

June 8, 2010

Hello OMGA Representatives and Chapter Presidents;

OMGA is embarking on a long range strategic planning project that kicks off in a few days. You may have seen this mentioned in the most recent Gardener's Pen edition.

At the June 5, 2010 OMGA Board Meeting I described the status of this project by introducing the current team members. They are:

- Nellie Oehler, Benton County MG
- Chuck Petersen, Columbia County MG
- David Rugg, Jackson County MG and OMGA 1st VP (will join the team after mini-college)
- Sherry Sheng, Clackamas County MG
- Gail Langellotto-Rhodaback, Statewide OSU MG Program Coordinator

The overall plan is to first gather input from the OMGA membership. Then create a proposal for change that will be honed during the remainder of 2010. We wish to begin implementation in 2011.

As you know, OMGA has four main mission statements as part of the Oregon Master Gardener Program:

- To enhance and supplement the Oregon State University Home Horticulture Program.
- To assume responsibility for performing special tasks and engaging in continuous activities related to the program.
- To promote a wide dissemination of information available as a result of University study and experimentation. Such information shall be in accordance with Oregon State University standards.
- To work with other gardening organizations to enhance gardening in Oregon, when appropriate.

I invite feedback and comments to these three questions.

1. What is OMGA doing at the present time to fulfill these mission statements?

2. What do you think OMGA should do differently in the future?

3. What barriers do you see that would need to be overcome to get us from where we are now to where we would like to be in the future?

Please send your comments directly to me. I will collect all comments and present them to the team at our first meeting June 21. They will be included with the brainstorming statements revealed at the recent OMGA Board meeting. However, feel free to continue to send feedback after the 21st. I know the Chapters are in a busy summer and some don't hold frequent meetings. *We will* have more planning meetings. I will provide updates to you via our OMGA website.

This team is comprised of OMGA members working for the better of OMGA as a whole. Thank you for your assistance in shaping OMGA to better meet our current and future needs.

Regards,
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