

Coastal



Currants

Newsletter of the Lincoln County Master Gardener™ Association

JUNE 2016

President's Notes

The Master Gardeners Annual Plant Sale was an enormous success. People were blown away by the volume, quality, and low prices of the plants on display. Lots of parking and plenty of room to browse was also appreciated.

The LCMGA Board awarded an honorarium (\$200) to each of the annual awards: LCMGA Master Gardener of the Year, LCMGA Behind-the-Scenes Master Gardener, along with the nominees for State Master Gardener of the Year and State Behind-the-Scenes Master Gardener (if there is one). The motion was passed unanimously.

Updates

- A storage space, which measures 5 feet by 10 feet, has been obtained at Safe-Lock Storage in South Beach. A combination lock is currently installed on Unit No. L-4.
- The Lincoln County Fair will be held August 19 to 21. Plans are still being formulated for LCMGA's involvement to include an OSU Extension/Master Gardener table, youth activities, and a tomato tasting event (which was a big hit last year).
- We hope to have August 14 to 21 declared Master Gardener Week by the Lincoln County Commissioners.
- The Yachats Demonstration Garden is planning an Open House for August 14.
- Seeds 2 Supper Program – Eight people attended the teacher training with Oregon Food Bank/OSU. Ten students are signed up for the

class with a limit of 15 spaces available. Classes will be held at the Ridge Apartments in Lincoln City. Student books (\$10) will be supplied by the Oregon Food Bank along with a teachers' guide (at no charge) for the launch. The first class will be June 7 at 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the community room at the Ridge Apartments.

- Apprentices are hard at work on their projects at the demonstration gardens. The Yaquina Bay Lighthouse Garden (YBLG) is expanding to accommodate students from Yaquina View School. Those students will concentrate on pollinator plants, while the students from Sam Case will focus on vegetables. YBLG received assistance from the Oregon State Parks Department to clear the area around the garden and mulch. A pallet of Harvest Supreme potting soil was delivered for their use.
- The Samaritan House Garden tour is set for Sunday, June 26, at a cost of \$25.00 (\$12.50 for volunteer helpers). Members are encouraged to attend as there are a wide variety of interesting gardens in Otter Rock.
- The Plant Expo has been cancelled for 2016; and its future will be decided later this year.
- The Oceanview Demonstration Garden is rapidly shaping up and a pergola is in its future.
- The next Board meeting will be held June 13 at the Newport Library.

Donna Davis
LCMGA President 2016

June Activities Calendar

Activities

June 4 — 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Seal Rock Garden Club Plant Sale
 10377 NW Rand Street, Seal Rock

**June 4 — 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and
 June 5 — 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**
Mother Earth News Fair
 Linn County Expo Center
 3700 Knox Butte Road E, Albany
 Sustainable lifestyle event with 300 vendors and
 150 hands-on workshops. See website for price
 information.

June 13 — 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
**Festival of Gardens at the Connie Hansen
 Garden**
 1931 NW 33rd Street, Lincoln City
 Festivities include presentation by Carol Adelman
 of Adelman Peony Gardens, special summer plant
 sale, and tours of 5 local gardens. The charge is
 \$15.00.

June 17 — 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Through The Garden Gate
17th Annual Albany Garden Tour
Linn County Master Gardeners
 Cost is \$15.00. Tickets may be purchased from
 Garland Nursery, Tom's Garden Center, Albany
 Visitor Center, Nicholas Garden Nursery, and
 Shonnards Nursery.

June 26 — Noon to 5:00 p.m.
Secret Garden Tour
**Sponsored by the Samaritan House Homeless
 Family Shelter**
 Tickets are \$25. Gardens are in the community of
 Otter Rock. More information is available at
www.samfamshelter.org.

Upcoming

August 4 – 6
Heroes for Horticulture
2016 Mini-College Linfield College
 See OMGA website for more information and to
 register online.

Pollinator Plant Profile with Anne Schatz

Cotoneaster sp.



Cotoneaster is an extremely diverse genus in the rose family with up to 300 (depending on classification) different woody perennial plants native to Europe, Asia, and North Africa. They range in form from ground covers to small trees, evergreen to deciduous. Most flower from spring to early summer and produce decorative, generally red, berries in fall that remain through winter and really pop against the dark green foliage of the evergreen varieties that are most common locally. In my neighborhood, a large, beautifully shaped tree-sized specimen with arching branches dominates the pollinator scene throughout June and delights passersby and birds with the fall and winter display of berries.

Cotoneaster generally favors cool climates in USDA Zones 5-8, although there are exceptions at both ends. The evergreen varieties are largely hardy to Zone 7. These plants can tolerate partial shade, poor soils, wind, and coastal or urban conditions while still performing beautifully for pollinators and producing abundant showy fruit that provides a steady, if not particularly choice, winter food

source for birds. Sandy or clay soils aren't a problem, as long as they are well-drained. Once established, most varieties are fairly drought tolerant and require little if any, care.

Flowers can be singular or grouped into clumps and are very attractive to a wide variety of pollinators, particularly bumble bees and honey bees. A large plant will hum with activity when in full bloom. Although pollinators love them, deer generally don't.

Because of the great species diversity, it's best to do a little research on the best type for your application. There are ones that are excellent for pruning into formal hedges and ones that have an attractive fountain shape just made for specimen plants that look best without pruning. There are groundcover types that are great for inaccessible slopes (*Cotoneaster horizontalis*, *C. dammeri*) and some that are very tolerant of salt spray (*Cotoneaster adpressus*). Personally, I enjoy the taller types that flower in clumps because they attract more pollinators; and I think the clumps of bright berries look amazing.



One way of getting a variety you like, particularly when there are so many to choose from, is to find one you admire growing in a friend or neighbor's yard and propagate your own. Whereas birds are the biggest propagators of cotoneaster (when they eat the berries and spread the seed), most varieties can be propagated with softwood cuttings taken in early summer. Low-growing varieties can be layered and small, self-seeded plants can after be found in the vicinity of mature specimens and transplant very easily. In some locations, this self-seeding can lead to invasiveness, but that doesn't seem to be a problem around here. Extra plants are easy to remove and are something you can share with friends.



Overall, these are wonderful, carefree plants that effortlessly fulfill many landscapes roles while providing an ongoing excellent annual forage source for pollinators. When looking for plants to meet your particular landscape needs, strive to find ones that also benefit pollinators and there is often a cotoneaster that will fit the bill. Keep an eye out for the many varieties when wandering your environs to see which might be best for your own yard!

Anne Schatz

Anne has been a Master Gardener since 2008, is enrolled at the Journey Level in the Master Beekeeper Program, and is an avid pollinator enthusiast.

Spring Garden Sale with Cathi Block

I've been proud to be a part of LCMGA since going through the Master Gardener program seven years ago. I remember my first plant sale and being

fearful about so many things. Were the tags written correctly? Will someone yell me at if I didn't get them right? I was terrified that a customer would ask me a question and I wouldn't know the answer so I opted to hide (I mean work) at the help desk doing soil sampling. I was well trained that morning by a veteran who was by my side the entire day. My fears faded with each passing hour. It wasn't long before I realized....this is a hoot!

Having been in a field where organization and team building was essential, I had an inner desire to take on the task of coordinating the plant sale and when that dream came true, my vision was to reduce the fear factor as much as possible; make the event more fun; and the experience to be a positive one for all workers.



At the new facility this year it was pure joy to watch this event come together with crews of people who enjoy working together. Everywhere

you looked master gardeners were helping each other all day, every day, and through the end on Saturday. I'm in awe of our membership, and am so incredibly proud to be among such wonderful people!

On Tuesday, May 24, many of us met at the South Beach Community Center to talk about things that could improve future sales. I specifically asked the "lead" people to take on more responsibility. No one even flinched! Actually, everyone started pulling together already and making plans for our sale next year.

Once again, I am in awe of you! So I would say, "Let's do it again" and, by the way, the main exhibit hall is reserved for May 17 through sale day May 20, 2017!

Spring Garden Sale Highlights

Our annual Spring Garden Sale helps to fund:

- Scholarships
- Round Tables
- Seed to Supper Program
- Food Bank and more



Preliminary Statistics:

Growers:

- Herbs 18
- Natives 11
- Tomatoes 11
- Vegetables 19
- Ornamentals 28



Plants:

- Herbs 518
- Natives 192
- Tomatoes 734
- Vegetables 1,052
(Includes fruits and berries)
- Ornamentals 1,695
(Includes houseplants, trees, shrubs, and succulents)

Official sale totals are not complete yet, but word is that we surpassed last year's numbers!

Great job!!



Demonstration Gardens Highlighted

-michael-christy



Yaquina Bay Lighthouse Garden (YBLG)

The third of five demonstration gardens located in Lincoln County.

The beds are quiet now waiting for the slinging of dirt by the local elementary school kids to plant at beautiful location this coming June 6 and 9.



In 2015, we celebrated our 20th anniversary. This is not a traditional demonstration garden as the entire garden is a living project from seed planting at the Sam Case Elementary School greenhouse to final harvest and putting the beds to winter rest at the Yaquina Bay Lighthouse.

YBLG is an educational heritage garden that is meant to recreate what was



This garden is a collaboration between Newport's Elementary Schools and Lincoln County Master Gardeners, Oregon State Parks and Recreation, Friends of Yaquina Lighthouses, and local community support.



The garden is a historical and cultured gem in the community. MGs provide instruction to students in seed propagation at the school greenhouse and planting at the YBLG during the spring, along with a full harvest field trip in early fall. A nutrition lesson and tasting of vegetables grown at the garden is a welcome treat for the students, hopefully sparking a lifetime interest in gardening and sustainability.



likely a small-scale garden at this and many other lighthouses during the 1870s, when the garden would have provided a partial source of

food self-sufficiency to the light keepers and their families. Classes on plant science and nutrition are taught at the garden each season. Students are also taught food propagation and community service. Raised beds and a drip irrigation system have brought it into the 21st century. All the harvests from the garden are donated to the Lincoln County Food Share. Organic gardening practices are employed. Vermiculture was introduced in 2010.

Michael Christy

Michael has been a Master Gardener since 2015, and is the Coordinator for the Yaquina Bay Lighthouse Demonstration Garden, and an advocate for straw bale gardening.

June LCMGA Board Meeting Agenda

June 13, 2016

Newport Public Library

Call to Order (9:00)	Donna D.
Approval of Minutes	Karen J.
Treasurer Report	Emily B.
May end of month	
Plant Sale Report	Cathi B.
Scholarship Report	Dawn H.
Demonstration Garden Reports	
▪ Yachats Open House — June 12	
▪ Yaquina Bay Lighthouse Garden Planting Event	
▪ OCCC South Beach	
▪ OCCC Lincoln City	
▪ Oceanview Adaptive Garden	
MG Program Coordinator Report	Liz O.
▪ Seeds to Supper Program	
▪ Fair Update	
New Business	
Adjournment (10:00)	

PLANT SALE PEANUT BUTTER COOKIES

Shared by Jill Johnson at the 2016 Annual Plant Sale

1 cup Natural peanut butter

$\frac{3}{4}$ cup sugar

1 egg

$\frac{3}{4}$ teaspoon vanilla

In a medium-sized bowl, mix peanut butter and sugar until blended. In a separate bowl, whisk egg and vanilla. Add to peanut butter mixture and stir until blended. Form small balls and place on cookie sheet. Press with fork and sprinkle with sugar.

Optional: Add a few chocolate chips to the batter or Jill likes to press in some Toll House DelightFalls (milk chocolate morsels with peanut butter filling).

Bake at 350° for 8 to 12 minutes. Jill uses a sheet of parchment paper on the cookie sheet. When cool, they slide off without crumbling.

LCMGA Officers — 2016

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