

August 2020



*Bombus spp.* on Echinacea

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## President's message



Many of us are feeling something strange is happening this year: every day, every week, every month stretches out in a distorted, bizarre pattern. Some witty people are saying things like, "It was a long week yesterday" to explain how unreal time seems to be lately.

Gardening, or more specifically, weeding is a very Zen behavior for me. One day, sitting on my little garden cart weeding and deadheading the riotously over-bloomed Shasta daisies, I was thinking how time this summer seems to stretch and compress depending on what is in my view-finder that moment. I realized, there in the garden, that every morning has become a test of my planning and flexibility skills – what distortion will happen today that will make us pause and have to set our feet again in the shifting sand?

Deep, heavily shaded thoughts don't last long in a bright, noisy garden – nature won't allow it and that day was no exception.

At my feet on the gravel path was spotted spurge. Lots and lots of spotted spurge, spreading out and enjoying the sunshine as much as I did. As I pulled the weeds, I noticed a very tall thistle (!) hidden in the Shastas and – oh! wait! that's bindweed snaking up the tall stems when I looked away for just a second. Don't the weeds know how preoccupied I've been lately with the condition of the universe? Can't they respect my glum mood and cut me some slack??

Suddenly I remember something Gail Langellotto recently wrote:

"Nature bats last."

While the silly humans are storming and strutting and crying out loud, nature is just humming along, sending out shoots, making new weeds on its own schedule. Last month it was the dandelion, this month, the spotted spurge. And nothing will stop them from doing what needs to be done on the schedule nature has set for millennia whether humans are present or not.

It's comforting to know how small and unimportant we might be in the vastness of Nature. Almost as insignificant as spotted spurge in a gravel path.



## Agent's Corner



Hi All,

Hope you are all enjoying your summer (given the circumstances) and are able to find some solace in gardening! We are staying quite busy with all of the gardening questions. We have ten volunteers helping Toni and I with plant clinic (remotely) in addition to one volunteer helping with Ask An Expert questions. It is wonderful to see the two demonstration gardens and two community gardens up and running safely and filled with plants( and maybe just a few weeds!). I appreciate the volunteers that are able to be involved safely with these projects. A big thank you to ALL VOLUNTEERS- YES YOU, whether you are waiting in the wings to help or able to participate in some of the above activities, know that I appreciate your patience and willingness to help when possible. As a reminder all volunteers in good standing going into this year (certified and trainees) you will be in good standing going into next year and will have until the end of 2021 to complete your certification requirements. We will continue to find ways to stay engaged. Thank you to all of you that were able to submit a video clip of your favorite plant, I will be stringing those together in the next few weeks for a virtual plant tour that we will post in the next few weeks.

Amy Jo



Photo by JoAnne Abbott

## Getting to Know You!

By Laurie Floyd

Say Hi to Deborah Goodall!

I met Deborah on a beautiful warm sunny morning in Larkspur Park for our interview. I recognized Deborah when I saw her because she and I were in the same Master Gardener class in 2016. I learned that Deborah has always been an avid gardener not just in her own, but in community gardens as well. She and her husband Tom, lived in Tacoma, WA and she gardened in a city compound garden which was small, but gave her some place to play in the dirt. They moved to Kansas City, MO to a property with ten acres where they lived for twenty years. With Tacoma gardening being so confining Deborah, now with ten acres to play with went, as she puts it, "kind of nuts", she planted all sorts of flower gardens, bushes, trees, and acres of apple, pear, peach and cherry trees. Her gardens grew to the point where she realized her gardener eyes were larger than her ability to care for and control it. I can relate.

Deborah loved the Master Gardener classes; she also spent a lot of time regretting the damage that she had done being misinformed by older gardening books and magazines. Becoming a Master Gardener taught Deborah that she really needed to keep on top of the ever-changing research and information. After completing the program, she discovered, as I'm sure many of us did, that your friends expect you to be able to identify and name any plant or bug they point out or send you pictures of, how to take care of, and what to do with it. Deborah loves Plant Clinic, when she doesn't have time to complete the research to answer a question, she writes down their name, and the next time she has Plant Clinic she looks them up to see how the problem was resolved.

When Deborah came to Central Oregon, she didn't know a lot of people so she joined The Newcomers Club. The club had just entered into negotiations with the City of Bend Beautification projects and were able to take over Libby's Garden in downtown Bend. The garden had been neglected for about two years before Deborah became project coordinator. After three years of being project coordinator and being pulled in all different directions, Deborah says she "got smart", and restructured the workload evenly amongst her coworkers giving her time to enjoy the work being done. Deborah came to the interview carrying a large notebook about Libby's Garden and what is planted there. She catalogues every plant that they put in the ground at Libby's garden, including growth rate, care, pruning, and transplanting. The total number of plants she keeps track of is 75, although Deborah thinks that people sneak in and plant things in the garden because new plants, not in the catalogue show up in the garden outta nowhere. The club paid for a new irrigation system for the garden and works with the city on a watering schedule as the city of Bend has a tendency to over water. Deborah especially loves it when she's working in the garden and people stop by to comment on its beauty or ask questions.

Deborah and her husband Tom have lived in Bend for seven years. Tom worked as an Industrial Project Manager for Energy Conservation; he spent a lot of time traveling all over the US in the first 36 years of their marriage. Taking into consideration all the time he spent traveling and they were apart that in 36 years they have probably only spent

6 together!! Deborah has a son who lives in Tacoma and is the newly appointed Headmaster of the Anne Rice School, a Pre-K thru 12th grade boarding school. He wasn't always a gardener but with his new property he has become an active gardener putting raised beds in his front yard, planting them full of vegetables, complete with the addition of apple trees, and his neighbors just love it. Deborah also has two step daughters who have absolutely no interest in plants or gardening. According to them, she says, a bush is just a bush.

Deborah's favorite plant is the Clematis. She loves the varieties in size, color, flower shape and has planted one in the full sun, and a few that love the shade, which is what she has the most of... shade. Appreciative that for as pretty as the Clematis are, they're a wonderfully forgiving plant and can grow well here in Central Oregon. Although Deborah's yard is mostly shade, she did plant a sun border that she has filled with assorted sedums, coneflower, daisies, and lavender so it's colorful all year long.

A Bosnian Pine tree was planted at her house to help block the light and the dust from the street traffic. It developed a fungus in the fall and this spring she called an arborist to help but they just wanted to cut the tree down. She didn't want to cut it down so she found a tree consultant, a person who will diagnose your tree problems and give you a consultation on how to treat the problem. He did an analysis on one of her trees that had a funny line through it, after taking samples, he discovered that her tree had been struck by lightning and would be just fine, no detrimental damage.

In our interview I discovered that Deborah is a kind of organizational wizard of sorts and a "geek/nerd" to boot!! In Tacoma and Kansas City her work was with the Community College specializing in Current Technical Programs. Deborah started working in Marketing and Public Relations before becoming a Technical Prep Coordinator getting a federally funded grant to encourage young people to consider different careers. She was then hired by the school district in Kansas City to be the head of a consortium for six different school districts to improve their technical programs in conjunction with a mini campus for four years. Deborah was promoted to the Director of Current Technical Programs with the district as a whole, her last five years she was Campus President of the Hard Tech Programs, such as welding, HVAC, industrial tech, to electric line programs, computer networking and MORE! Deborah says she loved that job and all of the people that it has helped. She is very proud of being a part of such positive school programs.

Deborah has now moved onto another project to invest her talents. She is looking into taking a "deep dive" into the health of a 101-year-old building in Sisters that is falling apart, and is needing to possibly be restored. If anyone can organize a group and get this building into fully restored shape, it's Deborah!



## OSU Extension Service Demonstration Garden in Redmond

We had another great volunteer workday in the Demo Garden on July 7, 2020 getting caught up on weeding, trimming back a volunteer clematis, deadheading and trimming suckers off the ornamental pear.



The wonderful volunteers that helped on July 21st were Lisa Nakadate, Karen Simonet, Gina Evans, Jan Even, Janet Dart, Julie Hill, Suzan Hixson & Beckie Moran.

Another great day volunteering on August 4th in the OSU Demonstration Garden in Redmond weeding, deadheading, trimming the weeping mulberry off the paver walkway, trimming water sprouts off the pear tree, taste testing and harvesting blueberries & installing signs in the annual beds for All American Selection plants. The energetic volunteers that helped on August 4th were Kelli Crowsigt, Carma Empey, Julie Hill, Suzan Hixson, Kaileen Mendell, Karen Simonet & Natalie Smith.



Thank you for volunteering!

Vicky Kemp, OSU Demo Garden Co-Coordinator with Liz Douville

"Growing your own tomatoes is the best way to devote 3 months of your life to save \$2.17."

Author Unknown

Liz D says "Amen, ain't it the truth!!"



**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)

## Hollinshead Community Gardens by Nancy Glick



The Garden is planted! In just six weeks, the plots have gone from 3' tall weeds to tall bean plants, beautiful tomato plants and one plot full of tomatillo plants. It's once again as inspiring a sight as Hollinshead has ever been – more so considering the late start and the restrictions on the gardeners and volunteers.

The plot renters work on their gardens on a rotating schedule that allows them to be in the Garden for three hours every day of the week. They (and the volunteers) sign in and out to assist future contact tracing, if necessary, and they're encouraged to wear masks unless they're able to physical distance themselves. Fourteen volunteers wear masks while twice daily sanitizing all common areas in the Garden such as faucets and the gate latches. It's also a great time for the Master Gardener Mentors to check how "their" gardeners are doing so they can advise them on plot maintenance.

One of the raised beds is being rented to an elderly person with limited mobility and another bed is being solarized. We've wanted to try the technique for several years and consider it the perfect solution during a shortened season. It will prevent planting for at least eight weeks while the plastic material, covering the soil, incinerates any weed seeds. Several of the plot renters are trying variations on the technique and we hope to have some great information by the end of the season.



All the Master Gardeners agree that, despite reminders of the coronavirus, Hollinshead continues to be a daily haven for community gardeners, able to enjoy a peaceful moment, playing in the dirt.



## Hollinshead Water-wise Garden

We have had 3 workdays at the Hollinshead Water-wise garden so far this summer. In order to meet the corona virus restrictions we have initiated 2 shifts each workday with 6 volunteers on each shift. The first shift begins at 8:00 AM and ends at 9:30. The second shift starts at 9:45 and ends at 11:15. We have tried some different strategies for the workday – having the first shift do assessments of work to be performed in their assigned areas, and the second shift completing the work. We are currently testing a workday app to record plant observations and work done by each shift. The information is automatically transferred into a spreadsheet that we will use to produce a variety of workday reports and plant care plans. Our goal is to efficiently and effectively share information among shifts/volunteers and record each plant’s performance over the season. We’re fortunate to have a great “techie team” comprised of Nathalie Smith, Janet Dart and Kathy Ketchum, who are working on this workday electronic report. We also are working on an electronic Plant Care Plan for each plant – to record identified problems, research and problem resolution that can be used in future years. It will also be source of information for community education.

The garden overall is doing well. We are noticing some diseases in the garden that we are currently dealing with. We have a Fragrant Abelia (*Abelia mosanensis*) that is showing signs of root weevil. This was a problem last year as well. We are currently researching the use of nematodes to control the weevils, and will be administering them at the optimum time. This would then be entered into our electronic Plant Care Plan for that plant – so we could watch for that problem once again next season.

If you haven’t been to the garden lately, stop by. The 2 hydrangea are in bloom and are gorgeous!! *Hydrangea paniculata* - Limelight and *Hydrangea paniculata* - Little Quick Fire are the 2 varieties. Hope to see you there!

Pat and Chris



## Discovery Park Community Garden by Gary Weber

Our garden is up and running. In spite of the late start, many garden beds are brimming with produce. Our recent warm days and nights have helped push things along. There are 11 new gardeners this year. Rodent activity is at a minimum. Our mentors this year are Becky McKee, Johanna Talus, and myself. We are also getting great support by two trainees, Lisa Kieraldo and Lisa Nakadate. Our COVID-19 safety precautions include 2x daily wipe downs of all common touch points in the garden taken care of by Becky, Lisa and Lisa. Given the circumstances, a number of gardeners have opted to not use their beds this season and will have the option to retain them for next year. This year, thanks to Becky’s efforts, we have regular compost bin pickups which allow us to dispose of garden waste easily and secured from rodents. No garden classes will be held this season, but we continue to support gardeners with garden pertinent information via email. We hear from many gardeners who ask questions via email, or by chance at the garden. Overall, the garden seems to be doing well even with circumstances as they are.



## LOWDOWN FROM THE BOARD

August 6, 2020  
Via Zoom Online

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Nancy Glick (President), Jan Even (Past-President), Elizabeth Hughes Weide (VP-Community Education), Liz Anderson (VP-MG Education), Vickie Minor (Secretary), Tim Schindele (Treasurer), Mimi Thomas (Historian), Diana Hardin (Alternate State Representative), Rocky Bessette (Communications Liaison), Jolene Dodge (Membership Coordinator), Kate Applegate, Carroll Minium, Marilyn Clark, Kathy Geary, Liz Douville, Pat Kolling, Beckie Moran, Linda Gregory, JoAnne Abbott, Karen Simonet, Curt Millington, Amy Jo Detweiler and Toni Stephan.

The meeting started at 2:00 PM and adjourned at 3:52 PM. The board discussed the following items:

Approval of minutes of previous meeting (Nancy Glick)

Motion to approve the minutes made by Jan Even, seconded by Jolene Dodge, and approved by the board.

### OSU Report (Amy Jo Detweiler/Toni Stephan)

Amy Jo reported that conversations are happening at the state level on what can be done to support the associations over the next 6-9 months. At a local level, she does not see us doing anything different right now and thinks we should create a list of questions about what next year will look like. Training is still being discussed and no decisions have been made. Discussion followed on what our activities will look like going forward, including offering community education classes online and how we could offer programs in a virtual environment. Some planning could be done this fall and through the winter, we agreed we need to plan and should do so with different scenarios in mind. Using Zoom and its features could be a teaching tool that we will need to explore. Amy Jo also shared that OSU has a commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion, there will be a shift in focus and it will be pulled into the MG program. We will need to figure out how we can offer our programs to be sure we are being inclusive, while bringing training to people in a safe manner if people do not have access to current programming, do not have a computer, or have no transportation to get to an event, etc. Send any comments or feedback to Amy Jo.

### BOARD REPORTS:

#### Treasurer's Report (Tim Schindele)

Tim sent the July report before the meeting. The big income source was t-shirt sales. We also had some income from late payments of plot fees for the community gardens. There was CD income in July from our 37-month CD at First Interstate which paid its annual amount in July. Tim expects income will be less than \$9000 total for the year. Discovery Park Community Garden had to refund \$10 each to persons who had pre-paid \$30 for their plots last autumn. A few others double-paid or decided they did not want to garden and got other amounts refunded. The Tech Committee ordered Tech Soup and Zoom subscriptions costing \$139.95. Since the new committee has no budget for 2020, those expenses were recorded as Opportunity Fund expenses. We also paid Sarah Nolte \$465 for the work her company did in the Water-wise Demo Garden in

June. Finally, we made a \$7000 donation to OSU Deschutes County Extension which we agreed to in June. Amy Jo thanked us for the donation to the program.

Regarding the upcoming budget year, because things are in flux, Tim suggested that anyone submitting a proposal needs to cut it to 50% or 30% of what was requested for 2020. If we can open the gardens in a timely fashion in 2021, we would be able to get that income as we would normally. As for other projects like spring seminar and the garden fair, project coordinators may need to plan for different scenarios since planning would normally start soon. Rocky noted that spring seminar planning would start in September, and the speakers have said they would come in 2021 if we go forward. We would have to work through several logistics to accomplish social distancing and other requirements and explore whether people would be willing to pay for spring seminar webinar classes online, to avoid not having a seminar at all. Volunteers for the budget committee are Curt Millington, Beckie Moran, Marilyn Clark and Rocky Bessette.

### Quarterly Meeting (Kathy Geary)

An election notice was sent to the membership earlier in the week with nominations accepted until August 31. The current board members agreed to stay on for 2021 except for the Alternate State Representative. Kathy reported that the actual election will be done electronically through Survey Monkey. Votes will be accepted through September 30 and announced in October. The BBQ has been canceled but Kathy and Lizzy are looking at other options for a social meeting. Suggestions included playing a Zoom bingo game; having a gathering with a food truck at the parking lot at Extension and eat at the same time with social distancing in place (which would depend on OSU approval) or do Zoom training on a topic. Nothing has been finalized, things are just being discussed. If you have ideas or suggestions, contact Lizzy, Kathy or JoAnne.

### OMGA Rep Report (Janet Dart)

Janet reported via email that OMGA is still looking for people to fill the following positions in 2021: President Elect, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor and the Karl Carlson Grant Chair. The 2021 Mini College is still scheduled for July 16 – 17, but contingencies are being made for an on-line program if required.

### ACTION ITEMS:

#### Tech Committee (Janet Dart)

Janet reported via email that we have successfully registered for Tech Soup, meaning we can purchase software at a discounted rate. Via Tech Soup, we were able to get a one-year subscription to Zoom, for one host that will be shared as needed. We are also registered with G-Suite which is free, although we have not done anything with it yet. We tried using Google Meet for an on-line meeting, but none of us were happy with the sound and video quality, which is why we opted for Zoom. Janet will prepare procedures for using the software.

Continued on page 7

**LOWDOWN FROM THE BOARD** continued**Volunteer Recognition** (Vickie Minor)

Vickie asked for input and thoughts on how we should proceed this year with awards. Because of the shutdown, people were not able to volunteer for projects or work plant clinics, so there were not the normal opportunities for people to stand out and the question is whether we have to apply what we have always done in a situation we have never had. Discussion followed, noting that there were some people who were able to do behind-the-scenes work and as an organization, we pivoted and continued on, which provided strong continuity in a time of uncertainty. What can we do to acknowledge the contributions made, while being fair to all who did not have the same opportunities to contribute? Vickie noted that the criteria for the Master Gardener of the Year award is to teach, to support, to promote, to coordinate numerous projects, and to maintain a high number of volunteer hours. With so many things canceled or postponed, there were not equal opportunities for people to stand out and we talked about what would be fair under the circumstances. Nancy noted that we can still do trowel awards for the community and demo gardens. Jolene suggested sending notes to everyone thanking them for volunteering as much as they could, with the board helping prepare the notes, and with input from project coordinators. We also recognized that the trainees have not been able to finish their training to get their badges. After discussion, Vickie made a motion to pause the individual awards for 2020 only, seconded by Rocky. The motion passed with nine in favor and one opposed. We agreed that we need to keep the conversation going because it is important to recognize our members and their contributions.

**Open forum** (anyone)

Jan reported that the policies and procedures committee is convened when there is something we need to consider in making changes to our policies and procedures. The committee will meet next week to consider three changes which will be brought to the board at the September or October meeting: inventory of property, looking at a new policy related to the open forum that would limit the amount of time that an individual speaker could take in discussion of topics; and the lifetime achievement award.

**PROJECT STATUS REPORTS:****Discovery Park Community Garden** (Gary Weber)

Over to next month.

**Hollinshead Garden** (Nancy Glick)

Nancy reported that it has been an interesting summer. There are 10 mentors, and of the 90 plots, two are reserved because of the herbicide that was put in last year. Anything that can be grown in those plots has been planted, to see if there are any residual effects from the herbicides. Because of starting so late, weeds were able to take control but a lot of gardeners are doing well. Of the three raised beds designated for mobility challenged people wanting to garden, one is being solarized to get rid of the weeds. The bed will be inspected in the fall to see if the weed seeds are gone.

**OSU Demo Garden** (Vicky Kemp/Liz Douville)

Liz Douville noted that she and Vicky are appreciative of

all the volunteers who have been able to help – and thanks to Amy Jo for weeding when we could not get into the garden. Although work was started late, everything is moving along. We thought we would be at minimal operations but the volunteers have shown up, weeding has gotten done and things are in better shape. Bird netting was put around the blueberries to keep the birds from eating the fruit, which worked well. There was another work day July 7, 2020, with volunteers Lisa Nakadate, Karen Simonet, Gina Evans, Jan Even, Janet Dart, Julie Hill, Suzan Hixson and Beckie Moran.

**Water-wise Garden** (Chris Miao/Pat Kolling)

Pat Kolling reported that the garden is doing fine and there is a good group of volunteers which split their time and shifts to keep within the social distancing requirements. The tech committee (Janet, Nathalie, and Kathy K.) is continuing to build on the database for all the plants in the WWG, creating a plant care record so year to year, we know the problems and can develop a care plan. There have been some issues with root weevils, aphids and deer this year. Everything is being recorded on plant care records so people will know what to do year over year.

No other business was discussed and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie Minor, Secretary



Photo by JoAnne Abbott

## Tomato Woes by Jeff Orr

You survived a wicked white winter, the onslaught of weeds that emerged with our spring sun, and successfully planted your vegetable garden. Maybe you have even started harvesting leafy greens and can see the colorful bumps of your root vegetables peeking above the soil. But what is going on with the tomatoes? If your tomato plants are struggling, you are not alone.

Tomatoes can be a challenge for even the most seasoned High Desert gardener. Maladies that might be affecting your crops range from blossom-end rot to leaf roll and from sunscald to fruit that seems like it will never ripen. And on top of that, our short growing season, coupled with hot days and cold nights, requires a lot of plant nurturing.

What should you be watching for? First is blossom-end rot. This occurs when the end of the fruit farthest away from the stem turns brown or black – a condition caused by irregular watering practices and calcium deficiency. While most common in the Willamette Valley, blossom-end rot does show up in Central Oregon. To avoid blossom-end rot, water plants deeply and regularly. And this Fall, add lime to the soil to increase the calcium level for next year's crop.

Leaf roll or "cupping" is a physiological problem in tomato plants most often the result of heavy pruning or root injury. It can also be a reaction to extended periods of sun where the plant leaves are responding to the strength of the sun. Some tomato cultivars display leaf rolling as a normal growth habit. Plants may lose their leaves but they will recover.

Young, green tomatoes can get sunburned if exposed. Leaves are nature's way of creating little shade umbrellas for your tomatoes. There is no cure for sunscald, only prevention. When pruning, take care to protect the developing fruit.

Fungal diseases can also impact tomatoes. Early and late blight, characterized by spots on lower leaves and stems that appear water-soaked are indicative of this condition. Blight can be minimized by avoiding the use of overhead watering. Irrigating around the main tomato stem out to about a one-foot radius using a drip or ground irrigation system keeps moisture off leaves. When diseased leaves are discovered, simply remove them from the plant to reduce its spread.

After a month of 90+ temps in Central Oregon, the most common issue for tomato gardeners is slow-ripening fruit. Did you know that ripening slows above 85 degrees? The ideal temps are between 70 and 75. Wait for cooler weather to allow for vine-ripening to occur, which may not be until September or even October. Fruit that is just showing color changes can be picked. Store these at room temperature to ripen.

Keeping an eye out for changes in the appearance of leaves and fruit is the best way to maintain plant health. This is also a good time of year to prepare your

## Was that a ragged robin?

by Judy Shearer

What I am referring to isn't a sorry looking bird but a beautiful plant, *Clarkia pulchella*, named after William Clark of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Actually Merriweather Lewis first found and collected the plant near Kamish, Idaho and described it in his journal as did Clark at the same time. When it was given its official scientific name Pursh opted to call it Clarkia and designated it as the type species of the genus. A member of the family Onagraceae, it has the typical four petals which is a primary character of the family. In this case, they are a vivid pink or rose in color each having three lobes, the middle one being conspicuously wider (see photo). The pistil looks like a small white flower. The flowers occur in short spikes atop a hairy stem having alternate linear leaves that are entire to slightly toothed. The plant, an annual, may appear in abundance after adequate rainfall. Found in rocky or sandy soil, it occurs naturally in the United States in western Washington and Oregon east to parts of Idaho and Montana. Disjunct populations occur in Eastern U.S., all thought to be transplants.



Photo by Samantha Shearer

### References:

Fagan, D. 2019. Wildflowers of Oregon. Falcon Guides, The Rowman & Littlefield Publishing, Lanham, MD.

Turner, M., and P. Gustafson. 2006. Wildflowers of the Pacific Northwest. Timber Press Inc., Portland Oregon.

### Oregon Wildflower APP

tomatoes for the rest of the growing season, which consists of fertilizing, adjusting irrigation, and pruning your vine tomatoes.

For fertilizing, a granular 5-10-10 fertilizer can be applied in a circle about one foot from the plant stem during bloom and to sustain fruit production. As tomatoes mature, slow down the watering. This encourages a shift from plant growth to fruit ripening. And finally, for vine tomatoes, nip off the main stem two leaves above the highest flower truss. However, if you have a bush or patio tomato plant, do not prune it until after you have harvested tomatoes since removing new growth on a patio tomato bush will not recover until next year.

A watchful eye and some TLC will produce those delicious tomatoes for a salad or BLT in no time.



## MEET THE TRAINEES

by JoAnne Abbott

### MEET Kristine McLean:

Part of team 2 – Mentors:  
Vicky Kemp & Tim  
Schindele

Kristine grew up in Canby, Oregon, a small farming community in the Willamette Valley, south of Portland. She met her husband while on a road trip with her college roommate, the weekend after graduating. They were wed, and moved to Bend in 1997. One year ago this month her family moved to a home on five acres that they built in Redmond.

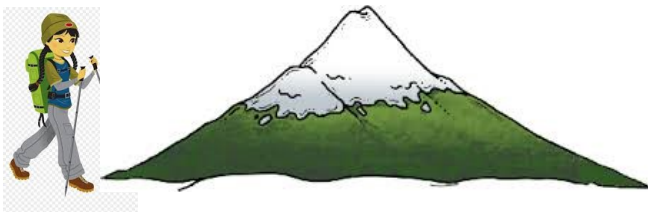


Kristine is a stay-at-home mom with three teenage daughters. Gardening has always been a passion. As a teen, Kristine learned to enjoy the tedious work of weeding the family garden and wanted to have a beautiful yard like her grandma always had. It wasn't until she moved to Bend and was starting a home and garden of her own, that the love of playing in the dirt really blossomed. Kristine enjoys every element of gardening...from design to nurturing growth and composting.

The desire to become a Master Gardener has been on the forefront for a few years, but Kristine had to wait until her girls were all old enough to give her the time to take the class. This was the year! It was great timing for Kristine and her husband, as they were just starting to work on the landscape design and planting at their home. The classes gave Kristine ideas and knowledge for that task! Meeting other Master Gardeners and trainees, networking and sharing a common passion was a plus!

Since the quarantine, Kristine has been hiking mountains (literally) to escape home a little. Thus far, her favorite has been Three-Finger Jack because of all the wildflowers in bloom. The gardener in her, eyes every green thing along the trail, trying to identify as much as she can. She says, "it has been a joy to spend time on the trails!"

Welcome to the Central Oregon Master Gardener Association Kristine!



## MEET THE TRAINEES

by JoAnne Abbott

### MEET Karen

**Simonet:** Part of  
team 2 – Mentors:  
Vicky Kemp & Tim  
Schindele

Karen was born and raised in southern California. She grew up with parents who loved travelling and gardening. So naturally, she started early with both.

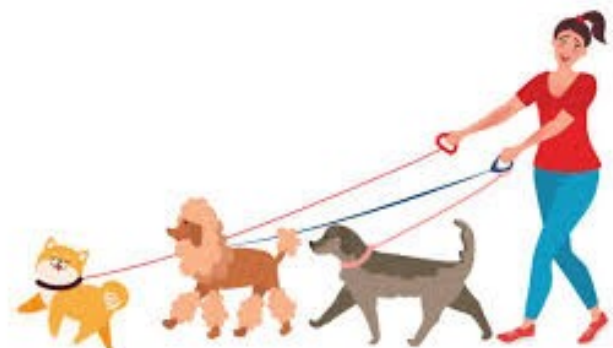
Karen has travelled the United States, twice! Alaska being her most favorite. She has a six week trip planned for Europe next year, so all her fingers are crossed that she'll be able to go!

After 36 years as an RN, specializing in emergency medicine, Karen took the leap, and retired. As Karen says, "I loved every minute of the chaos!" Her saving grace is her garden. She loves to start new plants, whether it's from seed or propagation..."it's like getting free plants", she says.

Karen moved to Sisters a year ago and is finding the small town life very agreeable. She says: "Who needs the traffic, the constant noises? Not me!" Karen also volunteers with the local fire department, and the Humane Society where she's a dog walker.

Once a student, always a student: Karen enjoys learning and is taking on line classes in marketing and small business/entrepreneurship.

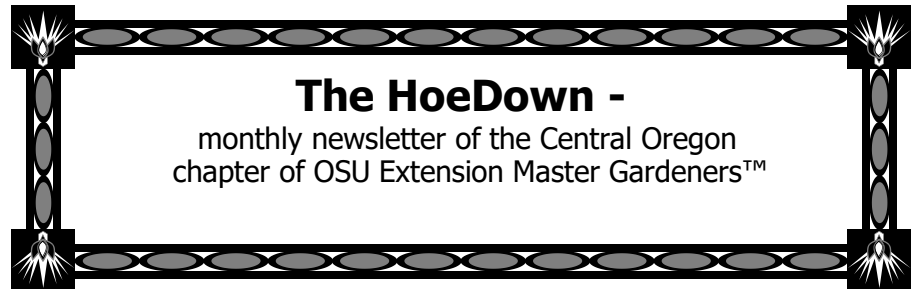
Glad to have you on-board Karen. You'll find that we Master Gardeners LOVE to share plant starts, seeds and baked goods!



Central Oregon Chapter of OSU Extension Master Gardeners™  
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