

H O E D O W N

Nov./Dec. 2023



Board members 2023

President: Janet Dart, 818-486-1583, janetdart@gmail.com

Vice Pres: Cher Hinerman, 503-750-7168, cahinerman@icloud.com

Vice Pres: Tim Schindele, 541-526-1490, TJSFishes@bendbroadband.com

Secretary: Tammara Waterman, 541-280-5913, waterman2712@gmail.com

Treasurer: Marilyn Clark, 541-419-4625, piperdoug64@yahoo.com

State Rep: Karen Simonet, 661-713-5694, emsnurse1923@gmail.com

Alt. State Rep:

Historian: Kris Knoernschild, 541-410-2795, oaktree2448@gmail.com

Membership Coordinator: Deb Goodall, 816-885-5466, debgoodall48@gmail.com

Communication Liaison: Rocky Bessette, 541-420-8817, rockyb820@gmail.com

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President's message



Congratulations to all trainees who completed the Master Gardener course and volunteer hours. I'm delighted to behold all your orange badges and look forward to seeing you in the gardens next year. Think how easy it will be to get your minimum volunteer hours next year. Amy Jo will soon announce the required hours to recertify in 2024... it will be way lower than 40!

To all Master Gardeners: Thank you for an exceptional year. What did we do? Education. Maintained demo gardens in Redmond, Waterwise, and Alpenglow. June Garden Fair and Plant Sale. Coordinated community gardens at Discovery Park and Hollinshead. Planted plants at Alpenglow. Painted a shed for Discovery Park. Home and Garden Show. Plant Clinic. Ask an Expert. Behind the scenes our website is being revamped and our plant database is being designed. That's a lot, and I'm sure I am missing something. Thank you everyone. Now, as we put our gardens to bed, what are you going to do over the winter? If you want to get a jump on your 2024 hours: The Garden Fair and Plant sale is already being planned... contact Tim Schindele if you want to get involved. Spring Seminar is already being planned... contact Rocky Bessette if you want to get involved, or Janet Dart if you want to help on the technical end (here's your chance to become a Zoom expert). Karen Simonet needs another member on the Inventory Committee. We have more plants to research for the plant database as we incorporate Alpenglow plants. Contact Janet Dart if you want to learn more than you ever wanted to know about our local plants. And I'm sure Cher Hinerman will welcome any help with education.

I hope to see you at our annual holiday luncheon in December.

Cheers,
Janet Dart

The cakes at Recognition Night were awesome and tasty too.

Happy Thanksgiving

It's that time of year we put our gardens to bed, our tools get cleaned and sharpened, view seed catalogs, and update our inventory. Well I ordered my seeds already, but I can't seem to motivate myself to start cleaning. I will be sending an email to the project coordinators to update our inventory. The Policy and Procedure for this committee was approved at the November Board Meeting and will be posted soon. Inventory will now be done once a year. I will soon be coordinating schedules for 2024.

The committee is recruiting 2 more members for 2024. It's a great way to learn the operations of a garden, or learn of our assets and community gardens. If interested, please contact me by email at emsnurse1923@gmail.com.

Karen Simonet

COMGA Calendar for contact persons go to gocomga.com

November

- 2 Board meeting, OSU Extension, bldg. #3, 10:00am
- 11 Blog: Gardening in Central Oregon
- 16 Hollinshead C G Volunteer meeting, 10:00am
- 16 Discovery Park C G Volunteer meeting, 6:00pm
- 25 Blog: Gardening in Central Oregon

December

- 7 Annual Holiday luncheon
- 9 Blog: Gardening in Central Oregon
- 23 Blog: Gardening in Central Oregon



The Gardener's Pen

The fall issue of the OMGA newsletter The Gardener's Pen is now available .

This is our statewide recap of what is happening in the Master Gardener Association - updates to the hiring process for vacant positions and opportunities for education hours and great gardening events. Happy reading!

<https://omga.org/newsletter/>

Karen Simonet emsnurse1923@gmail.com
COMGA State Representative

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 be named in an article but necessarily constitute an said product.

company may this does not endorsement of

Published by : COMGA

Send ideas &

Community Education Report

by Cher Hinerman

October was vacation time for Community Ed! Our 2023 live class schedule was completed in September. October 27th the development teams for Spring Seminar, Community Ed, and the Home and Garden Show met to review the lists of the classes requested by attendees on our evaluations. We agreed upon a working list of classes and potential instructors with a couple of extra options in case we cannot book the right match of instructors. Community Ed's part will be to work with the City of Bend and/or other jurisdictions to add additional Water-wise live classes. The Water-wise Field Day at Hollinshead always fills and there is a huge wait list and demand for how to convert landscapes to native plants that are both pretty and water-use efficient. People have asked for real how-to demonstrations of water systems as well as plant selection.

Our requested dates for 2024 at the Redmond classrooms have been approved. Our work at the other Central Oregon Community College Campuses is in progress with their booking timeline protocols. Our goal is to offer 16-18 Live Classes throughout the tri-county area in 2024:

9 Growing Vegetables, plus two Zoom discussions linked to Amy Jo's Growing Veggies video - January to March

3 Seed Sowing and Transplanting classes early in the season - January & February

2 Seed Saving and Storing classes in late summer - August & September

1 Putting your Garden to Bed - September

1-3 Water-wise classes depending upon the local jurisdiction support. Likely in May, June or July

Many thanks to all the instructors, teaching assistants, and admins who supported live classes in 2023! We look forward to another fun year working together.

Cher



Ramaria rubrievanescens

by Judy Shearer

The term mushroom is broadly used in the common names of many different kinds of fungi. A good example is the rosebud coral mushroom (*Ramaria rubrievanescens*). Not a true mushroom with gills but a highly branched fungus that actually looks like a coral (see photo below). The overall impression when the fungus is young and white is that of a cauliflower. The branches are densely packed, thick, and smooth in texture. The coral 3-8" high and 3-12" wide is widely distributed in North America. The flesh is white and firm. As the fungus ages the tips of the branches become pink to purplish. The odor is described as indistinct to pleasant, the taste, mild to bitter, sometimes likened to sauerkraut. It is considered edible but with caution as it can have a laxative effect on some people. Ecologically it is an ectomycorrhizal fungus associated with both hardwoods and conifers. In the PNW, when found, it has been close to Douglas firs or Western hemlocks. It can occur singly, scattered in groups, or in fairy rings. It truly is an impressive, beautiful find on the forest floor.



Photograph by Samantha Shearer

References:

Arora, D. 1991. All That the Rain Promises and More... Ten Speed Press, Berkeley, CA.

Trudell S., and J. Ammirati. 2009. Mushrooms of the Pacific Northwest. Timber Press Field Guides, Portland, OR.

Thanksgiving
Blessings

OSU Demo Garden

Wow! What a productive year! Thank you to all the volunteers who brought their energy and support. This year we planted pumpkins, butternut and acorn squash, cucumber, and tomatoes. There were also rudbeckia and giant marigolds that flourished. The fruit trees came to life with an abundance of apples, pears, peaches and plums! Did you see the peach tree? The limbs had to be supported, they were so heavy. The total harvest weighed in at 601 pounds! All was donated to NeighborImpact.

Next year, our first meeting will be on April 2nd. You can join us on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month from 9am to 12 noon. In the meantime, grab those seed catalogs, garden planners, stay warm and have a wonderful holiday season. 🦋

Vicky Kemp & Karen Simonet, Demo Garden Coordinators

Alpenglow Demonstration Garden

We wrapped up our second season at the Alpenglow Demonstration Garden on October 18. We did some deadheading, weeding, watering (we are having irrigation issues due to a broken controller which we are working with Bend Park and Recreation to replace) and planted bulbs that we will look forward to seeing emerge in the spring. All in all, it was a great season with a handful of dedicated volunteers who kept the garden tidy and beautiful!

One of our volunteers, Ann Padgett, created a schematic of Alpenglow which includes all the plants in the fenced and native sections. This will be great to have going forward. During the off season we will be conducting research on the plants for inclusion in the database and creating content for the bulletin board which was recently installed. We'll also be coming up with another region to feature for the cultural garden and research which plants to include. Even when the weather is cold and we don't want to be in the garden there is still work to do!

Happy Fall to all! Lisa Nakadate & Janet Dart

Interviews are in progress to select our next Statewide Program Manager. If you have missed the interviews, the recordings will be available next week. These can be viewed at the <http://omga.org> website. The website is a great resource to find out what activities are going on around our state, as each chapter submits reports, information on classes, etc. The 10-minute University class schedule has been released with classes beginning in January. Have you read the newsletter, "The Gardener's Pen"? The newsletter can also be viewed from our chapter website, <http://gocomga.com>. You will find the link under the HoeDown tab. Don't forget trivia Wednesday too! The next trivia class is November 15 at 6pm. Registration is required and can be done at <http://extension.oregonstate.edu>.

Karen Simonet, Central Oregon State Representative

The 2024 COMGA Board

President – Janet Dart
 VP MG Education - Tim Schindele
 VP Community Education – Cher Hinerman
 Secretary – Tammara Waterman
 Treasurer – Marilyn Clark
 Historian – Berta Keller
 OMGA State Rep – Karen Simonet
 Alternate OMGA Rep – Toni Stephan
 Appointed Positions:
 Membership – Deb Goodall
 Communications - Rocky Bessette

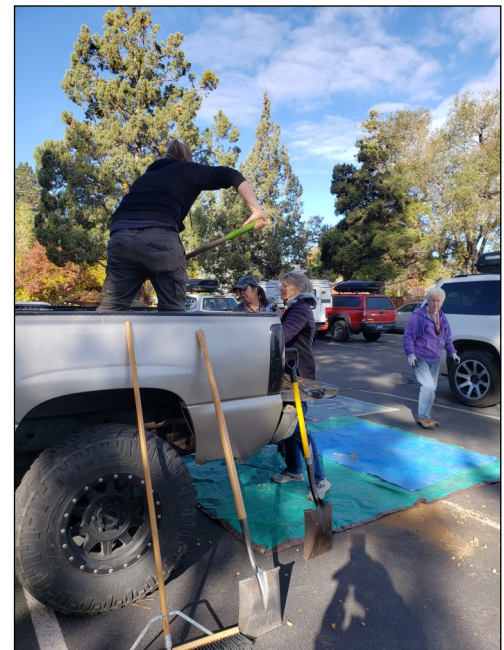
HOLLINSHEAD WATER-WISE GARDEN

The water-wise garden at Hollinshead is winding down for the season. We have had a successful year, with many of the garden plants fully mature. We had many committed volunteers who worked in the garden on a regular basis, both new trainees and veterans. Chris and I made many new friends in the process. We worked in the garden through October and will probably have one workday in November to finish up clean up and winter preparations.

One of our last projects at the garden was adding a combination of aspen rock and bark mulch to the native beds outside the fenced garden. We brought in 1 cubic yard of aspen rock weighing around 2000 pounds, and a yard of bark mulch which we placed strategically according to plant needs. Hardworking volunteers put the rock down one bucket at a time. Our plan for next year will be to add educational signs indicating why we used which mulch in each location. It should be a fun project.

We are looking forward to the winter when we will be finishing the water-wise plant database and making it available to all Master Gardeners and to the public as well. Have a great winter.

Pat Kolling
 and Chris
 Miao



LOWDOWN FROM THE BOARD

November 2, 2023

The meeting was held at the OSU Training Center and Zoom

MEMBERS PRESENT: Janet Dart, President; Tim Schindele, VP MG Education; Cheryl Hinerman, VP Community Education, Marilyn Clark, Treasurer; Rocky Bessette, Communications Liaison; Deb Goodall, Membership Coordinator; Nancy Glick, Past President; Tammara Waterman, Secretary, Karen Simonet, OMGA Rep, Amy Jo Detweiler, Toni Stephan, JoAnne Abbott, Vicky Kemp, Liz Anderson, Liz Douville, Jan Even, Berta Keller

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Janet Dart.

The minutes of the meeting held October 5, 2023, were approved upon motion by Marilyn C. and a second by Tim S.

OSU Report from Amy Jo Detweiler: AmyJo and Rachel are preparing for the 2024 Master Gardener training. The application deadline for Master Gardener training program is December 18 and notification of acceptance will be sent by the end of December. Classes will begin on January 17 and will be held on Wednesdays from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. with a 30-minute lunch. Classes will be capped at 50 participants. Information regarding applying will be posted on the OSU Extension website and on the COMGA Facebook page by the end of this week. Liz D. will promote the classes in her bi-weekly gardening articles in the Bend Bulletin.

The Statewide MG Manager search committee will begin the first round of interviews this week. All OMGA members are invited to sign in and watch the interviews by Zoom. The committee will also be asking for feedback from members.

BOARD REPORTS:

President's Report: Janet D. reported that the COMGA budget for 2024 was approved during the last general meeting on October 5. Marilyn will circulate it to the membership.

Trowel awards have been announced and will be listed in the HoeDown.

Janet asked that everyone return old swing-bars when you get new ones, so that they can be reused.

The board needs to submit pictures of themselves for the COMGA website.

Welcome to new Historian Berta Keller and OMGA Alternate Rep Toni Stephan.

Treasurer's Report: Marilyn Clark reported on COMGA finances, and a full report will be printed in the HoeDown.

The Discovery Park shed came in over budget due to additional expenses for gravel and locks. Marilyn C. made a motion to approve an additional \$500 to cover the additional expenses. After a second by Rocky B. the motion was voted on and passed by the board.

The Volunteer Appreciation Party came in over budget due to additional expenses for gift cards and ice. Marilyn C. made a motion to approve an additional \$500 to cover the additional expenses. After a second by Cher H. the motion was voted on and passed by the board.

Marilyn will include AmyJo and project coordinators in the monthly email of the treasurer's report.

MG Advanced Training: Tim Schindele shared the November report on continuing education opportunities. A complete list of continuing education opportunities will be provided in the HoeDown.

2022 and 2023 Spring Seminar webinars are now posted on YouTube.

The seed extractor tour was very educational and 15 people attended.

The Holiday Luncheon will be held on December 7. Entrée and drinks will be provided by COMGA and the rest will be a potluck. Rocky made a motion to use discretionary funds, amount to be determined, to pay for the entrée. After a second by Cher H. the board voted to approve the use of funds.

Community Education: Cher Hinerman submitted a report on planned classes and locations for next year. Report to be in the HoeDown.

Discussion was had regarding canopies. Cher will do research on pricing and come with a proposal at the next meeting. Tim said there is money in the discretionary fund to cover this expense.

Cher will post the year's classes as soon as the venue requests are confirmed. Janet asked that as soon as other event dates are decided on, please use the COMGA site to let the webmaster know and we can get it on the calendar.

Historian: Janet reported for Kris Knoernschild.

Kris asked for an additional \$200 to historian expenses. Marilyn C. made a motion to approve the \$200. After a second by Nancy G. the board voted to approve.

Kris will have a slideshow ready for the Holiday Party.

Thank you to Kris K., from the board, for doing a fantastic job as Historian this year.

OMGA Rep.: Karen Simonet. The OMGA quarterly meeting will be held November 3. The full report will be in the HoeDown.

Continued on page 6

LOWDOWN FROM THE BOARD Continued

Communications Liaison: Rocky Bessette thanked everyone that sent in articles for the HoeDown this year. She also thanked everyone for her lifetime achievement award.

She asked that when you send emails that need to be forwarded, please put what the email is about in the subject line.

Past President: Nancy Glick provided three Policies and Procedures for review and approval.

VP of MG Education – After a review of the changes, Nancy G. made a motion to approve the VP of MG Education job description and the motion was seconded by Karen S. The board voted and passed the motion.

MG of the Year – After a review of the changes, it was decided that additional changes need to be made and the board will vote on this at the next meeting.

Property Asset Inventory – Karen S. presented changes to the inventory policies and procedures. After a review of the changes, Nancy G. made a motion to approve the Inventory Committee Policies and Procedures description and the motion was seconded by Rocky B. The board voted and passed the motion.

ACTION/INFORMATION ITEMS:

Demo Garden: Vicky K. reported that the garden is closed for the year.

Hollinshead Community Garden: JoAnne Abbott reported that she and Tammara W. will be taking on the coordinator position.

Thank you to Kirsten Hinton., from the board, for all her hard work as the Hollinshead garden coordinator.

OPEN FORUM:

Tim S., Vicky K., and JoAnne Abbot will be meeting to discuss the June Plant Sale. Tim is preparing a survey to see what people would like to see us offer for sale, thanks to a great suggestion by Amy Jo.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Tammara Waterman



HOLLINSHEAD COMMUNITY GARDEN

by JoAnne Abbott

From emerald greens to russet browns, Hollinshead Community Garden (HHCG) is now closed for the season. All 90 "beds" sit, laying fallow, until the 2024 "season opener" in early April.

MANY, MANY thanks to Kirsten Hinton, coordinator extraordinaire for her three years of keeping us on track. Kirsten has decided to step away from coordinator of the garden to spend more time with her main volunteering love, the local VFW, and even spend a bit more time in her own beautiful backyard garden! She helped bring HHCG into the 21st century. She handled our gardeners with kindness but with ruling hands. She was not only the lone coordinator but simultaneously served as a mentor! Kirsten, you will be missed as our leader at large.

We also want to thank all the volunteers that helped in the garden this season. Mentors, assistant mentors, and volunteers at large, we could not have done it without you! As we have experienced, some of our gardeners have their own gardening "styles," and it was you, the volunteers who were there to help 'encourage' them to consider alternate paths.

Effective immediately, Tammara Waterman and I will be co-coordinators of the garden. It will be a learning experience for both of us. We hope that all our volunteers, mentors and assistants will return with us for the 2024 season! If anyone else is interested in learning more about HHCG during the off season, please feel free to contact either Tammara or me. We really DO love talking about the garden!

Until next season, have fun flipping through all the seed catalogs, and enjoy the winter, wherever that may be!



Master Gardener Advanced Training Opportunities and Upcoming COMGA Activities – November 2023

Starting November 1, we'll begin the 2023-2024 timekeeping year. That means any volunteer time you put in or continuing education you complete after October 31 count toward next year's requirements to remain certified. If you're looking for available opportunities to get in your 10 hours minimum of advanced training/continuing education or to further your knowledge of this fascinating and boundless subject matter, listed below are some options to consider. Also listed are upcoming COMGA activities that you can put on your calendar. Dates are subject to change. This will be updated monthly.

1. OSU Extension has the 2021 and 2022 Level Up Series presentations available to view at your convenience: <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/mg/growing-oregon-gardeners-level-series-2023> These are approved for advanced training and most are about an hour in length. Click the buttons on the lefthand side of the page and you'll be able to see the list of presentations for 2021 and 2022. You can register for 2023 classes and take part as they occur, or go in later to view them. The next class is November 14 entitled Pretty Slick: Using Oils for Pest Control.

2. If you missed some of the COMGA Spring Seminar Webinars, or want to watch any of them again, our 2023 Spring Seminar Webinars are now posted on COMGA's YouTube channel. The Webinars are approved for continuing education credit but you cannot claim the hours twice if you already recorded them in your 2022-2023 timekeeping How to watch: On the COMGA Website (www.gocomga.com), click on the YouTube icon

OR: Go to this URL on your Web browser:
<https://www.youtube.com/user/gocomga>
OR: While in YouTube, search for @gocomga and look for our logo.

3. COMGA Holiday Luncheon, Dec. 7. OSU Extension Office Bldg. 3 classroom, 11:30 am. More information to follow. Tim Schindele VP Master Gardener Education

Tim Schindele VP Master Gardener Education

The group who attended the Seed Extractory field trip



FIELD TRIP TO THE BEND SEED EXTRACTORY

By Tim Schindele

Thanks to a great suggestion from Kim Knoernschild, we had a field trip for COMGA members to the US Forest Service Bend Seed Extractory (BSE) at the Forest Service complex on Deschutes Market Road. There were 15 of us touring the facility on October 24. Our guide was Sue Manley, a processing technician. Sue talked about the history of the site, where conifers were grown on acreage which is now Bend Pine Nursery Park. The BSE only extracts native plant seeds from grasses, forbs, shrubs and trees. Their clients include the Forest Service, BLM, Reclamation, National Park Service, state agencies such as ODOT and OD Forestry and tribal entities including the Warm Springs and the Yurok. There are 8 employees working in the BSE and there are 8 seed extractories around the United States. We visited each of the 3 stations in seed processing: extraction, finishing, and testing. There are a number of machines used to "extract" the seeds, all performing similar functions, depending on the size/shape of the source material from stalks, to stems, to cones, to berries. The finishing involves sifting seeds and the debris through screens with smaller and smaller mesh. Some of it has to be done by hand. Debris collects in large barrels, much of which goes to the Knott Landfill where it is turned into compost. There is an air filtration system attached to almost every machine and the sound of rushing air in the ductwork throughout the building is ever-present. Seed size varies greatly. While no one asked what is the largest seed they collect, the answer to the question of what is the smallest seed they collect was a Juncus, a grass-like rush. The seeds are so tiny that a small plastic bag of them looked like dust to me. Some of the seed collections consist of just a few teaspoons of seed to thousands of pounds. Many of the seeds don't have a particular expiration date and the source material doesn't have to be processed right away. One plant that does need to be processed immediately, within a week, is sagebrush. It must have to do with the noxious oils in the foliage and stems that would degrade the seed if exposed to that for too long. The most high-tech method of testing the seed for viability after extraction is the use of an X-ray machine housed in a small room in the building. The X-ray will reveal if there is a live embryo in a seed. The percentage of live embryos will determine if a collection is viable or not. Germination rate testing may also have to be done. The BSE had perhaps a hundred containers of different sizes of different seeds from different sources all over the building. You might think each container would have a bar code on it to identify it. Not so. The system is all hand-written notes and containers with a hand-written number on a piece of paper, sometimes attached with a paper clip. I'm not being critical; they have a system that works, but it seems like it would take a lot of time to find something if it has been sitting for awhile. I would recommend the tour to broaden your horizons. BSE wouldn't let me schedule another tour this year but I'll arrange for one next year. Tim Schindele VP for MG Education



Discovery Park Community Garden – DPCG



Well, gardening at Discovery has come to a close for 2023. The garden endured some cold snaps but not enough to stop the last of the tomatoes and eggplants from ripening. Especially those in protected beds. Overall, our fall weather up until Closing Day on October 15, had been mild, and without an end-all killing freeze, veggies continued to mature. In the end however, beds were cleaned, covers battened down, and tools put away. Our donated garden shed

was transported and placed in the garden and it looks like it belonged there from the start. And it looks sharp with its new coat of paint.



Garden volunteers met after closing day to put on the final touches to ready the garden for the winter. It was sad to lock the gates and leave, but comforting to know

that the garden would be there waiting and ready for us to do it all again next spring! Next March we'll begin accepting applications for the lottery to assign raised beds that have been vacated. Anyone wishing to apply to the lottery can send an email to



discovery@gocomga.com with their full name, a preferred email address, and a phone number where they can be reached. Additional information will be posted on the GOCOMGA.com web page on or about March 1.

Wishing everyone a pleasant fall and happy holidays.

Gary Weber

MASTER GARDENER FRUIT, VEGETABLE & HERB CONTEST

by Tim Schindele, VP for MG Education

COMGA held what is hoped to be its first annual Master Gardener Fruit, Vegetable & Herb Contest on September 7, 2023. Eight participants brought in a total of 30 entries and there were ten other members on hand to observe. We had multiple entries of different apples, peaches, watermelon,

tomatoes, summer squashes, potatoes, peppers, basil, thyme, sage and other produce. Master Gardener Vicky Kemp, who has been a land products judge at the Deschutes County Fair for 5 years, was our judge. Vicky did not know who had grown which entry until after the judging was concluded. Entrants and observers gathered in the Extension Office classroom, where the produce was displayed. Vicky first talked about her role as a county fair judge. She discussed how she performs that role. She pointed out that a big part of the fair judging involves referring to the Oregon 4-H Horticulture Contest Guide. The COMGA contest did not have those guidelines specified but will include them in future contests. Vicky pointed out how important it is to follow the rules and guidelines. She said many entries are disqualified because the entries didn't comply with such simple guidelines as the number of samples of a specific type of produce there needed to be. It was pointed out that since there is no taste testing involved in these contests, it really is a beauty contest. Vicky said she does like to handle the produce to check for proper firmness and to look for imperfections on all surfaces. Vicky had brought in a sampling of vegetables from her home garden and discussed what to look for. Her produce was beautiful and there would have been ribbon winners in the mix for sure, especially her eggplant. While she disqualified herself from the contest since she was the judge, we will figure out a way to allow her to compete, if she chooses to do so, should she continue as our judge down the road. This contest was conducted with the ribbon winners being selected similarly to "best in show" at a dog show. We lumped all the vegetables together, all the fruit together and all the herbs together. Vicky then selected the produce from each of the three categories that she felt were the best. The 1st Price Blue Ribbon for fruit was a fantastic Sugar Baby watermelon brought in by Rocky Bessette. We should have cut that open and sampled it. Tim Schindele won the 2nd and 3rd Place Prize Red and White ribbons for his Honey Crisp apples and his Golden Delicious apples respectively. Trainee Jeff Johnson won the Blue Ribbon in the vegetable category for his full-size perfectly red slicer tomatoes. Jeff also won the 2nd Place Red Ribbon for his red potatoes. Trainee Laurie Eimans won 3rd Place White Ribbon for her cherry tomatoes. Only three herbs were entered but they were all perfect specimens and Vicky said it was difficult to rank them. Jeff Johnson's basil won the Blue Ribbon and Shawna Larson won the Red and White Ribbons for her thyme and sage, respectively. Jeff Johnson won three ribbons: two 1st Place and one 2nd Place. While Jeff wasn't asked to reveal his secrets, he did say that he has no trouble growing a garden in Central Oregon since moving here from Arizona seven years ago. He said gardening in Arizona was tough. Congratulations to all prize winners. All in all, it was a fun event. Thanks much to Vicky Kemp for stepping up to serve as judge, and thanks to all who participated or came to observe. Also, a special thanks to Toni Stephan for taking photos.

What's on My Bookshelf that isn't in the Office?

by Betty Faller

You may already be thinking about Christmas gifts for yourself or just want an interesting new gardening book. Here are three suggestions from my bookshelf.

I purchased *The Complete Practical Guide to Small Gardens* at Mini College in 2007 and still use it as a reference book. The writing duo (Peter McHoy and Stephanie Donaldson), cover the gambit on designing containers from pots to window boxes to hanging baskets.

Basics include the plan/design and measuring which helps when choosing plants and their size at maturity, something I often forget. You may want to create a design for a fence or a backyard wall. Ideas and great photos and step-by-step instructions are available so your outcome is rewarding.

We all have different requirements for our gardening space and this book makes it easy to design and create by color, season, and fragrance. Other elements to consider are texture, sun versus shade and all types of soil including our sandy Central Oregon soil.

This gem finishes with check lists as well as labor-saving tips. Who doesn't want a check list?

Here is another great read that isn't in the plant clinic office but you still might want to add it to your shelf. It's the *Wreath Recipe Book*, by Althea Harampolis and Jill Rizzo. I change the wreath in our entry to remind me the seasons are changing, today is special and good things are on the way. This book reaffirms that feeling.

You may never have created a wreath or a swag but this book makes it easier if you feel like getting creative. It has a section with photos and descriptions of tools you might need such as scissors, pruners, wire, or twine.

As a Master Gardener, you already know the anatomy of a branch and pruning techniques. Making a wreath or building a garland is another way to apply your knowledge. If a wreath is more than you want to tackle, this book is filled with simple ideas for small table arrangements, mobiles using twigs and your holiday swags. Another idea for your Christmas list. Hope you haven't been too naughty.

Lastly, but wonderfully written and so important is *100 Plants to Feed the Bees*, by The Xerces Society. The dedication in the front of the book says it all. *"This book is dedicated to everyone who tears up their front yard to plant big chaotic wildflower gardens, to farmers who think hedgerows and wildflower field borders are just as important as crops, to urban planners and landscapers who turn gray and lifeless concrete landscapes into corridors of biodiversity."*

I made this interesting book selection after listening to a Level-Up series on plants and pollinators. The book has

specific sections on bee nutrition, nonfloral rewards and other rewards that plants offer bees.

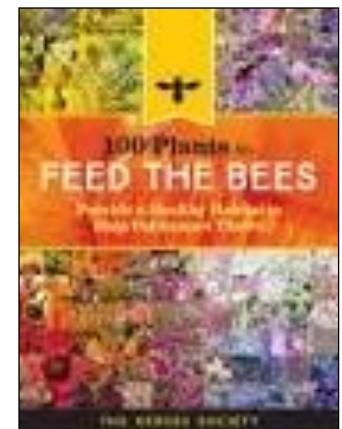
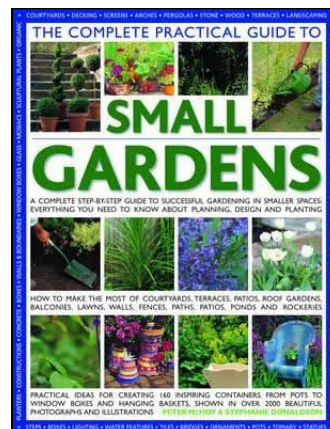
The **nutrition factor** includes pollen, nectar, oils and/or resin

Nonfloral rewards include honeydew, fruits, and sap

Other Rewards are the plants that provide caterpillar food. You probably already know from class that the majority of butterfly and moth caterpillars are herbivores that feed exclusively on plant foliage. Some are plant specific such as the monarch butterfly which feeds only on the milkweed plant. Some plants offer nesting, egg-laying and overwintering resources for pollinators.

Let's help preserve our pollinators by creating more landscape diversity. Native plants, which are adapted to our local soils and climates, are usually the best source of nectar and pollen for native pollinators. A list of plant profiles and the best use of the plant in your landscape is included in this book.

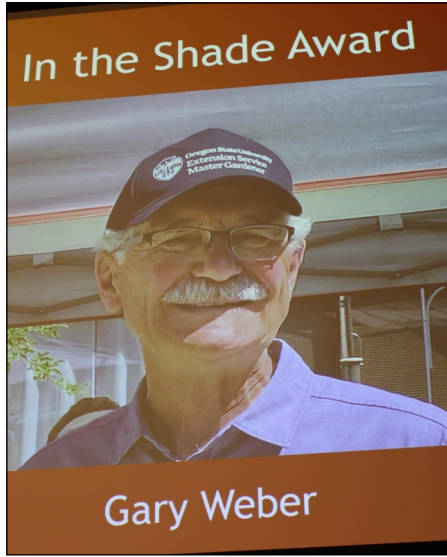
Hope you enjoy something from my garden bookshelf.



Recognition Night Awards



Busy As a Bee Award



Gary Weber



Kirsten Hinton



Perennial Star Award



Master Gardener of the Year



Lifetime Achievement Award

Winners of the Fruit, Vegetable, & Herb Contest

