

Committee Role Changes

Rie Luft is beginning to step back from her role in the Stewardship Committee. Rie has chaired the committee for 15 years with unfailing dedication and enthusiasm. Under Rie's capable leadership, OYC has formalized its good stewardship of the land and water we enjoy. The Watershed Revegetation Program (WRP) partnership with the City begun in 2000 has transformed our Uplands into native plant and wildlife habitat contiguous with Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge and adjacent to Ross Island Wildlife Reserve. OYC has been a certified Clean Marina since 2009. The Committee also developed resources on the OYC website: Going Green at OYC: Decks, Gardens and Homes – Suggested Products and Practices for Shareholder Use, as well as a Suggested Emergency Kit. Rie will continue an active role as advisor in 2016. The committee will function with several subcommittees. Susannah Malool will coordinate the committee and its reports, assuming the role of committee chair as of January 2016.

Clean Marina Subcommittee Chair, Leslie Bressler

In late July, Rie Luft and Leslie Bressler met with Meg Gardner of the Oregon Marine Board environmental program. She has given OYC a three year re-certification as a Clean Marina, congratulated us on a job well done, going well over the minimum requirements, and commended us for our efforts. Meg also asked our own Leslie Bressler to mentor other marinas who might need help in their certification process.

The Oregon Marine Board provided OYC with individual "spill kits" and Leslie distributed them to each mail box. In the spring we will have the Clean Marina burgee flown under the flag at the bottom of the ramp.

In November, Leslie attended a Clean Marina workshop. Whereas much of the meeting's emphasis was on boat marinas, she did learn that the Oregon Marine Board has asked the next legislative session to: a) consider a fee for all non-motorized craft over 10' and b) to consider enforcement of the current laws for "live aboard crafts".

Pennywort removal continues. From Leslie, "Thank you to everyone who lets me know where a new crop has sprouted. And thank you all for your efforts in keeping OYC as lovely as it is."

For background information on Oregon's Clean Marina Program and OYC's history of certification, see the OYC website under Environmental and Resources.

Watershed Revegetation Program Subcommittee, Chair, Julie Morton

WRP Maintenance Renewal Contract

The WRP partnership maintenance agreement is up for renewal this year by the OYC Board. The Board and the Stewardship Committee strongly support the continued maintenance of our Uplands through the 3rd WRP Maintenance Contract (January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2020), the cost for which is divided into 5 one-year agreements that can be terminated at any time by either party. The annual cost to OYC will be \$2800 (a very good deal for our moorage). Our prior annual costs were \$2722 for 2006 - 2010, and \$2820 for 2011 - 2015. The committee believes that maintenance of our Uplands should be regarded in the same light as maintenance of other OYC facilities and infrastructure.

WRP Maintenance Tasks Undertaken in 2014

March - The committee met with Jim Schiller, the WRP supervisor, to walk through and review the continuing care and maintenance of our Uplands property. The native tree and shrub seedlings have

grown up and are adapting very well, healthy and thriving. Ivy, clematis, and morning glory are the invasive species that will continue to need close attention. Most other noxious weeds (garlic mustard and lesser celandine) are now able to be controlled with minimal care. Jim and his crew treated with a topical herbicide and, also, pulled/cut out Himalayan blackberries in the Uplands and along the riverbank plantings on both sides of the ramp.

July - Following another walk through, Jim and his crew returned end of July to pull ivy, clematis, blackberry, and morning glory out of native trees and shrubs wherever they could before spot spraying. The river bank was not sprayed because of 85 F temperatures in order to protect adjacent plants.

Next year in March/April 2016, WRP will continue to control garlic mustard and lesser celandine with spot treatments, on an as needed basis. Given the tenacious nature of Canary grass, ivy, and blackberry, Jim and crew will pull and cut them out wherever possible and apply topical treatments when necessary.

With the continued care and expertise of Jim Schiller and WRP, our Uplands continue to be in good shape with most noxious weed species being kept to a minimum. Native tree and shrub species are thriving. With the restored habitat of our Uplands, we now have an important wildlife refuge and should be proud of our partnership with WRP.

For background information on this successful partnership, see the OYC website under Environmental, WRP

Special Projects Subcommittee, Chair, Wendy Swanson

OYC Resource Guide

Need your windows washed? Or find a contractor who is familiar with working on floating homes? Or perhaps you need a recommendation of a house cleaner you can trust. Who better to ask than your neighbors?

Wendy is developing an OYC Resource guide and would like everyone's input regarding people or companies you would like to see included. Some of you probably remember we used to have a resource guide, but it became outdated. We think it's a valuable resource to have, so please send your contacts to Wendy. Include as much information as possible, including the name of the contractor, type of service, your name and slip number. If you would like to add a sentence or two about your recommendation we will include this as well. The list will include the slip numbers of who referred them so we contact each other directly for more information. You can leave the information in Wendy's mailbox, or email her. Thank you!

Emergency Preparedness

The committee plans to begin addressing enhanced emergency preparedness for OYC in 2016 in light of the public discussion about the issue in 2015. Meanwhile, we recommend reading and implementing "How to Survive Earthquakes and Tsunamis in Oregon" from Oregon Emergency Management. The OYC website also has emergency preparedness resources.

Wildlife Reports Subcommittee, Chair Rie Luft

Wood Duck Stewardship

This year we had several nesting pairs, one with a brood of 16! A large number made it to adulthood. We are so fortunate to have this beautiful bird sharing our habitat.

Purple Martin Stewardship

OYC had a full house this year, with 13 gourds occupied, 6 more than last year! Wow! All hatched successfully, with several gourds occupied by first-year martins, i.e. teen-age parents, for an approximate total of 58 young – an average of 4-5 fledglings per gourd. The martins thank our 3 landlords for providing housing. Their song and aerial acrobatics are a constant delight from April into September.

“Our” Green Heron Success Story

Once again, another juvenile was born and fledged this spring, its parents a Green Heron released as a juvenile into our back channel 7 years ago and its locally acquired mate! Several shareholders were fortunate enough to see either the young or one of the adults. *For the full background story, see the OYC website under Environmental, Wildlife.*

Yard Bird List

For those of you interested, the OYC “Yard” Bird List increased by 1 this year – a Common Raven - for a total of 106 species found either in our front “yard” – Holgate Channel – or our back “yard” – the inner channel, Uplands, parking lot, boat yard and entrance road. Joel thought he may have seen a Chestnut Chickadee in our Uplands and there have been reports of Mountain Chickadees in the Portland area - a rarity for this area - so keep an eye out. The distinguishing feature of the Mountain Chickadee is a white eyebrow set within the black head cap. *The full listing is attached and can also be viewed on the OYC website under Environmental, Birdlist 2015.*

Wildlife Sightings

A cougar was seen by several shareholders and guests in mid October near the top of our ramp. There have been two fawn sightings along with the return of raccoons. A humongous beaver hung out in our swale area between our fence and the Springwater Trail at the mirrored corner one evening, sitting on his haunches in a shallow puddle of water and doing his ablutions. As skunks have also been sighted, it would be wise to stay on the trail when walking the Uplands. And perhaps best of all, OYC was graced by the presence of a Great Egret for a week or so. Wild in the city? Yes, indeed.