



# MASTER GARDENERS JEFFERSON COUNTY

© Cynthia Elmore 2001

## NEWSLETTER

March 2012

### It's Spring cleaning time at the MG Park!

Hi Master Gardeners!

Despite our snow storm this morning, now is the time for spring garden work in the MG park and in your own gardens. If you haven't cut down your grasses or cut your rose canes to about a foot, and thinned your old canes out, now is the time. But save some energy for the MG Park this Friday.

Plan on a much needed work party at the Park this Friday, March 2nd, starting at 10:00. Bring your weeder tools, pruners and whatever.

Please let Judith know if you plan to come so that, if the weather is not accommodating, she can call you to cancel.

Thank you,  
Shirley and Judith 437-8049

### Inside this issue:

<i>Foundation Programs; Purple Tomatoes; From the Chair; 2012 Training</i>	2
<i>SGT; Kul Kah Han Garden; Tree Care Class</i>	3
<i>Agriculture with Dr Lewis; Grants/Scholarships</i>	4
<i>30,000 yr old plant; Y&amp;G 2012 wrap up</i>	5
<i>Heirlooms of Tomorrow</i>	6
<i>JCMG Board minutes</i>	7
<i>JCMG Foundation minutes</i>	8
<i>Calendar</i>	9



### Master Gardener Plant Sale

Tis spring and plants are starting to wiggle. The buds are popping out and the gardeners are eager to get dirt under their fingernails. This is just a small reminder that the Master Gardener's plant sale will take place **at WSU on May 12<sup>th</sup> from 9 to noon.**



The committee is eager to receive all your wonderful donated plants that you are now in the process of digging up. **We need them by April 12<sup>th</sup>.** The reason for the early collection ( except for annuals) is, that we want to make sure that all plants for sale will be at their best; sometimes that means a plant might need to be repotted.

The plants will be collected at the Foundation meetings, or on Wednesdays from noon to 1PM at WSU by prior arrangement. Please contact Candice Gohn at [cgohn@embarq.com](mailto:cgohn@embarq.com) for arrangement.

Please come join the fun on sale day. We need helpers to help set up the night before, in the morning before the sale starts (about 7am), during the sale, and to help put the tables away afterwards.

Send an email to [Barbaras8@hotmail.com](mailto:Barbaras8@hotmail.com) with your work preference.

Submitted by: Barbara Schultz, Plant Sale Chair



## JCMGF Spring Foundation Programs

- MAR:** Jim Trainer will be speaking on Heritage Trees in this area.
- APR:** This month Dick Schnieder discussing growing tomatoes followed by a potluck meet /greet for the 2012 MG Trainees.
- MAY:** Our very own Christina Lacie will give a talk on organic gardening. This is the class that was offered by Kitsap County Master Gardeners.



*Submitted by: Janet Mizuguchi*

### Purple Tomatoes!!!



Looking back upon Willi Galloway's Yard and Garden talk, this article on purple tomatoes might be of interest. All done with regular cross breeding, no GMOs. And a pretty cool tomato as well! For information and photos, check out this link.

<http://tinyurl.com/7amcauy>

*Submitted by: Bob Grindeland*

## Chair's Eye View of the (Master) Garden

By the time you read this we will have completed a very successful and well received Yard and Garden lecture series. It is important to note that the Series emphasized environmental and sustainable practices. A well done is deserved by Ali Dyche and her many MG helpers. And now we are on to other programs.



I hope you are working on items for the Plant Sale in May. I just potted up some peonies and dahlia divisions as well as some house plants. As I start my Spring yard clean up, I am sure I will think of other items.

There are many programs looking for your support: Herbie the Seed, Plant Sale, Secret Gardens, demonstration and food gardens, and don't forget Plant Clinics, etc. So volunteer and chalk up your hours.

Hope to see you at the Foundation Meeting, Roger McPherson, JCMGF Chair

## 2012 MG Training Begins!!!



2012 MG Training is taking place March through May. Trainees meet every Wed from 9-4. Graduation will be on May 30 with a potluck and meet and greet as well. Let's welcome them!!

*Submitted by: Sarah Fairbank, Training Chair*

### Extension Staff

Phone: (360) 379-5610

Dr. Laura Lewis, ext. 202  
WSU Extension Chair  
Master Gardener Program Coordinator

Sally Chapin, ext. 200  
Receptionist/Office Assistant

### JCMGF Foundation Executive Board 2012 Chairperson

Roger McPherson (360) 385-0175  
[mcp@olympus.net](mailto:mcp@olympus.net)

### Co-Chairperson

Janet Mizuguchi (360) 437-8128  
[rarjms@msn.com](mailto:rarjms@msn.com)

### Secretary

Linda Pfafman (360) 379-1782  
[lindapfafman@gmail.com](mailto:lindapfafman@gmail.com)

### Treasurer

Phil Meany (360) 385-7363  
[pmeany245@q.com](mailto:pmeany245@q.com)

### Board Members:

Pat Aniotzbehere (360) 385-1415  
[mzmouse@msn.com](mailto:mzmouse@msn.com)

Mark Clark (360) 379-4845  
[sonomarko@yahoo.com](mailto:sonomarko@yahoo.com)

Ali Dyche (360) 732-0433  
[alibruce113@yahoo.com](mailto:alibruce113@yahoo.com)

Mike McFadden (360) 765-3312  
[lelandlakehouse@wildblue.net](mailto:lelandlakehouse@wildblue.net)

Marian Meany (360) 385-7363  
[meany501@olympus.net](mailto:meany501@olympus.net)

### MG Foundation of WA State:

State Rep: Sarah Fairbank  
(360) 385-2346 [sarah@olympus.net](mailto:sarah@olympus.net)

## M.G. NEWSLETTER

Do you have an idea for an article in the newsletter? Book review? Do you chair a committee? Please submit all items, or events that should be included, to Ali Dyche at **360-732-0433** or via email at [alibruce113@yahoo.com](mailto:alibruce113@yahoo.com), by the **20th** of the month. Thank you!



## SECRET GARDEN TOUR 2012



Our beautiful Save The Date (June 16<sup>th</sup>) post cards featuring the art work of Rita Hollingsworth are printed and ready for distribution. They will be available at the last yard and garden lecture and at the foundation meeting. Please take a stack to pass out to your friends and to put in strategic places in your neighborhood.

We still need more garden coordinators. All our garden owners are delightful and this rewarding job isn't hard. Sarah and I pledge full docent participation from new class of 2012 so please don't hesitate to volunteer, thinking you'll have a hard time getting workers. Please contact Kris Burns [burns\\_cabin@olypen.com](mailto:burns_cabin@olypen.com) if you will help.

*Submitted by: Candace Gohn, SGT Chair*

### KUL KAH HAN NATIVE PLANT DEMONSTRATION GARDEN

KUL KAH HAN NATIVE PLANT DEMONSTRATION GARDEN . . . THE FUTURE...A SLIDE SHOW of the GEMS and JEWELS of the GARDEN . . . PLANTS and PEOPLE on **Tuesday March 13th 3:30 to 5pm Dept. of Community Development Castle Hill Mall** If you care about Pacific Northwest Native Plants for any of their many amazing qualities, please attend this meeting to help us decide the fate of this one acre botanical garden at H.J. Carroll Park.

Linda Landkammer, the designer, after donating nearly 4000 hours as Project Coordinator since 1998 (installing plants and pathways, writing grants, publicizing, developing a signage program, a nursery and a website) wishes to pass the administrative baton.

A number of committed people have recently moved away, taken on a full time job or gone back to school, etc. This opens the door for others in the community to jump in and move the garden forward. The desire is to expand the awareness, usage and enjoyment of all the garden has to offer. There are many opportunities waiting to educate and inspire various sectors of the community such as; landscape designers, homeowners, Master Gardeners, public and private school students, Garden Clubs, native plant and wildlife enthusiasts and more.

One possible track is to seek funding to hire a new part time project coordinator to support the completion of 900 ft of pathways, 250 plant identification signs, 300 ft of rockwork and the information board so the public can visit at any time and find what they are looking for on their own, even when knowledgeable volunteers are not present. This is even more important now that the new Watershed Stewardship Resource Center at the Jeff. Co. Dept of Community Development in Port Townsend has begun sending homeowners to the garden to make appropriate plant choices for their properties while following Low Impact Development guidelines.

Another possibility is to form a Board of Directors ( 6-8 people) each representing a different non profit organization that values native plants. They would meet 3-4 times a year to solve problems together, seek funding, find ways for non profits to collaborate and keep the development on course.

Leaders from the community, representing non profit organizations such as Master Gardeners, Native Plant Society and Audobon Society will be at the meeting to offer their perspectives and opinions on how to structure our future. The Watershed Stewardship Resource people will also be present. Please come and share your thoughts and ideas and be part of the creative problem solving process at this pivotal point in the Garden's course of action.

For questions, contact Linda Landkammer at [wild4@q.com](mailto:wild4@q.com)

### Free Basic Tree Care Class

Tal Blankenship, horticulturist and consulting certified arborist is offering a free class on Basic Tree Care at Jefferson County Library on March 22 at 6 pm.

Learn how to: - Select the proper tree

- Locate the best planting site

- Correctly plant a tree

- Care for your newly planted tree

## Agricultural Opportunities for Jefferson County by Dr. Laura Lewis

Join us at the Chimacum Grange on Wed, March 14 at 6:30 pm as Dr Laura Lewis, Jefferson County WSU Extension Director, will talk about Agricultural Opportunities

Understanding the agroecological landscape and how to develop best germplasm management practices will be the focus of this discussion. Most of the agricultural productivity in the area takes place on the east side of the Peninsula in what is considered the rainshadow region.

With the advantage of a maritime west coast climate that enables year round production along with low annual precipitation, east Jefferson County has a very unique agroecological system. The mild climate and ideal growing conditions have attracted many new farmers to the region and the agricultural sector is currently one of the fastest growing economies.

One important component of agricultural development has been the selection, breeding, and screening of novel germplasm for use in this geographically novel location. To keep up with the pace of development, ensure that farmers and consumers have novel products, as well as mitigate the potential short- and long-term effects of climate change and other economic and environmental disturbance. In-situ plant breeding can be an essential component of the regional agricultural system.

This talk examines the species that are currently being utilized to improve cropping systems in the region and their geographic centers of origin. Finally, there will be an overview of other locations that have a similar geography and how crop species from these areas can be incorporated into local agricultural systems.

Dr. Lewis has a BS in Agriculture from WSU and a PhD in Geography from UC Davis. "The majority of the work I have been engaged in during the past 20 years has been focused on issues of agrobiodiversity and plant genetic resources in traditional farming systems and how farmers can use diversity in risk management to maintain stability in production systems during periods of change." Her experience and enthusiasm has come from farmers and mentors she has worked with over the years. She was most inspired by Nikolai Vavilov, a Russian plant geographer from the early 20th century and "became interested in agriculture primarily because of perfume!"

## Grants and Scholarships



Those little daffodils peeking up from my garden in early February remind me it is time to update all the information and applications for our spring grants program. Our committee, Kathi Boyker, Diane Threlkeld, Susan McMahon, Sharon Commander, Joyce Knatz, (by phone) Jennifer Jenkins, Catherine Kapp and myself met February 20 and agreed on the new guidelines. **The only changes we made** were to increase the amount we would award, from \$1000 to \$1500, and to emphasize the importance to the awardees to include education of the public and measurable outcomes. For the scholarships, we also increased that amount to \$1500 and added the change from "one time award" to the option of the student renewing the scholarship if they were still in the required fields of horticulture, farming, botany or environmental stewardship.

This money available for grants and training are for Master Gardeners too. **Examples of projects we have awarded:** community gardens, educational programs, and short-term training. If you are a part of a community garden or have a gardening or horticulture project you feel will educate and benefit residents of Jefferson County, either call me for an application or download one from our web site. **The applications are due April 1, 2012.**

**One of our fall grants** was awarded to the Port Townsend Food Bank to redevelop a garden on the Mountain View Campus and build a large hoop house to supply fresh produce to the Food Bank. They also plan to educate the participants of the Food Bank on how to grow some of their own fresh vegetables. It has been exciting to watch their progress as they gain cooperation from other organizations, carpenters, and add to the money we gave them. You can follow their progress on their blog, [ptfoodbankgarden.wordpress.com](http://ptfoodbankgarden.wordpress.com).

They will have a Green House raising Saturday and Sunday, March 3-4, 9:30 to 3:00pm and we are invited to participate. Call Ellen Sabina at 207-333-7590 for more information or email her at: [ptfoodbankgarden@gmail.com](mailto:ptfoodbankgarden@gmail.com)

Shirley Williams, Grants/Training /Scholarship Committee

Email: [gswilli@earthlink.net](mailto:gswilli@earthlink.net) 360-385-2019 360-301-4087 cell

## PLANTS ARE AMAZING THINGS!!!

MOSCOW (The Blaze/AP) — It was an Ice Age squirrel's treasure chamber, a burrow containing fruit and seeds that had been stuck in the Siberian permafrost for over 30,000 years. From the fruit tissues, a team of Russian scientists managed to resurrect an entire plant in a pioneering experiment that paves the way for the revival of other species.

The *Silene stenophylla* is the oldest plant ever to be regenerated, the researchers said, and it is fertile, producing white flowers and viable seeds.

The experiment proves that permafrost serves as a natural depository for ancient life forms, said the Russian researchers, who published their findings in Tuesday's issue of "Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences" of the United States. "We consider it essential to continue permafrost studies in search of an ancient genetic pool, that of pre-existing life, which hypothetically has long since vanished from the earth's surface," the scientists said in the article.



Canadian researchers had earlier regenerated some significantly younger plants from seeds found in burrows.

Svetlana Yashina of the Institute of Cell Biophysics of the Russian Academy Of Sciences, who led the regeneration effort, said the revived plant looked very similar to its modern version, which still grows in the same area in northeastern Siberia. "It's a very viable plant, and it adapts really well," she told The Associated Press in a telephone interview from the Russian town of Pushchino where her lab is located. She voiced hope the team could continue its work and regenerate more plant species. But the New York Times [points out that the claim](#), which some experts say appears legitimate, could still be called into question:

"This is an amazing breakthrough," said Grant Zazula of the Yukon Paleontology Program at Whitehorse in Yukon Territory, Canada. "I have no doubt in my mind that this is a legitimate claim." It was Dr. Zazula who showed that the apparently ancient lupine seeds found by the Yukon gold miner were in fact modern.

But the Russians' extraordinary report is likely to provoke calls for more proof. "It's beyond the bounds of what we'd expect," said Alastair Murdoch, an expert on seed viability at the University of Reading in England. When poppy seeds are kept at minus 7 degrees Celsius, the temperature the Russians reported for the campions, after only 160 years just 2 percent of the seeds will be able to germinate, Dr. Murdoch noted.

The Russian research team recovered the fruit after investigating dozens of fossil burrows hidden in ice deposits on the right bank of the lower Kolyma River in northeastern Siberia, the sediments dating back 30,000-32,000 years. The sediments were firmly cemented together and often totally filled with ice, making any water infiltration impossible – creating a natural freezing chamber fully isolated from the surface. "The squirrels dug the frozen ground to build their burrows, which are about the size of a soccer ball, putting in hay first and then animal fur for a perfect storage chamber," said Stanislav Gubin, one of the authors of the study, who spent years rummaging through the area for squirrel burrows. "It's a natural cryobank." The burrows were located 125 feet (38 meters) below the present surface in layers containing bones of large mammals, such as mammoth, woolly rhinoceros, bison, horse and deer.

Gubin said the study has demonstrated that tissue can survive ice conservation for tens of thousands of years, opening the way to the possible resurrection of Ice Age mammals. "If we are lucky, we can find some frozen squirrel tissue," Gubin told the AP. "And this path could lead us all the way to mammoth."

*Submitted by: Ali Dyche*

## Yard and Garden 2012 Wrap Up

As I conclude my first year as Y&G Chair, I realize the extreme truth that the first go-round is always the bumpiest! An enormous, heart-felt thank you goes out to everyone who volunteered! I send a special, extra hug to Diane Threlkeld and Shirley Williams for all of their experience and support! The JCMGF is an exceptional group of people and you should all congratulate yourselves on a job very well done!!

The evaluations were wonderfully positive with many, many requests for each of the speakers to return and expand upon what they presented to us. Thoughts? I am also interested to know how people felt about the Art Bldg as the venue for Ciscoe and would appreciate the input.

I will be looking for committee members soon and welcome anyone who wants to offer any ideas for topics, possible speakers to invite and more. If you have any questions or would like to jump on the band wagon right away, please email me at [alibruce113@yahoo.com](mailto:alibruce113@yahoo.com)

*Submitted by: Ali Dyche, Y&G Chair*

## HEIRLOOMS OF TOMORROW

Recognizing that seed knowledge is being lost even more quickly than genetic diversity, **Organic Seed Alliance (OSA)** of Pt Townsend, trains farmers in basic on-farm seed saving, crop improvement and plant breeding practices that are grounded in an ecological agricultural approach. The work of OSA goes "beyond conservation" to increase genetic diversity through participatory seed projects with these farmers. Beyond the benefit of increased seed security, these regional networks of farmers also result in improvements in quality of life for farmers and their rural communities. We work with farmers through our Heirlooms of Tomorrow program to breed new varieties and restore older varieties for the needs of organic farming and gardening. These are varieties that do well without synthetic inputs, and that have broad genetic adaptability that allows them to be selected for local environments. They will stand up over time, thrive under organic conditions, and be worked with and handed down by farmers and gardeners for many generations to come as the "heirlooms of tomorrow". Some of the Heirlooms of Tomorrow varieties currently underway are our **Abundant Bloomsdale spinach, John Navazio's Rhubarb Supreme red chard, and Frank Morton's Hyper Red Rumpel Waved lettuce.**

### **Spinach, Abundant Bloomsdale (Experimental):**

The fire at the offices of Abundant Life Seed Foundation in August of 2003 was devastatingly sad news for all of us. The seed that survived was primarily that which was planted in the field that summer at our farm and the farms of our Seed Growers Network. At our local farm we had a mixed population of spinach, a cross of Winter Bloomsdale and a handful of University of Arkansas savoyed materials bred by Dr. Teddy Morelock. Winter Bloomsdale is an old OP known and loved by many farmers and gardeners. Dr. Morelock's materials were bred for good disease resistance - especially for overwintering. Our population had been started by our breeder, Dr. John Navazio, in his backyard the year before. When we harvested the seed in 2003 we decided to dedicate this breeding project to the history of Abundant Life, and so Matthew christened it Abundant Bloomsdale. This is not to say that this is primarily a Bloomsdale variety. The diverse parentage in the initial breeding population resulted in a wide range of plant types. We began to work with local farmers to refine this breadth of materials into a more harmonious variety. We are now in the fifth year of selection out of John's backyard population. Five different farms have worked with OSA staff in what has truly been a participatory plant breeding project. This is not a completed variety, but rather an experiment in progress. We hope to release it to the public in 2008 or 2009, but are making the 2006 experimental population available to you. As an experimental, Abundant Bloomsdale is still variable - you will occasionally find different leaf shapes, colors, degrees of upright or prone plants, and rates of growth. Generally, the variety is developing into a plant that is upright (to avoid diseases residing in the soil), dark green (for higher nutritional value) and rounded leaves, capable of handling overwintering in many zones, and also a good fall- and spring-planted variety. It will be hardy - a workhorse. We welcome your feedback and invite you to select your own favorite plants and save seed to breed your own and help us expand the Heirlooms of Tomorrow.

### **Red Chard, Rhubarb Supreme (Released):**

Rhubarb Chard is an old standby for many gardener and farmers. It was first offered by Burpee in 1941, a selection that their breeders made out of Crimson Giant Swiss Chard. Unfortunately, many older open-pollinated varieties get less and less attention from seed companies because they are not as profitable as hybrids. The wonderful smaller companies that still offer them often don't have plant breeders on staff to maintain the varietal integrity, much less to make improvements. In his years as a farmer and then as a commercial plant breeder, Dr. John Navazio saw this variety going down hill - losing its vibrant color, increasing in its disease susceptibility, and being more and more prone to bolting. He set out to restore it, and then to take it one step further and improve on it. Rhubarb Supreme has been bred for horizontal resistance to *Cercospora* leaf spot and Downy Mildew. It has deeper, darker, and more consistent red color than the standard red varieties with no white or pink striping. It is also more resistant to bolting. Full maturity in about 60 days.

### **Lettuce, Hyper Red Rumpel Waved (Released):**

This variety was bred by **Frank Morton**. Frank serves on the Organic Seed Alliance Board of Directors, has been a long-time educator at our field days and conferences, and was one of the founding advisors of OSA. Frank and his wife Karen ran a salad mix business for years, and then started saving some seed to replant for the next year. Well, one thing led to another and soon they were true farmer-plant breeders, developing exotic new varieties of lettuce, kale, mustards, chard, and all sorts of wonderful greens. Now, along with their sons Taj and Kit, they run Wild Garden Seed. We sometimes call Frank the "poster boy" of [Farmer-led Participatory Plant Breeding](#). He started off on his own, making selections and crosses and doing pretty well, and then began to work with OSA's breeder Dr. John Navazio, and Frank began to learn about progeny crosses and polygenic resistance, and boom - Frank is now recognized nationally as a leader in organic breeding, all without a PhD or a gene gun for injecting transgenic DNA into nuclei. Imagine that. He is an inspiring educator, an excellent plant breeder, and a great farmer. We'll call him a workhorse too.

Frank describes Hyper Red Rumpel Waved as such: "Gorgeous rumpel and savoyed leaves of an intense purple-red with puckered hearts. High scores for resistance to disease. 50 days to maturity." You can find more of his varieties at

[www.wildgardenseed.com](http://www.wildgardenseed.com)

Submitted by: *L. Katherine Baril*

## JCMGF February 2012 Board Meeting Minutes



**Members present:** Voting members- Roger McPherson, Chair; Janet Mizuguchi, Co-Chair; Linda Pfafman, Secretary; Board Members – Mike McFadden, Mark Clark, Ali Dyche; Non-voting member - Bob Grindeland; WSU JC Extension-MG Coordinator – Sarah Fairbank

**Call to order:** The meeting was called to order by Roger McPherson at 3:07 PM.

**Quorum:** Six of the nine voting board members were present.

**January 5, 2012 MG Board Meeting Minutes approved:** Ali Dyche moved, Janet Mizuguchi seconded, passed by a unanimous voice vote. A discussion ensued regarding the publication of the minutes in the newsletter before they are officially approved by the Master Gardener's Board. Because of the timing of the newsletter deadline and the Board meeting, approved minutes could not be published in the newsletter for two months after the meeting. The secretary will try to get a draft to board members within a couple days of the meeting. The Chairman has asked members to respond with their suggested corrections within four days after receiving the draft. A revised draft will be issued to the members as soon as possible. The chairperson's acknowledgement to the secretary will serve as a motion to accept the minutes. The secretary acknowledgement will serve as a second. The vote will be taken during the Master Gardener's meeting the Thursday following the Board Meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** Phil Meany, treasurer was not present. There is \$9,478 in the checking account. There was a general discussion as to procedure for reporting of finances. It was discussed to round numbers to the nearest \$100 for the sake of brevity. Detailed financial reports are available upon request. Mike McFadden suggested presenting an annual financial review in the newsletter with details on the website. Ali Dyche will work with Vicky to create a link between the newsletter and the financial report; leaving the decision of link placement to Vicky's discretion – i.e., on whether or not to list the financial report in the "members only" section.

**Yard and Garden** is showing a current income of \$4807 with \$4115 in expenses. There was a surprise charge for color copies that were purchased for one Yard and Garden speaker. After a short discussion, it was decided that it would better serve Master Gardeners to ask the speakers to provide their own copies either to the lecture participants directly or to a contact person working on the Yard and Garden series.

**Action Item:** Request e-mail addresses on the registration form for those who are purchasing Yard and Garden season tickets. Speakers will be asked to provide the written material before their lectures.

**Action Item:** a new Yard and Garden Subcommittee will e-mail these notes to the series ticket holders and later to day ticket purchasers who have requested the handouts by providing their e-mail addresses.

A **draft of the MG budget** was distributed to the board and discussed. Noticeably missing from the budget draft was projected income and expenses for the Plant Sale. Also missing from the draft was the \$2,000 allocation carryover from last year for a new computer to handle MG business (primarily the newsletter). It was decided to keep the grants at \$10,000. Mark Clark reminded the Board that it decided last month to ask Committee and Programs chairs to submit traditional "minimum required" budget numbers and higher numbers to be considered as ways to reduce the perceived surplus bank balance over a five-year period.

**There was a discussion regarding reimbursing** travel for those who are on MG business. Mark Clark is our County Representative to the Master Gardener Foundation of Washington State and Sarah Fairbank is the WSU extension– MG Coordinator and coordinates with Tonie Fitzgerald of the Washington State University Master Gardener Program. Mark has an upcoming meeting in Pasco and Sarah has one in Spokane. The chairman asked these two individuals to submit estimated budgets to cover their travel.

**Mark Clark proposed** that the outgoing and incoming treasurers work together in December so that the budget will be in place shortly into the first quarter.

### **Master Gardener By-Laws, Articles of Incorporation, and Memorandum of Agreement:**

Mark Clark has submitted a draft of the above three documents, but has since discovered a link with a Washington State Handbook for Nonprofits and needs time to review this document and update his drafts if necessary. The website's entry on "Policy and Procedures" was briefly discussed and it was decided to ask Vicky where this material originated. Mark will not be able to attend next month's board meeting.

**WSU Ext. – Master Gardener Coordinator Report (Sarah Fairbank):** Sarah talked briefly about the possibility of joining the FIELD Program (Farm Innovation Education and Leadership Development Program) with Master Gardener training or countywide workshops for MG continuing education and the public. <http://county.wsu.edu/jefferson/agriculture/fieldinterns/Pages/default.aspx>

**Topics for Workshops** were briefly discussed, although none have been adopted.

**The demonstration garden** at Sunfield Farm School ( <http://www.sunfieldfarm.org/>) plans will be reviewed in the next Board Meeting of Sunfield Land of Learning. There may be a change in the original plans for composting materials.

**Ex-officio Member of the Jefferson County Master Gardeners Board:** Sarah Fairbank requested that the MG Board create an ex-officio Board Member position for the WSU Extension Director. Ali Dyche moved to establish a non-voting ex-officio position on the JCMGF Board for WSU Extension Director. The motion was seconded by Mike McFadden, and passed unanimously by voice vote.

**Action Item:** Magnetic backs for Master Gardener badges will be made available at the next general meetings for the cost of \$2.00 each. Mike McFadden will supply the magnetic backs and Roger McPherson will bring chisels to remove the "pin clips" and the glue to adhere the magnetic badge backs to next Thursday's meeting.

**Adjournment:** Mark Clark moved to adjourn. Mike McFadden seconded. Motion was passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 5:10 PM.

*Submitted by: Linda Pfaffman, JCMGF Secretary*

# JCMGF February 2012 Foundation Meeting Minutes



## MG General Meeting:

24 people attended the meeting that began at 3:12 PM at the Tri-Area Community Center.

## No Treasurer's Report was given.

## Presentation:

A panel presented information on the **plant clinic program** at WSU extension and the Food Co-op.

MG Foundation Plant Clinic Coordinators would like to see at least 3 volunteers for each hour. Plant Clinics will **start the 1<sup>st</sup> week of April**. The coordinators ask that veteran Master Gardeners allow the 14 new trainees to sign up for the first time slots. Check with Beth or Barb about signing up for the Food Co-op Plant Clinic. Beth pointed out the importance of reporting plant clinic hours as these numbers will help WSU to secure future funding for the program. Benefits of this type of public outreach are that the public is given information that will help to maintain a healthy environment in a responsible manner and it will help to promote the master gardener program. The clinic is a joint effort and no one needs to be stressed to think that they need to provide immediate answers; you can always get an e-mail address or phone number and contact the person at a later time. Reference books, websites, and fellow Master Gardeners manage to answer most questions and can always send the question "up the chain." Master Gardener volunteers are limited to giving advice to home gardeners. Questions concerning commercial crop and nursery production, municipal parks and trees, pesticide regulation, human health and food safety/preservation topics should be referred to a WSU Extension educator. Demonstration samples were exhibited on the tables for the attendees to view and make determinations as to the probable cause of the plant problem.

## Meeting:

**Rosie Taylor from the Jefferson County Conservation District briefly discussed the upcoming sale at the Horticulture Building on the Fair Grounds on February 25<sup>th</sup>.** They are in need of volunteers to help bundle the trees (Thursday February 23 at 9 AM). One can purchase less than a bundle at the sale. Preorders are due by February 17<sup>th</sup>. There will be a truck delivering plants to the Quilcene Community Center that day with Southeast County preorders plus a few extra plants for sale.

**Updated renewal and pesticide agreement forms should be completed, signed, and returned to WSU Extension by February 15.**

**Roger McPherson briefly reviewed the MGF Board meeting minutes.** Unfortunately the magnetic backings for the badges have not yet been received so this project is postponed until the March meeting.

**Barbara Shultz is working on the MG plant sale scheduled for May 12<sup>th</sup> and asking for donations of gardening books and plants.**

**Candice Gohn reported that they are looking for a place to hold the graduation ceremony for the new MG trainees (class starts on 2/29/12).**

**The poster for the Secret Garden Tour is being printed to promote the June 16<sup>th</sup> event.** The committee is working with Vicky to see if the tickets can be purchased on-line.

**Sarah Fairbank reported that to date 4 volunteers have expressed interest in working on the Sunfield Farm Demonstration Garden. Roger and Sarah will be presenting workshops at the Whidbey Island Garden Seminar on March 10<sup>th</sup>.**

**The first work party for the Food Bank Garden at Mountain View Commons is planned for this upcoming Saturday.**

**Action item: There was a brief discussion regarding what activities are qualified for volunteer hour reporting. The general consensus was that this topic should be placed on the agenda for the next Master Gardener Foundation Board Meeting.**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Note: Post-meeting, 5 members of the board (a quorum) voted to approve the minutes of 2/2/12.

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda Pfafman, Secretary



## Schedule of Events

# March 2012



**Mar 1**– Board mtg 3:00 pm WSU/ Madrona Room  
**Mar 2**– Work Party, 10:00 am, MG Park  
**Mar 8**– Foundation meeting 3-5 pm, Tri -Area Community Center  
**Mar 13**– Garden Slide Show  
**Mar 14**– Agriculture Opportunities w/Dr Lewis; 6:30 pm; Chimacum Grange  
**Mar 22**– Free Tree Care Class; 6:30 pm; Jefferson County Library  
 MG Board Meeting - First Thursday of each month , 3:00 pm, WSU/Madrona Room

MG General Foundation Meeting - Second Thursday of each month, 3-5pm, Tri-Area Community Center.

**D**o you have an item for the Calendar/Schedule of Events? Please submit to the editor at [alibruce113@yahoo.com](mailto:alibruce113@yahoo.com), or call Ali at **360-732-0433**.

Committee chairs are encouraged to submit dates & times of meetings!  
**Newsletter Deadline: 20th** of the month.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Board Mtg 3:00 pm Half Moon	2 MG Park Work Party 10:00 am	3
4	5	6	7 MG Training 9-4	8 Foundation Mtg 3-5pm Full Moon	9	10
11 Daylight Savings Time (Spring forward)	12	13 Garden Slide Show 3:30-5:00 pm	14 MG Training 9-4 Ag Opps for JC 6:30 pm	15	16	17 St Paddy's Day
18	19	20 Vernal Equinox Spring	21 MG Training 9-4	22 Tree Care Class 6:30pm Full Moon	23	24
25	26	27	28 MG Training 9-4	29	30 Half Moon	31



WSU Jefferson County Learning Center  
 201 West Patison  
 Port Hadlock WA 98339

