

Curry County

Master Gardener™ Association

P.O. Box 107

Gold Beach, OR 97444

541-247-6672



**FROM YOUR PRESIDENTS** – Kelly and Debbie

"Hi, my name is Eleanor and I am a Rhode Island Red chicken. I'd like tell you about the special rental arrangement my roommates and I have with our landlords to help the reduce waste going to our local landfills.

You see, we really, really, like table scraps, leftovers (not moldy), and those juicy, inedible garden scraps. Now, lots of people would just do what's easy and dump this stuff in the trash or run it down their garbage disposal.

Do you realize how wasteful, costly and disrespectful this is to our planet (and the rest of us)? Now, I'm not one to run around like a chicken with my head cut off or squawk as if the sky was falling, but it's just irresponsible for humans, especially Master Gardeners, to ignore the problem when there's such an easy solution at our feet, even my gnarly ones!!!

Our landlords, Jeff and Debbie, are very diligent about passing along their table scraps to us (though they do tick me off a bit when I see some stuff going into what they call a composter). Anyway, in exchange for letting us live down the hill in our guest coop they built, we eat their table scraps and provide them with some beautiful brown, green, blue and white eggs. We also provide some especially ripe manure that they put into the compost.

All that compost eventually ends up in their garden beds, enriching the soil with high quality soil amendments and making more good food for them and great scraps for us. What a deal! So it's a great living arrangement we have with our humans. Maybe you should think about a similar arrangement. I've heard some of you humans have made deals with worms. That reminds me, I saw one of those tasty little hors d'oeuvres over there in the corner of our yard... Cluck on my friends!"

Here are some vital tips on food waste I've learned from others:

Do you know what is the biggest single item that contributes to our landfill? If you guessed plastic, bottles, cans or even yard waste, guess again....It's FOOD! Americans lead the world in food waste, every year 40% of food is wasted in the United States.

1. It comes to a staggering estimated 80 billion pounds of food every year that we manage to throw out.
2. To break this down further, the average American throws away 300 lbs. of food per person per year. That's a cost of \$2200 per household.
3. And to make matters worse, food waste has grown by over 204% since 1960!
4. Our landfills should be the last resort for disposing of our food waste. But unfortunately, most wasted food ends up in landfills where organic matter accounts for 16% of U.S. methane emissions.

Tips to reduce food waste:

- 🕒 Begin by buying only the food you need
- 🕒 Learn food-preserving techniques
- 🕒 Plan a weekly menu and shop more efficiently
- 🕒 Take inventory of your refrigerator and pantry before you shop
- 🕒 Learn to eat leftovers
- 🕒 Avoid buying bulk. 53% of respondents in a survey say they waste more food when they buy in bulk

Composting:

If you still end up with food waste after the above tips, learn how to compost. Simple composting rule: If it grows, it goes. That is, if it's organic in nature it belongs in the compost or worm bin, not in the trashcan. On my kitchen counter I have two containers—one for worms and the other for the outdoor compost bin. I keep lids sealed and remove waste frequently.

Ask yourself, "Are you a food saver or a food waster?" Small changes in our kitchens will save more food from landfills. Smart food shopping, food preserving and composting can have a huge, positive impact on our food waste problem!

*Partially based on an article by Christine Hall, Master Gardener, in the Coos County Master Gardener Association "Garden Thymes" February 2018*

Special thanks for Eleanor's perspective. She lives at "Chick Inn by the Sea" with her friends and roommates, Aretha, Tallulah, Zofia, Ava and Greta, next door to her grateful landlords, Debbie, Jeff and Bonny in Ophir.

## Curry County Master Gardeners Association Membership Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, May 16, 2023, 10am

Attendees (in person): Kelly Jacobsen, Debbie Richter, Jeff Richter, Michelle Arnold, Lori Phelan,

Laurie Lee Bartlett, Linnie O'Flanagan-Gorre, Ginny Knox, David Denny, Jerry Herbage, Cindy Meyers, Steve Meyers, Ali Van Otterloo.

Attendees (via Zoom): Debbie Carroll, Julia Bott, Jeff Hall, Tim Lyons, John Albi

1. Board meeting called to order
  - a. Minutes approved for April 2023 meeting.
2. Business Items
  - a. Co-Presidents' Reports - Kelly Jacobsen and Debbie Richter
    - i. June 20<sup>th</sup> meeting will be 10am at Riley Creek Garden
      1. Awards will be presented
      2. Breakfast potluck – bring a dish
      3. Bring a chair
      4. A coordinator is needed. If interested, contact Kelly Jacobsen.
    - ii. Summer Picnic – Will be at Linnie O'Flanagan-Gorre's home in Brookings, on Saturday August 19<sup>th</sup>, 1pm.
    - iii. Volunteers are needed for the information table at the Curry County Fair, August 26<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>. Julia Bott will check on details.
  - b. Treasurer's Report – Julia Bott
    - i. QuickBooks subscription is in process through TechSoup, and should be online by next month.
    - ii. Budget amendments approved:
      1. \$50 for presents for the 2 award recipients, to be spent out of Office Admin funds.
      2. Donations from plant sale, totaling \$650, will go into the Land & Building Fund.
  - c. Membership Report – Michelle Arnold
    - i. Many new members have completed the final exam and are getting involved.
  - d. CCMGA & OMGA Rep – Jeff Richter
    - i. Joy of Gardening is July 7 & 8. Info will be in the next Brambles, with links to specifics.
    - ii. OMGA dues have been changed from \$5 to \$7 per member.
3. Unfinished Business/follow-Up of Previous Assignments
  - a. CCMGA Banner
    - i. Horizontal and vertical designs were presented, along with a 20x24" high quality, indoor use, printout from the library. Action was delayed.
  - b. Richie Memorial Garden Overhaul
    - i. It was suggested that we do a band-aid clean-up for the fair, and come up with a plan for an overhaul with a purpose/theme.
    - ii. Volunteers needed to weed and mulch. Time spent tending this garden count as *education* hours.
4. OSU Master Gardener Program Assistant Update – Laurie Lee Bartlett
  - a. Laurie Lee will be out of town until May 29<sup>th</sup>.
  - b. Volunteers are needed for offsite plant clinics:
    - i. Port Orford – Wed. June 14<sup>th</sup>
    - ii. Brookings Fred Meyer – Wed. July 5<sup>th</sup>
  - c. Plant sale volunteer hours
    - i. Enter as *fundraiser support*, unless hours were at the plant clinic booth, in which case they should be reported as *education*.
    - ii. Number of contacts should be reported by the leads, everyone else should report *zero contacts*.
  - d. Reminder to enter meeting hours as *support*.
5. Committee Reports & Community Project Updates
  - a. The Plant Sale was a great success!
    - i. Gross receipts were approximately \$11,000.
    - ii. An email will be sent to members request feedback.
  - b. Future Demonstration Greenhouse
    - i. Grant applications are waiting for approval. We should find out by the end of June.
    - ii. Fundraising opportunity thru Pampered Chef
      1. 15% of sales would be donated to CCMGA.
      2. Action delayed until June
    - iii. *Presentation to the Rotary Club will be Noon -1pm, Wed., May 24<sup>th</sup>, at the Landing North. Lunch can be ordered online. Julia Bott, Kelly Jacobsen, Ali VanOtterloo, and Cindy Meyers will be attending.*

(Cont. p. 3)

(Cont. from page 2) Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, May 16, 2023

- c. Public School Education Gardens
    - i. Riley Creek Garden (Gold Beach)
      - 1. Garden has been planted, and needs summer watering.
      - 2. Jen with Curry Watersheds is leaving June 15<sup>th</sup>. Annika will be filling in until someone is hired.
      - 3. Discussed possibly supplying the summer cafeteria and having days open to the public.
    - ii. Little Bear Patch Garden (Kalmiopsis Elementary, Brookings)
      - 1. High School students helped clean up.
      - 2. Planting natives, strawberries and pumpkins.
    - iii. Brookings Bridge Garden (Brookings HS)
      - 1. Planting for food production, including veggies left over from plant sale.
  - d. Strawberry Festival
    - i. Riley Creek Garden on June 9<sup>th</sup> Everyone working at it must have the school district background check. Julia will send link to background check application out to the greater membership.
    - ii. Driftwood Elementary – Laurie Lee is waiting for an MOU. Background check required to participate.
  - e. Party in the Park
    - i. Anika is coordinating
    - ii. Theme is “Message in a bottle.”
    - iii. Volunteer hours will be *educational*.
    - iv. Jars with lids, and a kiddie pool are needed.
  - f. Curry County Seed Library
    - i. There are bins of seeds at the Chetco Library in Brookings.
  - g. Soil pH testing
    - i. New meter was donated by Dennis Triglia. An official IRS letter will be drafted by Julia Bott, and Michelle Arnold will write a personal thank you letter.
    - ii. John Albi has tested the new meter, and it is working properly.
    - iii. John will be making an educational video; however, this will be delayed by several weeks.
  - h. Volunteers needed at the fair in the Floral Barn and Land Products. Contact Becky Schafer.
6. Adjourned 11:30am

Submitted by: Linnie O’Flanagan-Gorre, Secretary



## Brambles Swap Meet

WANTED. For Riley Creek School Garden, bright color, exterior paint and primer to spruce up the trellises. Quart to gallon size. Do you have any leftovers to donate? Must be salvageable. Contact Lori Phelan at 916-719-0707.

STILL SPECIAL & FREE! Nifty, complete hardware and bracket kit with instruction manual for framing a 7x8 foot shed or greenhouse. Does not include lumber, sides or roofing. \$48 value. Details at: ShelterIT EZ Builder Storage Shed Kit 70087 - The Home Depot. Contact Michelle Arnold at 907-888-9237.

STILL AVAILABLE & FREE. Contact Jeff Richter at 775-815-4969.

- Large sheets of clear plastic from old Riley Creek School Garden greenhouse roof. Suitable as drop cloths or tarping. Approximately, ten 10x10 foot squares.
- Lawn edging or tree rings, vinyl rubber, 8 inches tall, seven 4-5 feet diameter rings, or approximately 70 feet total length.
- Used 3/4 inch flexible irrigation line (hose). Approximately 100’.

---

Got something you want to donate to a school garden, giveaway, swap, buy or sell? List here any tools or materials still in good condition that might be useful around the garden, orchard, yard or lawn. Send your info and pictures to Jeff Richter at [tahoejeff@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tahoejeff@sbcglobal.net).







May has been a busy month at Riley Creek! We are so happy to have the sun and nice weather back. The flowers are blooming and the kids have really been enjoying spending the mornings in the garden.

The 4th and 5th graders have been working hard at their garden stations; spreading bark chips, sorting worm castings, planting seeds and starts, and bug hunting! Meanwhile the 2nd and 3rd graders are getting better acquainted with the garden in order to prepare them for the upcoming years.

The 2nd and 4th graders got out to the garden to work on gifts for Mother's Day. 2nd grade created driftwood air plant holders and cards to hand out to special ladies in their lives, while the 4th graders at both Riley Creek and Driftwood were reminded of the importance of pollination and planted pollinator seed balls. 3rd graders were introduced to Oregon grass seed and loved creating turf buddies with some Mother's Day flair.

As the school season swiftly comes to an end, the annual strawberry festival for Riley Creek is set for June 9, and Driftwood for June 2. Activities include bug hunting, face painting, garden rock poetry, a gratitude chalk wall, flower potting and art, plus snacks! If you would like to attend as a volunteer or help us prepare for either, please reach out to Jen Sauer at [jen.sauer@currywatersheds.org](mailto:jen.sauer@currywatersheds.org). We look forward to hosting summer garden activities and a harvest festival in Fall!

As always, an enormous thank you to the Tuesday/Saturday garden crew that has been keeping the space beautiful and well-maintained each week! The garden is looking amazing!

If you are interested in volunteering in the Riley Creek Garden or the **Driftwood School Garden in Port Orford** for educational activities, please Annika Bratton (541-373-3050) [annika.bratton@currywatersheds.org](mailto:annika.bratton@currywatersheds.org).



Photo captions:

5th graders weeding and planting potatoes as part of their garden station activity.

4th graders planting the lettuce starts they seeded in March.

2nd graders enjoying the garden and working on Mother's Day air plant holders and cards.





## ANNUAL PLANT SALE – THANK YOU ONE AND ALL!

Our Annual Plant Sale was held on **Saturday, May 13th**, with set up **Friday afternoon, May 12th**. This is our principal fund raiser for CCMGA.

For information text or email Deb Carroll (541.254.4804 or [da\\_carroll@charter.net](mailto:da_carroll@charter.net)) or Ali Van Otterloo (925.788.6684 or [alivanotterloo@gmail.com](mailto:alivanotterloo@gmail.com)).





# LITTLE BEAR KALMIOPSIS SCHOOL GARDENS

Julia Bott

## Planting Native Plants to Support Pollinators

The students were busy at Kalmiopsis Elementary School Gardens in May planting native plants, strawberries, and pumpkins.

A goal of the garden activities is to foster habitat for pollinators and beneficial insects. Every class has some time devoted to insects. The gardens are full of lady beetles, roly polys (which are technically a crustation), spiders, and slugs and snails. The slugs and snails get relocated to a fir tree outside the garden and all other bugs are looked at in bug boxes and then released back into the garden. A student even found the first crab sider of the season in May.

Butterflies, in both the larve (or caterpillar) and butterfly stage have been observed by students in May. Butterflies were released into the new pollinator garden located near the classrooms on campus.

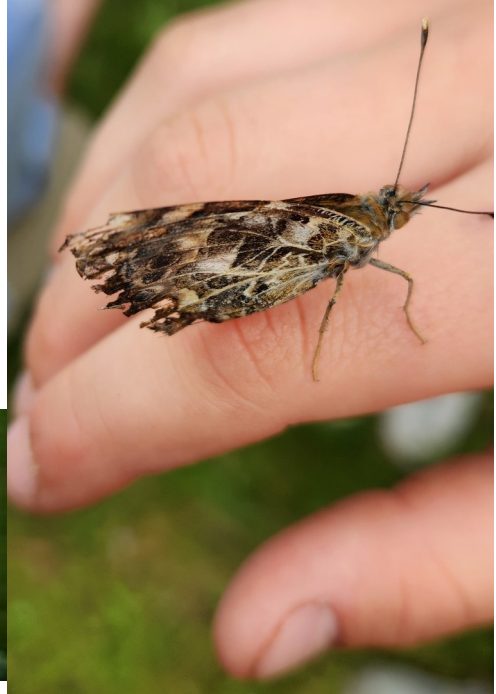
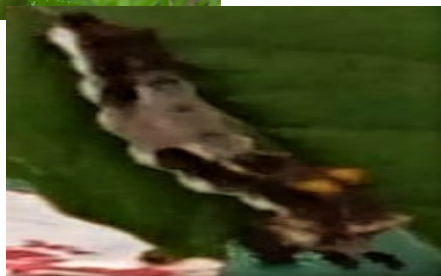
### Photo Captions:

Lorquin's admiral butterfly caterpillar has effective camouflage that looks like bird poop.

Butterflies are cold blooded so are very docile in the cool early mornings and are happy to rest on warm fingers.

Students leave the butterflies on a meadow-foam flower, so it has nectar close by when it is ready to eat.

A full car of native plants from Stillwater Native Nursery thanks to an OSU Farm to School booster grant.



## NEW MOTTO & BANNER IN THE WORKS

We're working on new banners for display at CCMGA events. Designed by Jeffrey Hall, here's a first draft that you're invited to review. We would like also to solicit members for ideas for a new motto. ("Growing Gardens & Gardeners" on this banner draft is one suggestion so far.) If you have an idea (short and simple) or recommendations for the banner design, please share with Jeff Richter, 775-815-4969 or [tahoejeff@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tahoejeff@sbcglobal.net) before the May 16<sup>th</sup> CCMGA meeting.



*It was June, and the world smelled of roses. The sunshine was like powdered gold over the grassy hillside. ~Maud Hart Lovelace, BETSY-TACY AND TIB, 1941*

*It is the month of June,*

*The month of leaves and roses,  
When pleasant sights salute the eyes,  
And pleasant scents the noses...*

*~Nathaniel P. Willis [The original poem is actually stating how June should be, but it just won't stop raining. —TG]*

*June comes, and ours is so green a world that we quite forget the all but leafless days of January, so warm and beneficent a world that we can't quite remember those zero mornings when the land was white with snow and ice. Now it is June, it is warm, it is summer... Robins have found their voices and brown thrashers celebrate morning, afternoon, and evening. ~Hal Borland, "The Green, Green World," A COUNTRYMAN'S WOODS, 1983*

*Tell you what I like the best —*

*'Long about knee-deep in June,  
'Bout the time strawberries melts  
On the vine,—some afternoon*

*Like to 'jes git out and rest,  
And not work at nothin' else!*

*~James Whitcomb Riley, "Knee-Deep in June"*

*Lay out there and try to see*

*Jes' how lazy you kin be!—*

*Trumble round and souse your head  
In the clover-bloom, er pull*

*Yer straw hat acrost yer eyes,  
And peek through it at the skies,*

*Thinkin' of old chums 'at's dead,  
Maybe smilin' back at you*

*In betwixt the beautiful*

*Clouds o' gold and white and blue!*

*Month a man kin raily love&mash;*

*June, you know, I'm talkin' of!*

*~James Whitcomb Riley, "Knee-Deep in June"*

## JUNE GARDEN TIPS



### Planning

- Construct trellises for tomatoes, cucumbers, pole beans and vines.

### Maintenance and cleanup

- Prune lilacs, forsythia, rhododendrons and azaleas after bloom.
- Fertilize vegetable garden one month after plants emerge by applying a side dressing alongside rows.
- Harvest thinnings from new plantings of lettuce, onion and chard.
- Pick ripe strawberries regularly to avoid fruit-rotting diseases.
- Use organic mulches to conserve soil moisture in ornamental beds. An inch or two of sawdust, bark dust or composted leaves will minimize loss of water through evaporation.
- After normal fruit drop of apples, pears and peaches in June, consider thinning the remainder to produce a crop of larger fruit.
- Make sure raised beds receive enough water for plants to avoid drought stress.
- Mid-June: If green lawns are being maintained through the summer, apply 1 pound nitrogen per 1,000 square feet to lawns.
- Central Oregon and higher elevations of eastern Oregon: Frost can still be a concern during cold nights. Protect young vegetables from frost by having row cover (frost cloth) on hand. Place over crops when needed. Use season extenders, such as walls of water, around tomatoes and other tender plants.
- If you want a green lawn, water frequently during periods of heat and drought stress. Irrigate 0.25 inches four to six times per week from June through August. Measure your water use by placing an empty tuna can where your irrigation water lands.

### Planting and propagation

- Plant dahlias and gladioli.

### Pest monitoring and management

- Use chemical controls only when necessary and only after thoroughly reading the pesticide label. First consider cultural, then physical and biological controls. Choose the least-toxic options, and use them judiciously. Some examples include insecticidal soaps, horticultural oils, botanical insecticides, and organic and synthetic pesticides.
- Central Oregon and high elevations of eastern Oregon: Manage weeds while they are small and actively growing with light cultivation or herbicides. Once the weed has gone to bud, herbicides are less effective.
- First week: Spray cherry trees for cherry fruit fly, as necessary, if fruit is ripening.
- First week: Spray for codling moth in apple and pear trees, as necessary. Continue use of pheromone traps for insect pest detection.
- Learn to identify beneficial insects and plant some insectary plants, — such as alyssum, Phacelia, coriander, candytuft, sunflower, yarrow and dill — to attract them to your garden. Check with local nurseries for best selections. For more information, see Encouraging Beneficial Insects in Your Garden.
- Blossoms on squash and cucumbers begin to drop; this is nothing to worry about. Cherries may also drop fruit; this is not a major concern.
- Monitor azaleas, primroses and other broadleaf ornamentals for adult root weevils. Look for fresh evidence of feeding (notching at leaf edges). Try sticky trap products on plant trunks to trap adult weevils. Protect against damaging the bark by applying the sticky material on a 4-inch wide band of poly sheeting or burlap wrapped around the trunk. Mark plants now and manage root weevils with beneficial nematodes when soil temperatures are above 55 degrees Fahrenheit. If root weevils are a consistent problem, consider removing plants and choosing resistant varieties.
- Control garden weeds by pulling, hoeing or mulching.
- Control aphids on vegetables as needed by hosing off with water or by using insecticidal soap or a registered insecticide.
- Watch for 12-spotted beetles on beans, cucumbers and squash and cabbage worms or flea beetles in cole crops (cabbage, broccoli, Brussels sprouts). Remove the pests by hand or treat with registered pesticides.
- Birch trees dripping a sticky fluid from their leaves means that aphids are present. Control as needed.
- Use yellow sticky traps to monitor for cherry fruit fly. About 1 week after the first fly is caught, spray cherries at appropriate intervals.
- Last week: Second spray for codling moth in apple and pear trees, as necessary.
- Continue monitoring blueberry, strawberry, cherry and other plants that produce soft fruits and berries for spotted wing drosophila. If these pests are present, use an integrated and least toxic approach to manage the pests. To learn how to monitor and manage spotted wing drosophila.

### Indoor gardening

- Move houseplants outdoors for cleaning, grooming, repotting and summer growth.



Have you seen the Curry Master Gardeners website?  
https: extension.oregonstate.edu/

The Brambles is posted here by the 2<sup>nd</sup> of the month.  
https: extension.oregonstate.edu/newsletter/brambles

The last Monday of the month is the cut-off date for  
submitting articles for the Brambles.  
Email them to Cathe Barter umpqua.bart@gmail.com

This is your newsletter, if you have something to share  
please send it in. We will make every effort to include  
it.  
Thanks to all of you who generously contribute to this  
edition of the Brambles.

### CCMGA Officers for 2023

- Co-Presidents ..... Kelly Jacobsen  
..... Debbie Richter
  - Vice President..... Cathy Appel
  - Secretary..... Linnie O’Flanagan
  - Treasurer..... Julia Bott
  - OMG State Rep..... Jeff Richter
  - Membership..... Michelle Arnold
  - Newsletter Editor..... Cathe Barter
  - Historian..... Cathe Barter
  - Past President..... Julia Bott
  - OSU Education Asst..... Laurie Lee Bartlett  
(541) 247-6672
- Leave a message at the Extension office (541) 247-6672  
to contact officers

The monthly meetings are on the 3rd Tuesday, 10 am to noon in Gold Beach, OR

[www.facebook.com/OSUExtCurryMG](http://www.facebook.com/OSUExtCurryMG)

Curry County Master Gardeners Association  
PO Box 107  
Gold Beach, OR 97444



In collaboration with  
and support of



Oregon State University Extension Service prohibits discrimination in all its programs, services, activities, and materials on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, familial/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, genetic information, veteran’s status, reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.)