



NEWSLETTER

Yard and Garden 2011

March 2011

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Thanks Diane Threlkeld for organizing another wonderful Yard and Garden Lecture Series! Those who attended were treated to tips for Year Round Gardening with Andrew May. Kelly and Sue of Far Reaches Farm stepped in and helped out when one of our speakers had to bow out. They took us on a quick trip to China during their recent seed gathering trip through a slide show they presented. WSU's own Catherine Daniels gave us a better idea of what constitutes a pesticide and some alternatives to them. Marty Wingate showed us many design ideas for small gardens and vignettes. Debra Prinzing gave us a hands-on demonstration in a multitude of ways to use the flowers and fruits of our gardens for decorating, creating such items from bouquets to dried arrangements. Bob Zimmerman, a local who specializes in species Rhododendrons, shared his love and knowledge of them with us. Thank you to our speakers, door prize donors and everyone who pitched in to help make it another wonderful Series! We couldn't do it without all of you!



Our annual spring **Herbie the Seed** program is in need of volunteers. This is a program offered to Jeff. Co. grade 2 classes. Through interactive, hands on activities, the students learn about seeds, the many ways they are spread, and more. To help, please contact Glen Koch at simplyganic@yahoo.com.

Article and photos submitted by: Ali Dyche, Yard and Garden Co-Chair



MG Training and Plant Clinic Update



Soils, Fertilizers, Compost and More-

Training has been so much fun for me and I hope for the trainees too. In February we covered: Entomology, Forest Stewardship, Soils, Fertilizer, Compost and Plant ID. We had three field trips; one to Bulis Preserve where we meet with Forester Earl Kong for a tour of the property and some plant ID. The second was to PT compost facility at the dump and the third was a plant walk. I do feel a bit like a momma duck with her babies trailing after. In fact there was some quacking as we marched about looking at plants last week. We had guest speakers with lots of bugs to look at and trainees brought in soil samples to explore. Some of the SGT Committee came and gave a brief overview of the tour. We are starting our clinics. The first Coop clinic was Friday Feb 18 with five questions. The public is ready to have us back for advice. Meanwhile, I am propagating weeds for training and I am not crazy, just curious and loving the learning along with the trainees. Ask a trainee about the quality of the compost made here. Ask why food scraps cannot be composted? They have these answers and more.

Submitted by: Sarah Fairbank, Instructor



March Foundation Program



March 10 Foundation meeting at **3pm** in the Spruce Room: "Butterflies in Your Garden" presented by Idie U Ish. Idie is a Seattle Audubon Master Birder, past president of Seattle Audubon, and a freelance nature photographer. She will share with us tips for attracting butterflies to our gardens and show pictures of butterflies in our area.

Submitted by: Clara Mason, Program Chair



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2011

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Chair's Eye View of the (Master) Garden



I hope the few sunny days and warmer temperatures we have had recently are getting you in a growing/gardening mood. We didn't get too far with our seed exchange at the last Foundation Meeting (only 3 participated), but I think it is worth a try at our March meeting. It is certainly the time to be sticking those seeds in the ground or starting the tender ones in pots. It is also a great time to be dividing those perennials you didn't get to in the Fall. While you are at it, pot up a few for next year's plant sale or to share with your friends.

I gave a talk on propagating to the Brinnon/Quilcene Garden Club the other day. I think it was well received by 30 serious gardeners. That brings up the point, that I am still looking for a MG to head up a Speaker/s Bureau committee. You don't have to speak, just round up speakers from our talented pool of Master Gardeners and hopefully line up some speaking engagements.

Look for my tan at the next meeting. Cameron and I are off to Hawaii Feb 20. If I study a lot of palms on the beach and look at lots of orchids, do you think I can deduct the trip on my income tax?

Submitted by: Roger McPherson, Chair



Secret Garden Tour 2011



Don't forget to sign up as a docent for our fabulous rural Jefferson County tour! Remember, this year the tour is located along the Toandos Peninsula in SE Jefferson County (between Hood Canal and Dabob Bay). Five wonderful large gardens are on this tour filled with beauty, breath-taking views and many garden inspirational points.

To add your name to our volunteer list email Janet Mizuguchi...rarjsm@msn.com
You may choose an am shift 9:-15-1:00, or a pm shift 12:45-4:30 or volunteer all day.



Tour is Saturday, June 18 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Questions? Email Kris Burns...burns_cabin@olypen.com.

Submitted by: Kris Burns, SGT Chair

An Open Letter to Sarah Fairbank

Hi Sarah,

As I read your notes* from your presentation on rain gardens at February's Foundation Meeting, I started copying parts on some of the plants, and then others, and more. Until finally, I just gave up and copied the whole thing onto a page that I'll put in my garden e-files. Such useful information! Some of those plants I've nursed along for years and wondered why they are failing to thrive. Then there in your culture notes was the exact reason! Thank you.



**Sarah sent a copy to the MG listserv.
I can forward it to you upon request if you missed it.*

Submitted by: Susan Ambrosious

Wool Gathering in Our County: Our Natural Fiber Shed



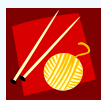
Monday
March 7, 7:30pm
Quimper Grange
1219 Corona Street (End of Sheridan)



On **Monday March 7th**, Quimper Grange presents a program by sheep owners, Jennie Watkins and Barry and Linda Taylor. They will explain the importance of our Jefferson County fiber shed and discuss the agricultural potential for vastly increased wool and meat production as analogous to vegetable production in our food shed. Participants will gain appreciation of wool fiber as an agricultural product, and an understanding of the steps from raw fiber to finished garment and will learn how Jeff Co farmers are working to advance this process. There will be eight local fiber producers, processors and artists available during the talk with examples of and information about their products and services. These items will be available for viewing starting at 7pm preceding the talk.

Jennie Watkins owns Ananda Hill Farms in Port Ludlow where she has raised Shetland Sheep for the past 10 years. Barry and Linda Taylor are owners of Taylored Fibers, a fiber processing business in Quilcene. Both Linda and Jennie are long time hand spinners and knitters. Barry Taylor grew up in and worked in the textile industry in England and later worked in Australia and the U.S. textile industries before coming to Quilcene. **“We all love sheep!”**

The program starts at 7:30 pm and is preceded by a potluck dessert/finger food social half-hour from 7pm to 7:30pm. Suggested donation: \$5-\$10. For further information contact: Charlotte Goldman at 385-3455. Quimper Grange rents space. Call Jo Yount at 385-0456 or 774-6618.



Submitted by: Charlotte Goldman

Gardening tips, suggestions, And Questions



-When weeding, the best way to make sure you are removing a weed and not a valuable plant is to pull on it. If it comes out of the ground easily, it is a valuable plant!

Ronniger Potato Catalog, author unknown. Submitted by: Valerie Parker

-In spring when the rain departs after several days of visiting and the sun comes out, I tend to get anxious to be in my garden. I want to get the soil tilled, planted and sit back and enjoy the fruits and flowers of my labor. However, I must stop and ask myself if the soil is as ready to be tilled as I am to till it? Is the soil saturated from winter and spring rains? If so, I need to wait a bit until it dries out. If I don't, I can damage the fragile structure that makes up my soil. A good way for me to test my soil's moisture content is to take a handful of it and squeeze it. If I can mold it into a "rope" or "worm", my soil is still too wet to work. I will know the soil is dry enough to till when I try to mold it and it crumbles. On these days, I distract myself from playing with my soil by choosing the types of plants that I want to grow when my soil is ready and places they will do best. I also try to focus on germinating my seeds, reveling in their cotyledons and tiny roots, while remembering that spring and gardening, is on it's way!

Submitted by: Ali Dyche

Signs of Spring

First Rhododendron to bloom in my woodland. Photo taken on Feb. 8th. Despite the recent snow, Spring really *is* on the way!

Submitted by: Kris Burns



Study confirms link between ragweed and climate change

The suspicion of a longer ragweed season by allergy sufferers has been confirmed by a USDA scientist and cooperators. It's been reported in northern parts of the US and parts of Canada, that ragweed pollen lingers approximately one month longer now than in 1995. These increases have been attributed to seasonal warming linked to climate change. To read further reports of these studies, visit this site. <http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/pr>

Submitted by: Katherine Baril

What is ragweed?

Ragweeds, also called bitterweeds or bloodweeds, are a genus of flowering plants of the Asteraceae, or sunflower family. For more information on ragweeds and other plants, please visit the following sites.

davesgarden.com/guides

pep.wsu.edu/recertonline.html

Submitted by: Ali Dyche



Name that Plant

1.



2.



3.



Answers on page 7



M.G. NEWSLETTER

Do you have an idea for an article in the newsletter? Perhaps a book review, gardening tip, event, photos etc? 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. Thanks!





Jefferson County Master Gardener Foundation Minutes of the February 8, 2010 General Meeting

Jefferson County Master Gardener Foundation Minutes of February 3, 2011 Board Meeting

Members present: Roger McPherson, Chair; Janet Mizuguchi, Co-Chair; Ora Hickman, Secretary; Kathi Boyker, Treasurer; Mark Clark, Board Member; Mike McFadden, Board Member; Marian Meany, Board Member and Hugh Musser, Board Member.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM by Roger McPherson.

Quorum: A quorum was present.

Minutes of the previous Board meeting: Minutes of the January 2011 Board meeting were unanimously approved. Ora has corrected the date of the meeting to reflect 2011 vice 2010.

Treasurer's Report: Monthly Treasurer Reports were discussed and Hugh Musser made a motion that these reports will be discussed in detail at Board meetings and verbal information be presented at Foundation meetings but not published in the minutes. The motion was seconded by Ora Hickman and approved by the board. Kathi will have the complete budget available to any member who wants to review it. Kathi Boyker presented the 2011 budget. She made a motion that the board approve the budget with minor changes and it was unanimously approved.

Old Business:

Committee Reports:

—**Secret Garden Tour** – Roger presented a copy of the poster that has been designed by a local artist, Christine Witte from Quilcene. They are on track for the tour and even ahead of schedule for some tasks.

—**Inventory** – Hugh Musser said that he and Ora Hickman have spent three hours organizing and doing an inventory of our outdoor storage unit. They are about half done. Inventory is being recorded on an Excel document. Hugh also brought up that he needed a key to the locked file cabinets at WSU. He was provided a set at the meeting.

New Business:

MG Commitment and Pesticide Agreement: Kathy Ryan is updating the List Serve and will be sending out the MG Year 2011 Renewal Form and WSU MG Volunteer Pest Management Recommendations Agreement for all MGs to sign. She will accept them at the next Foundation Meeting or they can be put in the MG mail box at WSU.

-Kathi Boyker brought up the subject of MGs providing Pest Control advice after attending a Yard and Garden Seminar. Sarah Fairbanks has proposed standardizing MG advice in all the Plant Clinics. Mike McFadden pointed out that the Chimacum Clinic does not have on-site WiFi access and thus cannot have the same web access as the WSU and Co-op Clinics. It was mentioned as a potential future goal to acquire wireless access for the Chimacum Clinic, but recognized that would be difficult and expensive. The Board thought the best thing for Chimacum Clinic to do presently with pesticide questions is to refer the customer to pest sense. The Board also discussed what an MG should do if asked a question regarding pesticides, and the consensus was that the MG should refer the customer to a Plant Clinic or WSU.pestsense.com.

2011 MG Market Place Table Reservation: Mike McFadden will ensure we have a table reservation at Ocean Shores.

Food Bank Gardening Plot/Demo Garden Proposal: Roger McPherson received an E-Mail from Judy Alexander who belongs to the Food Resiliency Action Group thru Local 2020. They want to request a long term lease of the Mt View School property. Along with a proposal to relocate the Farmers' Market and other ideas, part of their vision is to have demonstration garden. They want to see if MGs might be able to lend MG support for this idea in the pursuit of the long term lease. The Board discussed it and Roger will send back a reply saying the JCMGF Board supports the concept of a demonstration garden but awaits further details.

2011 Yard and Garden Speakers: Ali Dyche wanted to discuss future speakers and speakers' fees. Since she was absent, this item was tabled until she could be present.

Seeds for Thought: The Board discussed ensuring articles get into the "Seeds for Thought" that pertain to our MG Foundation. Mark Clark who is also the MG Foundation of WA State: State Representative will be the POC for this subject. He will work closely with Diane Threlkeld (Publicity).

Katherine Baril Farewell Gift: With the concurrence of the Board, Roger went to Far Reaches and obtained a \$50 gift certificate from MG's to present to Katherine at her farewell party.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted: Ora Hickman, Secretary

JEFFERSON COUNTY MASTER GARDENER FOUNDATION GENERAL MEETING, FEBUARY 10, 2011

Presentation: Jenny Jenkins gave a slide presentation on how she made a rain garden at her new house located in North Beach to control storm water runoff. Sarah Fairbank showed slides and did a presentation of the new plantings at the dividers along Upper Sims Way and the new rain gardens by the Maritime Center. She also prepared a list of plants and trees that were planted and will send it out on E-mail.

Meeting: There were a total of 33 MGs and 4 Trainees attending this meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Kathi Boyker gave a brief treasurer's report on how much our Foundation has in savings, anticipated revenues and anticipated expenditures for 2011.

Committee Reports:

Membership: Kathy Ryan reminded everyone to sign and submit the WSU Pesticide Form and the Annual Review and Commitment Forms. Roger McPherson advised that MGs should provide advice that is on the WSU pesticide policy so the form should be read carefully before signing. Kathy also advised that volunteer hours needed to be submitted. Kathy passed out hour stickers to display on MG badges to:

Kris Burns	2400 hrs
Sarah Fairbank	2000 hrs
Kathi Boyker	1200 hrs
Mark Clark	1200 hrs
Janet Mizuguchi	1200 hrs
Marcia Schwendiman	900 hrs
Kathy Ryan	800 hrs
Roger McPherson	600 hrs
Emmy Jones	500 hrs
Betty Petrie	500 hrs
Diane Threlkeld	500 hrs



These hours were based on records kept from 2003 until present.

Training: Sarah Fairbank said there were 8 women and 8 men in the training class this year. The training is very different than that presented in the past. The Training Committee took last year's feedback and applied it to this year's training course. No duplication was a big issue. There will be a lot of hands-on work done outside, a visit to a compost facility, and field trips. Trainees will also be incorporated into Plant Clinics. She mentioned that all Plant Clinics should be organized on an even keel. We should slow down and research/work together as teams to solve problems. Use a common sense approach. Sarah also said she wants to incorporate trainees into other Committees and will be contacting Committee Chairs.

Yard and Garden: Diane Threlkeld said this Saturday is the last Yard and Garden presentation. Bob Zimmerman from Chimacum Woods will give a presentation on Rhododendrons. Ali Dyché will be the Chair for next year's Y&G series. She has gotten great ideas from evaluations and comments from others. Diane thanked MGs for the great support she has received.

Habitat for Humanity: Nancy Villagran reported two houses will be completed by the 3rd week in March. MGs help with designing gardens and getting plant donations. Volunteers will be needed for planting.

Herbie the Seed: This program is still up and running.

Announcements:

—Roger McPherson said there is going to be an Insect Workshop in Kennewick on 25-27 April. It is 20 hours long and free. Carol Self attended this class last year.

—Although there was supposed to be a seed exchange at this meeting, only a few people participated. Roger suggested we try this again at the next meeting.

—Mark Clark said the State Foundation's next board meeting will be on the 18th at the Pacific Science Center. Anyone who is interested can attend and if you want to go, talk to him.

—Roger McPherson said Mike McFadden is working with the State Convention which may be held at Ft Warden two years from now.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Answers to Name that Plant



Respectfully submitted:

1. *Adiantum pedatum* L. - northern maidenhair fern
2. *Cephalanthus occidentalis* L. - common button bush
3. *Juniperus occidentalis* Hook. var. *occidentalis*

Images and information from plants.usda.gov
Submitted by: Ali Dyché

Miscellaneous tidbits and information



—As the weather warms up, our MG article for the Leader will be published every week instead of every other week. You can either write the article (350 words), offer an idea, or even receive help in the writing of one. For more information, please contact Diane Threlkeld at diane_threlkeld@yahoo.com or 379-1172.

—The North Olympic Fruit Club, a chapter of Western Cascade Fruit Society, is a not-profit, educational organization of home orchardists and fruit culture hobbyists. They meet the first Tuesday of every month, 7:00 pm at the Tri-Area Community Center.

—**Tree Planting Volunteers Needed!!!** Red Dog Farm is participating in the Conservation Resource Enhancement Program (CREP) to improve the riparian habitat along salmon-bearing Chimacum Creek. on **Saturday, March 5th**, we will be planting over 800 trees in a 50 foot buffer along Red Dog Farm's 900 feet of the creek's edge. We welcome volunteers either for the **morning (9-12)** or the **afternoon (12-3)**. All are welcome. Please bring sturdy shoes, rain gear, gloves, water, snacks, and a shovel (if you have one). At 9am Jerry Clarke from the Conservation District and Kai Wallin from North Olympic Salmon Coalition (NOSC) will be here to discuss the project and get us started on planting. Call with any questions or for directions. **(360)732-0223**.

—The Jefferson County Fairgrounds will be holding a plant sale with the proceeds going to benefit the Fairgrounds in April during EXPO. We are accepting donations of plants, starts etc at this time. If you are Interested in donating plants, indoor or outdoor, please contact either Virginia Crandall at crcrandall44@aol.com or Ali Dyche at alibruce113@yahoo.com.

The Kitchen Korner—recipes, how to's, using local, seasonal foods and more!



This past winter, I discovered celeriac. It is also known as celery root. It is a kind of celery grown as a root vegetable and the root is used rather than the stems and leaves.

Celeriac may be used raw or cooked. It has a tough, furrowed, outer surface which is usually sliced off before use because it is too rough to peel. Celeriac has a celery flavor, and is often used as a flavoring in soups and stews; it can also be used on its own, usually mashed, or used in casseroles, gratins and baked dishes. It can be roasted like a potato, giving it a crispy edge.

It isn't the most beautiful looking vegetable, but I found it to be quite versatile and much longer lasting than celery stalks. Celeriac is not as widely used as some other root vegetables, perhaps because it is harder to prepare and clean. Like other root vegetables celeriac is pretty good at taking on the flavors of the dishes in which it is used as an ingredient. For example it can be hard to discern from a potato or a parsnip in a dish such as osso bucco.

Celeriac normally keeps well and should last three to four months if stored between 0°C (32°F) and 5°C (41°F) and not allowed to dry out.

Happy eating!

Submitted by: Ali Dyche



Schedule of Events

March 2011

March 1-Fruit Club-Tri Area Community Center

March 10- Foundation Meeting
Butterflies in the Garden, Idie Ulsh, lecture and business meeting to follow

March 10-Rhody Club presentation, Tri Area Community Center

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

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

D

o you have an item for the Calendar/Schedule of Events? Please submit to the editor at alibruce113@yahoo.com, or call Ali at 360-732-0433. 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, WSU, 2-5 pm</i>	2	3 JCMG <i>Board Meeting, 3 pm, WSU</i>	4 <i>Plant Clinic, Food Coop, 1-4 pm</i>	5 <i>Tree Planting, Red Dog Farm, 9 am—noon or noon—3 pm</i>
6	7	8 <i>Plant Clinic, WSU, 2-5 pm</i>	9	10 <i>JCMG Foundation Meeting, 3 pm,</i>	11 <i>Plant Clinic, Food Coop, 1-4 pm</i>	12
13	14	15 <i>Plant Clinic, WSU, 2-5 pm</i>	16	17	18 <i>Plant Clinic, Food Coop, 1-4 pm</i>	19
20	21	22 <i>Plant Clinic, WSU, 2-5 pm</i>	23	24	25 <i>Plant Clinic, Food Coop, 1-4 pm</i>	26
27	28	29 <i>Plant Clinic, WSU, 2-5 pm</i>	30	31		



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