM, Tuesdays between 9:00 and 9:30 AM.

Here is our lineup of upcoming Gardening: Get Good At It segments.

February 2 Tooling Around the Garden

February 16 Save by Starting Vegetables From Seeds

*Happy Valentines' Day to all of you*

## Getting to Know You!

By Deb Goodall

### Meet Phil Paterno

While visiting a New York employment office in 1966 in search of a summer job, 16-year-old Phil happened to spot a "Farm Cadet" program poster tacked to a bulletin board. What originated at the outset of World War I as an effort to engage youth in agricultural work to remedy food shortages, had evolved into a program intended to give city kids a taste of farm life.

Astonishing himself and most likely his family, Phil signed on.



That fortuitous decision was ultimately a boon to the efforts of the Soil Conservation Service, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Bureau of Land Management, our own COMGA and now OSU's new Oregon Bee Atlas project.

When Phil's assigned host family provided him with a bus ticket to their dairy farm in New York's Schoharie County, a new world opened to him. The family's Danish herdsman introduced Phil to the 75 Holstein cows - by name - and mentored him in all aspects of calf care. The farmer himself introduced Phil to the essential but back-breaking, allergy-inducing chores inherent in growing and baling hay for the herd.

Noting Phil's evident budding interest in farm life and the land that supports it, the farmer also took Phil to meet a counselor at nearby State University of New York Cobleskill, a college known for its agricultural and technology programs. That college visit cemented a "Farm Cadet" program bulls-eye hit, changing Phil's more likely life trajectory by motivating him to earn a degree in agronomy and develop a keen love of plant and soil science and ecological systems.

His first job with the Soil Conservation Service was in Upstate New York between Buffalo and Rochester. He worked with farmers and rural property owners on conservation projects - and recognized the rewards inherent in public service. That work opened the door for a position in Boston with the spanking new Environmental Protection Agency where he worked with other young scientists to develop oversight programs for pesticide use. A few years later, in early 1974, he made his way to Rawlins, Wyoming, for a complete change of scenery and a new position with the Bureau of Land Management. In response to the strain the Arab oil embargo put on the U.S. economy, the Nixon Administration had launched a new strategy to boost domestic energy production. Recent graduates in many environmental fields were put to work preparing environmental impact statements that outlined best reclamation practices to address surface disturbances related to energy development.

In 1977, Phil was accepted into the BLM Lands and

Minerals Training Program, at the National Training Center in Phoenix. This was an intensive course that focused on public land law and the multiple use responsibilities mandated to the agency. Upon completion of the program, he accepted a position in Oregon and arrived in Prineville with his wife Kathy. Throughout his 38-year career with the BLM, Phil continued to learn and built upon his expertise, helping to manage public lands for the public purposes.

Phil retired in 2012, and though he continued to work on projects for the BLM, he relished time to focus on his five-acre lot in Powell Butte. In 2014 he enrolled in the Master Gardener program, eager to keep learning and participating in his greater community in an active way. He recognized that the program has been enriched by great teachers and support staff and the many dedicated volunteers who share a love of learning. While he laments the cobbly, rocky soils of his own property, he has developed a hearty respect and soft spot for the native plants and grasses he nurtures in it, all the while keeping a vigilant eye on invasive juniper. One key goal: propagating habitat for wildlife. The deer would, if he let them, love his mountain mahogany to death, while the quail more daintily appreciate the additional brush cover.

This year Phil jumped at the chance to work with Toni as an apprentice in the Oregon Bee Atlas program. Ultimately, as a future Master Melittologist, he will - as described in a recent Bend Bulletin article on the program - "be able to locate, identify and preserve the more than 620 species of native bees in Oregon." Many of the species are pollinators critical for healthy crop yields in Central Oregon.

So, here's three cheers for the New York State Farm Cadet program for launching the career of a dedicated public servant - and to Phil himself for continuing to learn about, love and protect the land.



**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, 8200 NW Yucca Ave., Redmond,  
OR 97756 or [rockyb820@gmail.com](mailto:rockyb820@gmail.com)

## Vermicomposting

by Kathy Geary

Composting with worms also known as vermicomposting turns recycled kitchen food waste into rich compost for your garden that may otherwise be destined for the landfill. Food waste makes up 20% of our landfill and an alternative method of discarding our kitchen food waste is through composting with worms. Composting with worms is an easy composting process compared to conventional composting methods that need a complex ratio of materials. Worm composting bins are ideal for people who don't have a place for a standard compost bin. Two 10-to-14-gallon opaque plastic tubs are all you need to begin building your own adventures in vermicomposting.

The common red wiggler worm is used for composting. In nature, red wigglers live on the soil surface in the upper layers of the very rich decaying organic matter. They live where they eat! These attributes make the red wigglers appropriate for worm bin composting. They do not develop burrows and are not found deep in the subsoil, like the garden earthworm. The red wiggler's specialized digestive system converts food waste and other organic materials into nutrient-rich compost called vermicast or worm castings. The compost worm has amazing powers of digestion and can consume just about any organic matter- your fruit and vegetable scraps, pulverized eggshells, coffee grounds and tea leaves. Even your used paper products are a tasty treat for compost worms. Do not add meat, dairy products, greasy or oily foods; they can create odors and pest problems. And never add dog or cat wastes, which can carry disease. Local or mail-order suppliers of red wigglers can be found on the Internet selling compost worms by the pound.

After three to six months of feeding your red wiggler worms, the mixture of worm castings and decomposed organic matter looks like a crumbly chocolate cake. It smells earthy and fresh. Vermicompost is full of nutrients and beneficial microorganisms and can be used to feed your houseplants, your seedlings and your garden.

Not only can you serve delicious foods from your garden to your table, you can grow strong healthy edibles with your kitchen food waste: kitchen to compost, compost to garden, garden to kitchen, kitchen to table. It is a complete delightful cycle of use and reuse and you are the beneficiary.

Wondering where you will keep your worm bin? A well-tended worm bin is odorless. You can keep it in a pantry, utility room, or the garage or carport. Worms thrive in temperatures between 55 and 77 degrees. If you keep your bin outside, you will need to protect it from extreme temperatures. Outdoors your worms will live comfortably with protection from rain, wind, and snow. Place your bin under the eaves or a deck, or build a cover that repels the rain but still allows for good air circulation. An outdoor worm bin must also be protected

and secured from rodents, raccoons, and other animals. Here in Central Oregon you may choose to put your worm bin outside during the warmer months, bringing it inside during cold months of winter. Wherever you choose, be sure to put your bin in a place you visit often! Your worms will not be happy if left without food.

So now you are convinced that worm composting is for you! How do you make a worm bin? Numerous sites on the Internet will give detailed instructions on how to construct an economical worm bin. For a list of resources and guides to building and maintaining your own worm bin as well as other gardening topics go to our website at [GOCOMGA.com](http://GOCOMGA.com) and click on the KPOV tab on the orange bar. Thanks for listening to... Gardening: Get Good at It on KPOV, The Point.



### Resources:

Worm Composting Basics

<http://compost.css.cornell.edu/worms/basics.html>

Vermicomposting: Composting with worms

<http://pods.dasnr.okstate.edu/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-1494/F-1742web.pdf>

Build a Worm Compost Bin to Enrich Soil and Recycle Waste

<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening/build-compost-worm-bin-enrich-soil-and-recycle-waste>

Learn How to Make Worm Compost Bins

<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening/node/1020>

Worm Composting

<http://www.oregonmetro.gov/tools-living/yard-and-garden/composting/worm-composting>

Cheap and Easy Worm Bin

<http://whatcom.wsu.edu/ag/compost/easywormbin.htm>

Hello all re-certifying Master Gardeners,

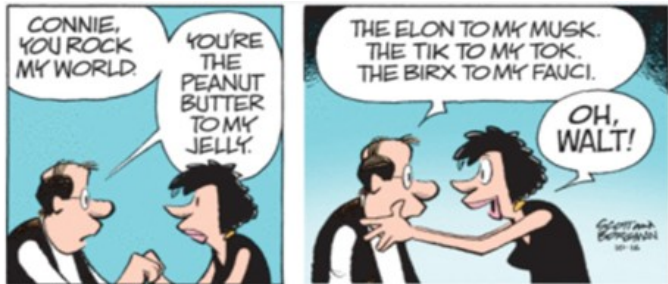
This has been an interesting and harrowing year, largely due to COVID 19. COMGA has decided to offer dues waivers to those who have suffered financial hardship due to COVID 19.

We appreciate and enjoy all of our members and want everyone to continue to enjoy being part of the association. I have found COMGA to bring lightheartedness and friendship to my life, and we as a group would be saddened to have our yearly dues cause anyone undue distress.

If you have been financially affected by COVID 19, please reach out to me at [ajdodge@yahoo.com](mailto:ajdodge@yahoo.com) and we will work it out.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone as soon as possible.

Have a beautiful day and stay healthy,  
Jolene Dodge, Membership Coordinator



Master Gardeners, you're the soil to my Perennials, the worms to my vermicompost, the pipe to my irrigation, the buds to my apple harvest, the bumble to my blossom.

I can count on you to humor my dreams, listen to my worries, volunteer when I need your help and always, always to support the Master Gardener program. You're so very great!

Happy Valentine's Day to my favorite people!



Nancy

PLEASE FILL OUT YOUR DUES RENEWAL FORM ON PAGE 9 IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY DONE SO.

TRAINEES ARE ALREADY HONORARY MEMBERS OF COMGA AND DO NOT NEED TO RENEW MEMBERSHIP UNTIL YOUR MASTER GARDENER CERTIFICATION IS FINAL



## Discovery Park Community Garden by Gary Weber

The registration period for the garden lottery is about to begin. Starting February 15, application for a garden raised bed can be made by sending an email to [gocomga@gmail.com](mailto:gocomga@gmail.com) with "DPCG" in the subject line. Applicants are asked to include their full name, preferred email address and a telephone number where they can be reached. Available beds will be assigned using a random drawing among all applications received by the deadline of April 2.



Planning is underway to construct a shade structure next to the pollinator garden over the picnic tables. We also hope to construct a bulletin board as a part of this project, to have a place to easily communicate with our gardeners. Operations as they are impacted by constraints imposed by COVID will be under review by OSU and we're optimistically hopeful that we will be able to open the garden again this year. Information will be made available to DPCG gardeners as that information becomes available.

## Save the Date

OMGA PRESENTS

### Mini-College 2021

Connect - Collaborate - Cultivate

July 16 and 17, 2021

Experience and participate in a dynamic program of interactive educational classes and workshops

Keynote presentations by:

Robert Michael Pyle and Gail Langellotto

Watch for details when our website goes live at:

[mastergardenerminicollege.org](http://mastergardenerminicollege.org)

Registration will open in March 2021

## LOWDOWN FROM THE BOARD

February 4, 2021 via zoom

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Nancy Glick (President), Jan Even (Past-President), Vickie Minor (Secretary), Tim Schindele (Treasurer), Mimi Thomas (Historian), Janet Dart (OMGA State Representative), Jolene Dodge (Membership Coordinator), Nancy Crossan, Liz Douville, Vicky Kemp, Beckie Moran, Diana Hardin, Carroll Minium, Ruth Mulligan, Gary Weber, Kirsten Hinton, Linda Gregory, Chris Miao, Kate Applegate, Karen Simonet, Eileen Obermiller and Nathalie Smith.

The meeting started at 10:00 AM and adjourned at 11:56 AM. The board discussed the following items:

### Approval of minutes of previous meeting

Motion to approve the minutes made by Jan Even, seconded by Jolene Dodge, and approved by the board, with no objections.

Vickie read a thank you note from Carrie for her gift card last year.

### OSU Report

Amy Jo and Toni were unable to attend this month so there was no OSU report.

## BOARD REPORTS:

### Treasurer's Report

Tim Schindele is now including the project coordinators in the Treasurer's Report emails, so the PCs can monitor their budgets during the year. There was very little activity in January, with income (\$265.51) limited to interest paid on our two credit union CDs and one Spring Seminar sponsorship. The only expense (\$42.89) was to reimburse the Treasurer for postage and envelopes purchased last year. No COMGA membership dues were received in January but Tim received 22 checks today. Tim also noted that the January Treasurer's Report has the approved 2021 budget numbers. Discussion followed on what would happen if a PC needed to spend money that was over a budgeted amount. Tim noted that there have been instances where the PCs exceeded their budgets but the dollar amounts were small and if the expenses were reasonable and necessary, the bills were paid. The consensus of the group was that the budgets are guidelines, things could change in any given year and the PCs should keep the board informed if budgeted amounts are going to be exceeded, so everything is transparent.

### Financial Review

Vickie Minor, Nancy Crossan and Marilyn Clark met at the home of Tim Schindele on Tuesday, January 19, 2021, to conduct a review of the COMGA financial records. Tim was present to provide information and explanations as needed. All COVID protocols were followed, to keep everyone safe during the review. Records for the months of March, July, September, and December 2020 were reviewed, including all bank and investment

statements, PayPal statements, Treasurer's Reports to the board, working reports from Quick Books (QB) that were used to create the Treasurer's monthly reports to the board, all deposits, and all disbursements. Overall, the books and entries were in excellent shape and the key "Recommendations" noted in the 2018 and 2019 reviews have been adopted. The recommendation in this review was made by the Treasurer, to add more documentation during review and to assure we can account for all checks during the review period. The full report is appended to the paper copy of the minutes. Vickie noted that once again, Tim has done a great job and the review went very well.

### Membership Report

Jolene Dodge reported that as of February 3, 2021, there are 22 paid members, one of which is an associate. Jolene will ask Rocky to include the membership form in the next HoeDown. She will also contact Carrie to get the list of MGS who have indicated they will recertify this year. Discussion followed on collecting dues, whether a portion should be forwarded to OMGA and whether we should consider waivers for people financially impacted by COVID. We agreed that we will continue collecting dues this year from those recertifying and we will forward a portion to OMGA, as usual. Trainees are still honorary members and are not required to pay dues until after they are certified. After further discussion on the financial impacts of COVID, Janet Dart moved to offer a waiver of dues to anyone impacted financially by COVID, on a first come, first served basis, limited to ten members. Jolene Dodge seconded the motion, which was approved without objection. If needed, we will revisit this at a later meeting.

### Community Education

Elizabeth Weide reported by email that she is still open for input from the group on topics for classes this year, and the schedule for classes is still being developed.

## ACTION ITEMS:

### 2021 Inventory

Because of COVID, we did not do inventories last fall but we do have inventories that were completed before the shutdown and in the fall of 2019. We noted that access to the sheds has been severely restricted and currently, we are not allowed into them because of the COVID levels. After a full discussion, we agreed to revisit this as protocols and the COVID restrictions are updated. Vickie has indicated that she would like to step back from this project, Nancy asked that if anyone is interested in working on leading this to let her know. Karen Simonet volunteered to help; Ruth Mulligan also volunteered but does not want to be the lead. Vickie will contact Karen to let her know what is involved as lead.

### Garden Fair/Plant Sale

Vicky Kemp is not planning to spend any money yet because we have not been cleared to do an event. We are still in extreme risk and we are not allowed in the greenhouse right now. We are also not able to work in the garden so we are in a holding pattern, waiting to learn what we may and may not do. Vicky went over the OMGA Zoom meeting on plant sales and one major take-away was that we should explore using software to handle the plant inventory, to allow people to select and pay for plants online, and schedule a pick-up time.

Continued on page 7

**LOWDOWN FROM THE BOARD** continued

This would help the crowding issues we have had the last few years. We could still have educational events during the day and using software to manage the inventory and pickup could be a great tool, even after COVID restrictions are lifted. Discussion followed on various software programs and apps that could be used for this. More research will be needed to determine the best options for our needs. Based on the zoom call with OMGA, not all chapters are following the best practices guidelines for plant sales, but Vicky stressed that our chapter would be following them. Vicky will give another update next month.

**G-Suite**

Jan Even reported that implementation of this is not moving as quickly as we hoped so she would like to pass on it until next month. She is using the secretary function as the test and discovered that a little more work needs to be done to set up the folders so they work as expected. The shared areas also need to be set up in a way that is consistent across all positions and projects. Jan, Nancy, and Vickie will be working on the protocols so the process is clear on how we will operate, e.g., the process for getting items approved, then uploaded, to which locations and by whom. Some discussion followed on the administrative aspects of the system. This is a work in progress and will take more time to perfect.

**Project Review: Product Sales**

Eileen Obermiller chaired the review team, which included Nancy Crossan, Bruce Dart, and Carroll Minium. The goal was to summarize how purchasing and sales operate, to evaluate how well sales flow, to summarize the profit loss analysis, and to make recommendations for improvement if needed. While a bit more challenging, they also tried to analyze the educational value and customer satisfaction with these sales. The conclusions on both row cover and soil thermometer sales were that no changes were necessary. The complete report is appended to the paper copy of the minutes.

**PROJECT STATUS REPORTS:****Hollinshead Vegetable Garden**

Kirsten Hinton reported as the new coordinator of the garden. There is not much going on due to the time of year. Realignment of the pathways is under discussion and reclaiming the pathway along the southside fence line would be something we could accomplish this year. Besides preventing vegetables growing into the WWG, it would also allow WWG gardeners to access the plants if the needed, to spray for aphids without tromping through someone's plot. Kirsten will also be looking into advertising the lottery for the plots.

**Home and Garden Show**

Vickie Minor reported that she had heard from COBA this week and with the current restrictions and limitations they are thinking it may not happen this year. Even if it did, OSU may have other restrictions in place so for now, we are in a holding pattern on participating in this event.

**KPOV**

Nancy Glick reported that after the last board meeting, several people volunteered to do recordings and 23 of the 26 broadcasts are filled. Two years of transcripts are maintained on the COMGA website, if anyone would like to see what has been done.

**Discovery Park Community Garden**

Gary Weber reported that he is working on advertising for the lottery and is hoping to be able to start collecting applications in the next month. He is also working on getting some shade in the garden – currently, there is none. He would like to get a design and some bids for a shade structure, which he will present to the board. He also hopes to install a bulletin board this year, which was an item noted in the project review of the garden.

**OSU Demo Garden**

Vicky Kemp reported that we are not allowed to work in the garden yet and we do not have permission to open. Things could change over the next month so we are in a holding pattern.

**Spring Gardening Seminar**

Vickie Minor reported on behalf of Rocky, that a zoom meeting is tentatively scheduled for next week. Speakers, topics, dates, and times have been finalized so we are working on the next steps, since the seminar will be a virtual one this year.

**Waterwise Garden**

Chris Miao reported that so far this winter, there is little to no damage to the plants. Over the winter, all the plants have been entered into the database, so it is now essentially complete and the focus is turning to how to use the information. The database is intended to be a tool for the public and the MGs working the garden. Initial products of the database include plant profiles for every plant, care plans for each plant and noting when things actually occur versus when they are expected to occur (e.g., expected the plant to bloom in June but it bloomed in July). They are integrating the actual information on each plant so people will know the care and characteristics for plants grown in Central Oregon. Amy Jo has reviewed the information and her comments have been incorporated into the database. Julie Hill is working on some design elements to make the information visually attractive and helpful. Chris hopes to have something to show us at the next board meeting. Discussion followed on what can be seen now in the garden, during the winter season.

**Open Forum**

There was extensive discussion on the availability of COVID shots. Ruth Mulligan noted that people should sign up with Deschutes County to get notification of when appointments are available.

We also discussed how people can get row cover and soil thermometers. These are available through OSU Extension but since the public is still not allowed into the building, people should call ahead (541-548-6088) to make arrangements with Carrie to pick up what they need.

Liz Douville noted that the garden PCs should send lottery information to her and she will work it into one of her garden columns in the Bulletin.

No other business was discussed and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



## The Winter Landscape Garden

by Patsy Kestner

Often when gardening, we are faced with unintended consequences. The beautiful perennial flower that self-seeds until it becomes a weed, the plant that scorches in too much sun, not to mention the animals that have smelled our garden salad bowls. But what about good unintended consequences? Those happen, too. This winter the Hollinshead Waterwise Garden is an example of the many beauties that can be found in the winter garden. First intended to be a public classroom for water conservation, the unintended consequence is a group of plants, some accustomed enough to low water and dry air to also be able to handle the cold winters. They provide structure in the garden and reassurance in our souls that the light will return.

As you are planning your spring landscapes, start right now with what you want to see next winter. The tried and true candidates that stay green are the conifers. Juniper, pine and spruce all have various sizes and shapes, water, light and soil requirements, so research carefully, for these plants will provide winter structure for years to come. Then there are plants that retain some winter color. Sedums can range from yellow to pink to rusty red in winter. And hardy Hydrangeas keep translucent flowers that seem to hold the light.

Consider topography. Are there ways to create small rises or depressions that look interesting in the snow? Do you want to arrange a faux stream bed, or create separate planting beds for annuals or perennials? There are many design choices if you're starting a new landscape, but an established garden can be approached with a new perspective in winter.

Other choices for structure in winter gardens are big grasses. The native Great Basin Rye will bend over and take over a large space nicely. The 'Karl Forester' is an upright grass, commonly seen in commercial landscapes sheared like a broom. It eventually needs to be trimmed in the spring to allow new growth, but if left up, it's a focal point in the winter.

Big shrubs and deciduous trees can provide structure and interest as well, and many provide winter berries for birds. Most small crabapple varieties leave their red or orange berries on graceful branches. Something interesting to look at in our gardens during our long winters is another way gardens can enrich us. The Hollinshead Waterwise Garden is an example of the good kind of unintended consequence, the unintended beauty of a winter landscape garden.



## PLANT OF THE MONTH

by Julie Hill & Lisa Nakadate

Each month we feature a plant that can be found at the Hollinshead Water-wise Garden.

Featured Plant - Dwarf Sitka Spruce

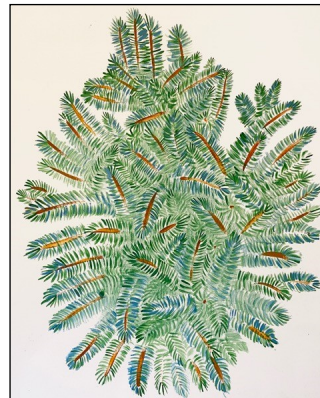
*Picea sitchensis* 'Papoose'

Height: 4 - 6'

Spread: 4 - 6'

Why Should I Plant Dwarf Sitka Spruce in My Garden?

It is a nice dwarf spruce with blue-green needles highlighted with silver.



Needles are yellowish-green to bluish-green, stiff, very sharp, 1 to 1½ inches long, with white lines of stomata on the upper surface.

Browsed by birds in spring and habitat for mammals, reptiles and amphibians.

Fun Fact

Discovered as a seedling growing in forests of Vancouver Island, British Columbia and given to Victoria Parks Department which shared it with William Goddard of Floravista Gardens in Victoria, British Columbia, in about 1964.

Information Sources

Oregon State University Landscape Plants: <https://landscapeplants.oregonstate.edu>

Washington State University Clark County Extension: <http://pnwplants.wsu.edu/PlantDisplay.aspx?PlantID=374>

The strongest, most productive garden implement you can ever obtain probably won't be for sale in tool catalogs or implement stores; you won't find it listed in seed catalogs or stocked in your favorite garden center. Yet this tool is far mightier than the hoe; it will dig deeper than a tiller and will lay off rows better than any wheel planter. It's the most valuable implement a gardener can ever use: a pencil.

*Jim Long*



## 2021 ANNUAL DUES NOTICE AND QUESTIONNAIRE

Please print & fill out this form, enclose your check payable to COMGA and mail to:

COMGA Membership  
c/o Jolene Dodge  
62510 Stenkamp Rd  
Bend, OR 97701

### Dues \$15.00 for all COMGA members

Your dues help fund our many projects and include eleven issues of the HoeDown plus the OMGA Newsletter.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Original year you were certified \_\_\_\_\_

Because of COVID-19 restrictions, the HoeDown will be sent by e-mail

I would like to be notified of upcoming events by e-mail \_\_\_\_\_ phone call \_\_\_\_\_

I am joining as an Associate Member only \_\_\_\_\_

Associate Members must also complete the "Statement of Understanding for Associate Members"

Please check the events you would most enjoy helping with (COVID mandates dependent):

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Garden Tour                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Home & Garden Show            | <input type="checkbox"/> KPOV Radio       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hollinshead Community Garden    | <input type="checkbox"/> OSU Extension Demo Garden     | <input type="checkbox"/> HoeDown Articles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hollinshead Water-wise Garden   | <input type="checkbox"/> June Garden Fair (plant sale) | <input type="checkbox"/> Spring Seminar   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Discovery Park Community Garden | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Education Classes   | <input type="checkbox"/> County Fairs     |

What topics would you like to learn more about?

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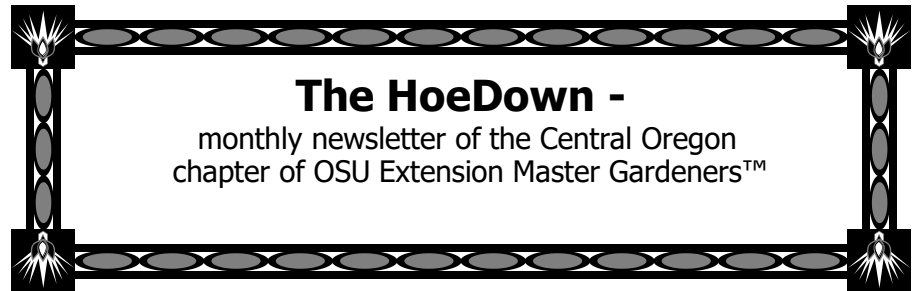


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Central Oregon Chapter of OSU Extension Master Gardeners™  
3800 SW Airport Way Bldg.#4  
Redmond, OR 97756



Crook  
Deschutes &  
Jefferson Counties



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