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NEWSLETTER

July 2011

It's no secret that the 2011 Secret Garden Tour was a hit!!!



The 2011 Tour is a wrap! What an unbelievable day it was too. The rain shadow over the Toandos Peninsula allowed for clouds (no rain until 4:01pm) and the perfect photo-taking opportunities. For myself, the biggest take-away from this event was that people are willing to go to another part of our gorgeous county to see lovely gardens. We all are so lucky to live in this special area. I also loved the fact that people slowed down, wandered and really took time in each setting. There were guests from New Mexico who really wished to take home a Madrona! An excellent time to educate people on how challenging Madronas can be to transplant made for a great conversation. Every garden on the route had a special charm and guests kept commenting on how they had no idea these gardens existed although many have traveled by them on daily travels. Yes, this was truly a secret Secret Garden Tour. Many thanks to Janet Mizuguchi, Sharon Garrels and Diane Threlkeld for their incredible support throughout the Tour process. Also thanks to Nancy Villagran, Bob Grindeland and Hugh Musser for tackling our lengthy tour route signage. Not one person appeared to get lost along the route, job well done keeping folks going the right direction with new lovely directional flags! I really must say the biggest thanks goes directly to our garden owners, who worked diligently in the challenging winter and spring weather to pull their gardens into glowing exceptional places of beauty and serenity. To our garden coordinators, thank you for making this event run so smoothly. To our docents, ticket stampers and parking attendants...truly the tour would not have been such a success without all of you pitching in to ensure safety, educate folks on plant material and encourage all of those incredible smiles throughout the day. A special thanks to Suzanne Graber who tackled the important area of "what goes in must come out"... the food vendor Mystery Bay Seafood and the Goodman portable toilet were so very appreciated by our visitors. Finally, my special thanks to the Coyle Women's Club, who created handmade sweet treats teamed with warm beverages to sell to a welcoming crowd. The preliminary ticket sales is 380. Thanks to all who ventured out to my neck of the woods for a day in the country. I will not be able to run the Tour in 2012 as I'll be focusing on an upcoming building project. Please do call me and I'll let you know how fun and easy it is to pull this event together.



Submitted by: Kris Burns, SGT Chair

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Photo of a row of alliums in Kathi Boyker and Chuck Thrasher's yard.

Submitted by: Kris Burns

Photos from SGT 2011



Photo of Lesley Barron's yard. Submitted by: Kris Burns

For more photos of the 2011 Secret Garden Tour, please use the following link to take you to a site with oodles of pictures! A hearty thank you to Pam Roberts, our WSU extension Director for taking the photos and then setting up the link for us to enjoy them in a photo gallery!

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/4hnews/sets/72157626994873644/>

July Foundation Program

Due to lack of a Program Chair, or volunteer list, we are still in the process of putting together July's Program. It will be announced on the MG Listserv. We will be meeting on Thursday, July 15 from 7:00-9:00 .pm in the Spruce Room.

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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 via e-mail at alibruce113@yahoo.com, or call Ali at 360-732-0433, by the 25th of the month.





Chair's Eye View of the (Master) Garden



Weren't those Secret Gardens wonderful? I returned from my Vacation in France just in time to work on tour day and also view the gardens. We all owe Kris Burns and her team and the garden hosts/owners a huge Thank You. What special places they all were.

This is the time of year when all our gardens are putting forth their very best. Isn't our own Mary Robson Garden looking super. Shirley Wilson would love to have your help in keeping it that way, so please plan on spending a couple of hours out there this month and during the rest of the summer.

Just for fun I have included a couple of pictures of a French vegetable garden I saw at one of the vineyard/wineries. You could do this with just a couple of full time gardeners and a manager if you don't want to undertake it yourself.

Many thanks to our vice chair, Janet Mizuguchi, and the rest of you for carrying on in June. Hope to see you all at the next Foundation Meeting.

Submitted by: Roger McPherson, JCMGF Chair

A vegetable garden and orchard in Aix-en-Provence



JCMG Plant Clinics

Please take a day and join Beth and Mary Anne at WSU or Barb and Dan at the Coop or Mike McFadden at the Chimacum Farmers Market for a plant clinic. I hear there is a whole lot of fungi going around .

Please sign up on our webpage for the dates you want to help out. You will get 1.5 education hours and 1.5 clinic hours as well.

Plant Clinic times and days:

Tuesdays from 1:00-4:00 pm at WSU

Fridays from 2:00-5:00 pm at The Food Co-op alcove

The second and fourth Sundays, 10:00 am– 2:00 pm at the Chimacum Farmer's Market



Submitted by: Sarah Fairbank and the Plant Clinic Crew



Master Gardener Annual Summer Picnic!

Our annual summer picnic is upon us! We will be gathering at Mike and Joy McFadden's home on Lake Leland on Sunday, August 7, 2011 from noon-?. The date had to be changed from the 6th to the 7th so please don't feel confused.



As Master Gardener's, we welcome spouses, partners to attend with us. There will be a choice of salmon, burgers or hot dogs. If you're planning on attending, please RSVP Janet Mizuguchi with your selection. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share and your choice of beverage. She can be reached by phone at 360 437-8128, or email at rarism@msn.com. Hope to see you all at this annual event, and of the few times we actually get just sit, talk, and eat!! Remember, this will take the place of our monthly program.

Directions to the McFadden's:

The address is 288982 Hwy 101 at mile marker 289. From Hwy 20, go south to Quilcene. When you reach the junction of Hwy 101 and Hwy 104, you will have exactly 4 miles to go. You will find us on the right hand side, the last driveway before the park and campground.

From the east, take Hwy 104 to Hwy 101 turnoff, then south for 4 miles. There is lots of parking!

Submitted by: Janet Mizuguchi

Kitchen Korner

Hot Pickled Carrots, Radishes or other Roots



Are you finding yourself with more carrots, radishes or other root veggies? I did. I also found a great way to use them! One batch was baby carrots and one batch was radishes. I washed and trimmed the roots then placed them in pint canning jars with slices of jalapeno, garlic cloves and fresh dill. I then mixed a brine of three cups vinegar and one cup of water, bringing it to a gentle boil. The next step was to pour the brine over the veggies. You can then either place the jars in the fridge or process them in a hot water bath for 20 minutes. The pickles will be ready to eat after about 4 weeks. The longer the veggies are allowed to sit in the brine, the more pickle-y they will taste!



Submitted by: Ali Dyche



North Olympic Fruit Club



I've always wanted to know how to propagate the many plants I admire. If you're like me, then this is our opportunity because Sarah Fairbank is going to teach propagation at our upcoming meeting on Tuesday, July 5th at 7:00 pm. You'll be able to reproduce and multiply a number of the plants you already grow at the lowest possible cost.

Sarah has had her hands in the soil as long as she can remember. She's owned a commercial nursery for more than a decade where she propagated many of her own plants. Solving plant problems is her forte. She's been a Master Gardener for 22 years. You may have already met Sarah over the years at Master Gardener plant clinics peppered around our area. Be prepared to review a little botany and make some notes.

*Bring a small sharp knife and a limb piece with you to the meeting for some hands-on practice.



Submitted by: Judi Stewart, President NOFC

August is County Fair Month

I'M LOOKING FOR PEOPLE WHO WOULD LIKE TO WORK AT THE FAIR IN THE FLORAL DEPARTMENT.

Time commitment is minimal and it's fun.

WAYS TO HELP AND EARN MG HOURS:

August 10 and 11: Help with the process of logging in floral entries and displaying the entries on risers

August 12, 13, and 14: Host/ Hostess Duty: This can include any of the following, greeting the public, tending flowers, making garden hats out of PT Paper Mill wrapping paper – this is a favorite, helping children with a garden craft project, informal demonstrations such as dividing iris, planting dahlias. Or any other gardening activity of your choice.

The horticultural building is only as interesting as we make it. So please bring in your Flowers, Fruits and Veggies. Have fun collecting Ribbons and Premium Money for your efforts.

ON A PERSONAL NOTE:

I like to support the Fair as it is a community gem. It is also an important venue for 4H children, of all ages. This is their opportunity to showcase knowledge and skills they are developing through this leadership program. This is a very diverse group of kids with many different interests.

If you have time to work the Fair or have any questions concerning the Fair give me a call or send an email 379-9111 / ldpurn@broadstripe.net.

Submitted by: Dana Purnell

Bamboozled!!! I put bamboo on our lot 10 years ago. I've always imagined keeping chickens and a couple of milkers, preferably Guernseys, out there. So far, all I've had is a drumming circle, an enormous composting operation and the bamboo. There was Timber, Arrow, Golden and Black. It was beautiful! Sarah Fairbank warned me, that I would be sorry. I snapped back at her that I would not be sorry and to not tell me what is good horticulture and what is not!!!



Permaculture experts love bamboo! As they explain, one can build houses, fences, furniture and shades with it. Cloth, paper and valuable biomass can be produced from it. You can even eat it! The Chinese that it is both strong and flexible, and thus, embodies a spiritual paradox. All are good things. For my part, I wanted a living privacy screen as our front room is fish bowl-ish, plus, I love the sound of it in the wind!

The bamboo grew and grew. I provided canes for staking plants and building deer barriers to half of Pt Townsend! We built a Tiki hut for sitting in the shade and reading, I gave starts to various plant sales and I had it in pots on the patio where it looked homey and sophisticated at the same time.

Not one to readily admit that I was wrong, and possessing debate team training which causes me to rationalize and justify almost any position I take, I was reluctant to say that Sarah was right. However, it was becoming apparent that my little slice of permaculture was rapidly becoming Little Cambodia! I was having nightmares that I would wake up and the garage would be 8 inches off the ground having been pushed up by bamboo in the night! I had postponed things long enough, last week a professional with a back hoe and \$600 took care of the problem! It's wise to listen when Sarah makes a suggestion!

Submitted by: Susan Ambrosius

The Price of Liberty: Weeds

By Richard Mabey

As the United States celebrates the Fourth of July, perhaps we English finally should let you in on a little secret. You didn't quite win total independence: we left behind a covert occupation force, in the shape of our weeds, which rapidly became your weeds, pesky and persistent.

They came as stowaways in those first shiploads of cattle and seed corn and none-too-hygienic European settlers. The New World's ancient landscapes, unused to gung-ho farmers and trampling cattle, didn't stand a chance. As East Coast forests were cleared, a riot of foreign weeds — dandelion, groundsel, dock — took over, promptly followed by European grasses. It came as a shock to me to discover that Kentucky bluegrass — which I'd thought as American as the haze over the Appalachians — was none other than our backyard meadow grass, which assuredly never looks blue under our gray skies.

While we're at it, I should apologize for our Charles Darwin, who made a joke in rather poor taste at the expense of his friend the American botanist Asa Gray. "Does it not hurt your Yankee pride," he asked, "that we thrash you so confoundedly? I am sure Mrs. Gray will stick up for your weeds. Ask her if they are not more honest, downright good sort of weeds." (Mrs. Gray's reply was impeccable: American weeds, she said, were "modest, woodland, retiring things; and no match for the intrusive, pretentious, self-asserting foreigners.") But this intrusive colonialism is of course the weeds' way. They wouldn't be the plants they are if they were not assertive, hugely adaptable, cosmopolitan. They've tagged onto the coattails of global trade, agricultural adventure and gardening fashion, so that there is no real sense in which a weed can be said anymore to "belong" to any one nation. They are citizens of the world — or at least of the world of frenzied environmental disturbance that humans spin around themselves. I find it oddly comforting to see familiar home weeds like bindweed and bracken in Manhattan back lots. Perhaps Americans feel similarly pleased to find North American fleabane (whose seeds are thought to have ended up in Europe inside a stuffed bird) flourishing on the stonework around the Bank of England. The commonest city weeds are now virtually identical across the planet. They seem to have the botanical right stuff for urban environments: streetwise and opportunistic, resilient fillers of metropolitan dead spaces.

But it would be stretching our "special relationship" too far to suggest that our shared weeds make up a kind of agreeable green commonwealth. Vagabond plants can change their behavior dramatically when taken away from their native habitats, and all their traditional predators and constraints. In Britain the magenta sprays of purple loosestrife have made it one of our best-loved riverside flowers. It's elegant and well behaved and knows its place. It figures in the margins of John Everett Millais's unforgettable [painting of a floating Ophelia](#), Hamlet's rejected love interest, before she drowns. But it was inadvertently introduced to United States shorelines with dumped ships' ballast in the early 19th century and has become quite a different character, monolithic and invasive.

This is not, of course, the fault of the weeds. From the Japanese knotweed that jumped the walls of big country houses to become Britain's most notorious plant demon to the casually ditched aquarium plants now suffocating Florida's lakes and rivers, we create our own weed nuisances. This has been true since the very beginnings of civilization. We've opened opportunities for a whole range of adaptable plant species to gate-crash our ordered lives by the reckless way we treat the earth. It's time, I think, for a new perspective on them, for a curiosity about why they are there and a more critical view of our own role in their fortunes.

And it's here, I feel, that American attitudes toward weeds have a lot to teach us Europeans. I learned the strict protocol of poison ivy recognition and respect from a farmer in Maryland — a mantra for which there is no equivalent for any of our toxic weeds. I've enjoyed the conspiracy theories and black jokes about kudzu vine in the South. ("Shut your windows at night.") I give thanks for Thoreau's "Bean-Field" essay in "Walden," the best literary defense of the ecological role of weeds. And for the incomparable Euell Gibbons, whose books revived weed foraging in Britain. All these approaches seem to me to accept that weeds are part of creation too, and that we need to find a way of living with them.

Richard Mabey is the author of "Weeds: In Defense of Nature's Most Unloved Plants"

Submitted by: Mark Clark

JCMGF June Board Meeting

Jefferson County Master Gardener Foundation Board Meeting Minutes of June 2, 2011

Members Present: Janet Mizuguchi, Co-Chair; Kathi Boyker, Treasurer; Mike McFadden, Board Member; Hugh Musser, Board Member and Marian Meany, Board Member.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM by Janet Mizuguchi.

Quorum: A quorum was present.

Minutes of the Previous Board Meeting: Minutes of the May 5, 2011 Board Meeting were presented. Marian Meany made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mike McFadden and approved by unanimous voice vote.

Treasurer's Report: Kathi Boyker presented her report as to how much money was spent in May and noted that the spring grant disbursements were included in these figures. Mike McFadden made a motion to approve the report as presented, seconded by Marian Meany and approved by unanimous voice vote.

Old Business:

MG List Server: After considerable discussion, it was decided that this subject can be dropped. We should support WSU and if a person doesn't wish to receive messages from the List Server, they can opt out or use their "delete" button. MGs have been reminded that the List Server will not be used for personal interests.

Monthly Meeting Topics: No one has stepped up to replace Clara Mason as the Program Chairman. Ali Dyche had suggested that instead of one person arranging for all the programs, one person per month could sign up similar to the refreshment committee. After considerable discussion it was decided to approach the general membership in next week's Foundation meeting as a "round robin discussion" to see what topics they would be interested in and also what topics they wouldn't be interested in. Also, perhaps two people could do it per month vs one. At the end of the "round robin" discussion, the topic submitter could be asked if they would do it for a month.

Committee Reports:

2011 Training Committee: Sarah Fairbank requested that she be put on the July Foundation Board Agenda for a training report to include the budget. She will also bring along the 2011 Class Representative.

Secret Garden Committee: Everything is on track.

Yard and Garden Series: Ali Dyche submitted her report by e-mail because she has the flu. The contract for the fairgrounds to host Ciscoe Morris on February 25 has been signed. She has realigned the lectures so that Ciscoe Morris is the last lecturer. Ali will need to clarify to the Board as to how season tickets will be sold.

New Business:

Seeds for Thought is a quarterly newsletter for the State Master Gardener Foundation. They are soliciting content from local Master Gardener foundations and programs. It was discussed that Diane Threlkeld send them a copy of articles that are being published in the Leader. Janet Mizuguchi will discuss this at next week's foundation meeting.

Summer Picnic: The Summer Picnic will be on August 6th at Mike McFadden's home. He will provide the grills and will also do the grilling. Food will consist of MG provided hot dogs, hamburgers and salmon. Members need to RSVP Janet Mizuguchi with their food preference and they will also need to bring a pot luck item. Janet will announce the picnic date at next week's Foundation Meeting and Ali Dyche will be requested to put it in the Newsletter.

Advance Training vs Continuing Education: After considerable discussion, it was determined that when reporting education hours, there was no distinction as to whether it was "advance" training or "continuing" education, therefore, continue on as we've always done.

2011 Class representation to the Board: Sarah Fairbank will bring the new representative to the July Board Meeting.

MG County Program Survey: Tony Fitzgerald has sent Sarah Fairbank a 2011 MG County Program Survey. Upon review of the questions that were identified on the survey, it was determined that between Kathi Boyker and Sarah Fairbank, they would answer most of them. If a question doesn't pertain to us, they will put in N/A. Since it didn't have a due date, it is assumed it will be October 1st.

Marian Meany suggested we have more information available regarding our changing climate environment. After discussing this subject it was determined that if someone had information to share on climate change, they could bring it up at our Foundation meetings. WSU has many programs that might be appropriate for future education opportunities.

Announcements:

Mike McFadden said that we are locked in for a booth at the Quilcene Fair and it would cost \$25.00 vice \$35.00. He will have grant applications, information regarding the 2012 Yard and Garden Series and information regarding the MG Program at the Quilcene Fair. He said we need to get more South County participants involved in our programs. When he conducted a Plant Clinic at the Quilcene Plant Sale he had about 23 participants. He gave out Noxious Weed Pamphlets.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 PM.

Submitted by: Ora Hickman, JCMGF Secretary

JCMG Foundation General Meeting

JEFFERSON COUNTY MASTER GARDENER FOUNDATION GENERAL MEETING REPORT, JUNE 9, 2011

Presentation: There was a plant exchange.

Meeting: There were a total of 17 MGs attending the meeting which began at 7:00 PM.

Treasurer's Report: Kathi Boyker was not present. Janet Mizuguchi indicated that Kathi had submitted her report to the Board and that over \$6,000 has been spent in expenses and that everything was going well.

New Business:

Monthly Meeting Topics: Since there is no one in charge of training for the Foundation Meetings, Janet asked for ideas and passed around a list for possible topics. Some of the topics discussed were: conduct exercises that were done in the MG Intern training; Farm to School Coalition; Ethno Botany; group garden design and medicinal plants.

Seeds for Thought Quarterly WSU Newsletter: Janet explained that the State Master Gardener Foundation was soliciting content from local Master Gardener Foundations and programs. It has been suggested that Diane Threlkeld send them articles that have been published in the Leader.

Summer Picnic: There will not be a monthly meeting in August. The picnic will be held on August 6th at Mike McFadden's home. The exact time and directions will be published in the near future. Hot dogs, hamburgers and salmon will be provided; members will bring a side dish. Members need to RSVP Janet with their food preference so we will have enough food.

Committee Reports:

Training: Sarah Fairbank said Intern training has been completed and she hoped the Committee Chairs were pleased with the Interns work.

Secret Garden: The pre-tour will be held on Saturday, June 11th. Attendees should meet at the Information Center located at Highway 104 and Beaver Valley/Highway 19 at 9:30 AM to form carpools. Kathi Boyker's garden (Garden #3) will be last one to visit in order to allow her to host a pot luck. Parking for her tour will be located at the water tower near her gate. Participants are expected to walk to her garden. Her husband Chuck will have a car available to transport food.

Yard and Garden: Ali Dyche was absent but has reported that Ciscoe Morris will be the last speaker of the series and his lecture will be held at the Fair Grounds.

Snack Committee: Marian Meany said that she needs more volunteers to bring snacks for the months of July, September, October and November. She also said she routinely calls to remind people to bring snacks and when she leaves a message, she doesn't get a response. She wants notification if you can't bring refreshments for some reason so she can find a substitute. She passed the sign-up sheet out to the members.

Announcements:

Dana Purnell brought up that she needs volunteers for the Jefferson County Fair. In particular she needs volunteers on August 10th and 11th to enter and record flowers/plants. On the 12th, 13th and 14th of August she needs hostesses on duty to greet people, answer questions and possibly provide demonstrations. There will also be an area for children who will make lavender sachets. She reminded members that you can earn MG hours by working at the Fair. She passed out a sign-up sheet for volunteers.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Submitted by: Ora Hickman, JCMGF Secretary

Schedule of Events

July 2011

July 8– Board mtg

July 15-- Foundation mtg

MG Board Meeting - First Thursday of each month, 3:00 pm, WSU Madrone Room

MG General Foundation Meeting - Second Thursday of each month, 3-5pm , WSU/Spruce Room

Do you have an item for the Calendar/Schedule of Events? Please submit to the editor at burns_cabin@olympen.com, or call Kris at 360-765-4224. Committee chairs are especially encouraged to submit dates & times of meetings!
Newsletter Deadline: 25th of the month.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 <i>Plant Clinic Co-op 2:30-5:30</i>	2
3	5	6 <i>Plant Clinic WSU 1-4</i>	7	8 JCMGF <i>Board Meeting, 3-5pm WSU</i>	9 <i>Plant Clinic Co-op 2:00-5:00</i>	10
11 <i>Plant Clinic Chimacum FM 10 am— 2pm</i>	12	13P <i>Plant Clinic WSU 1-4</i>	14	15 <i>JCMGF Foundation Meeting, 7-9pm WSU</i>	16 <i>Plant Clinic Co-op 2:00-5:00</i>	17
18	19	20 <i>Plant Clinic WSU 1-4</i>	21	22	23 <i>Plant Clinic Co-op 2:00-5:00</i>	24
25 <i>Plant Clinic Chimacum FM 10 am— 2 pm</i>	26	27 <i>Plant Clinic WSU 1-4</i>	28	29	30 <i>Plant Clinic Co-op 2:00-5:00</i>	31



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