

# MASTER GARDENER NEWSLETTER

## MARCH-APRIL 2011



Master Gardener  
Foundation of King County



Hellebore in the Snow by J. Twitty

## President's Message

By Sam Michell

In like a lion, out like a lamb. Recent weather certainly doesn't make us feel like spring is just around the corner but . . .

- Clinic leaders are meeting to plan the coming season
- Gardens are already at work ordering, planning, and getting going
- Board elections are upcoming (May)
- Plant sale is only two months away
- The State Foundation Scholarship applications are being accepted now for students of horticulture
- Registration begins soon for the WA State MG Continuing Ed conference (Sept. 22-24 in Ocean Shores). For more information, <http://mastergardener.wsu.edu/mgfw>
- 2009 Interns become veterans in April. Take time to tell an intern you appreciate their time and commitment

We're a busy group . . .

**The next board meeting.** Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 - 8:30pm, CUH. Please join us or contact a board member with your ideas/interests.

### Inside This Issue

President's Message	1
Call for Board Nominations	1
Rick Gillmore Development Chair	1
Northwest Flower & Garden Show	2
Membership Survey	3
Plant Sale Donations/Consignments	4
CE and Other Events	5
Liaisons/Committees	9
Contact Information	9

## Call for Board Nominations

Please serve on the Foundation board. We need you. Nominations are being accepted now for elections this spring. Board terms are typically 3 years, although they are sometimes shorter, and involve monthly meetings, as well as committee work to lead the county-wide program. Alternately, if you know someone who would bring enthusiasm, thought, and foresight to our public outreach, please forward their name for consideration. Nominations and questions can be forwarded to Mark Pival at 206.242.1412 or email [mjpival@msn.com](mailto:mjpival@msn.com) or Sam Mitchell at 206.949.9515 or email [seattlebrahmin@hotmail.com](mailto:seattlebrahmin@hotmail.com).

## Rick Gillmore is New Chair for Development Committee

Rick is currently manager of fundraising for Lakewold Gardens in Lakewood. He is a second year Master Gardener. Rick says "I have been a professional fundraiser for over 20 years and since gardening is my "other" passion, I am blessed to be able to raise money for a garden as well as the MGFKC." We all welcome Rick to our team.

## NW Flower & Garden Show

Thank you to the 250 MGs who volunteered time and effort to make our presence felt at the show.

The show is an incredible opportunity for MGs to reach a broad audience at every level of inquiry and expertise. The contribution by the NWF&G Show to the Master Gardener Foundation was significant and we have a greater opportunity next year for more involvement and still greater reward. The rewards extend far beyond the monetary gift. A portion of the gardening public was introduced to the MG program. The plant sale was promoted. Our seminars were promoted. Our booth was well received and gave excellent exposure to the public. We'll be eager to hear from you, including pictures, and ideas how we can participate next year.

Please join the board in thanking Elaine for pursuing the opportunity and Karen Hausrath for organizing us all. Well done everyone!

The Board



MG Alison Wysong at MGFKC booth. Courtesy Dottie Kelly



MG Ellie Hollenbeck stamps visitors to Flower Show. Courtesy J. Twitty

## Come to the Plant Sale Preview Party

May 6, 5:30-8:00. \$35. Tickets may be purchased at Brown Paper tickets **after Mar 1**. Four chefs will compete in the Herb Hors d'Oeuvres Challenge for Ciscoe's Golden Brussels Sprout Award (voted on by party attendees). We are in process of adding an additional award which will be judged by professional chefs, yet to be named! Also remember that a contribution of \$125 or more to the foundation includes a ticket to the preview party. The number of participants is limited for this event and it usually sells out.

## Membership survey update

Late last year the survey was completed and nearly half the MGs responded. What a fantastic turnout! Survey highlights indicated:

- MGs feel passionate about the Master Gardener mission
- Are able to utilize their expertise in gardening
- Have flexibility to meet their volunteer obligations
- Feedback about performance received by 50% of the MGs

The board has some ideas about the feedback issue but would appreciate hearing from you. Please send your ideas to Sam Mitchell and we will include them in the next newsletter. Stay tuned.



## Great Plant Picks for 2011

The Elizabeth Miller Garden has published their 2011 Great Plant Picks list. Great Plant Picks (GPP) is an educational plant awards program of outstanding plants for the maritime Pacific Northwest. To date, over 800 exceptional plants have been selected for gardeners living west of the Cascade Mountain range from Eugene, Oregon to Vancouver, British Columbia. Click here to see [Great Plants 2011](#).

On the right is 2011 pick *Clematis armandii*, Plant *Clematis armandii* does well in full or half-day sun (it produces fewer flowers in half-day sun). It grows best in fertile, humus-rich, well-drained soil. This evergreen clematis grows quickly and will twine and coil on a trellis, fence, etc. for up to 20 feet. The large leaves, up to six inches long, are a glossy dark green and have a thick, leathery texture. Abundant white flowers open in February or March and perfume the air.



Image © Richie Steffen/Great Plant Picks

## Plant Sale Donations & Consignments for Herbs and Veggies Section

We love donated and consigned edible plants from Master Gardeners to the plant sale and we thank you in advance for your contributions. We are not able to accept invasive plants like catmint, sweet cicely, fennel and feverfew to name a few. If you are donating or consigning edible plants, we ask that you contact us with the plant name and variety so we can prepare signs and educate our volunteers on cultural requirements, which helps with sales.



**For Plant Donations:** if you have edible plants to donate, please provide the plant name and variety to Suzanne Broback at [broback@juno.com](mailto:broback@juno.com) before April 15. Donations may be brought to herbs/veggies during sale set up on Friday May 6 before 2 pm.

**For Plant Consignments:** What better way to thin out your gardens and make a little money as well. Consigning is fun and easy. It benefits the Master Gardener Foundation and you receive 60% of sales. This is a great way to share favorite or unusual plants with the gardening public. We want to help you sell your plants, so please coordinate your suggested sale price with us. Too often, consigners have priced their plants higher than our price for the same plant. This is confusing to the customer and if the consignment price is higher, those plants will sell last if at all. Please provide plant name and variety and your suggested price to the Consignment Co-Chair Bonney Lemkin at [bonneyl@comcast.net](mailto:bonneyl@comcast.net) before April 15.

Consignment items may be brought to herbs/veggies during sale set up on Friday May 6 before 2 pm. All you have to do is:

1. Pot up your plants in clean plastic pots (4" square or gallon size preferred)  
Plants must appear healthy and be free of bugs and slugs  
Small signs describing or depicting the plant are helpful in making sales!
2. Create labels following the instructions we will send you
3. List your plants alphabetically on the form we send you
4. Drop them off on Friday May 6th - 11AM to 3:30PM

Thank you and we are all looking forward to a great 2011 Sale!

Herbs/Veggies Department: C-J Nielsen- Chair [cjnielsen2@comcast.net](mailto:cjnielsen2@comcast.net) and Suzanne Broback Co-Chair [broback@juno.com](mailto:broback@juno.com)

## Annual Potting Party

Mark your calendars for the 13th **Potting Party** on **March 26**, 9am to 3pm at the greenhouses at CUH. Bring your perennial plant donations and/or just help pot up plants for the plant sale. It's fun and you can get your hands dirty.

## CE And Other Events of Interest

### Education Committee Seminars

Information courtesy of Tina Gruendike, MGF Education Committee

**Location:**

**Molbak's Garden & Home**

**13625 Northeast 175th Street**

**Woodinville, WA 98072**

**Thursday, March 10, at 10:30 AM to noon**

**Edible Garden Design-Designing and Planning of small vegetable gardens.**

*Speaker:* Colin Mc Crate. Colin is the founder of the Seattle Urban Farm Company, a business that designs, installs, and maintains food gardens for businesses and residential customers in Seattle and the surrounding areas. He has designed rooftop gardens, residential and restaurant vegetable gardens and more. In 2010, SUFCo designed and built the award winning "Crops For Clunkers" display for the NWF&G Show. In addition to founding SUFCo in 2007, Colin has worked on a variety of small farms around the country, as an education garden director for Camp Orkila on Orcas Island, and as a residential landscaper. [www.seattleurbanfarmco.com](http://www.seattleurbanfarmco.com)

**Thursday March 24, 10:30AM-Noon**

**Mediterranean Inspiration: Designing Dramatic Water-thrifty Gardens for the Pacific Northwest**

*Speaker:* Phil Wood- Phil is dedicated to designing and building unique residential gardens in the greater Seattle and Eastside area. [www.philwoodgardens.com](http://www.philwoodgardens.com) Phil has designed gardens at the NW Flower and Garden Show for over 20 years, winning numerous awards including many Gold Medals. He is an avid plant enthusiast who has been active in the NW horticultural community for many years. He currently serves on the board of the Seattle Chinese Garden. He earned his Bachelor of Landscape Architecture from the University of Washington.

**Monday, April 4 at 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM**

***Creating Impact with the Best Trees and Shrubs for Western Washington Gardens***

*Speaker:* Don Marshall - Educator, author, landscape designer and nurseryman, Don Marshall has established one of the outstanding horticulture programs in Washington state. He teaches full time, is a Certified Arborist and owns a landscape design firm. He has received many awards, including the Lifetime Honorary Membership in the Washington State Nursery & Landscaping Association in 1998.

**Wednesday April 20, 2011 10:30AM-Noon**

**Secrets to Success with Containers:** Take your container garden designs to the next level as designer Karen Chapman shares tips on how to create artistic combinations for both sun and shade.

*Speaker:* Karen Chapman- Born in England, Karen grew up with an appreciation for the beauty of nature and the wonders of gardening. After moving to the Pacific Northwest in 1996 she joined one of the leading nurseries as a garden plant specialist and discovered the satisfaction of helping homeowners enhance their outdoor living spaces. Karen established Le Jardin in 2006 in order to share her enthusiasm, artistry and knowledge with others. Whilst specializing in custom container gardens, Karen also extends that vision to design challenging smaller landscapes and regularly presents seminars and demonstrations to nurseries, private groups and garden clubs.

Her work has been published in Fine Gardening magazine and she has appeared on KOMO 4 and

KING 5 TV as well as being a regular guest of Ciscoe Morris on KIRO radio. Whether on the stage, television or radio Karen's aim is always to inspire, educate and share the fun of gardening with her audience.

Cost: \$15 Master Gardeners, \$20 for non-members.

Registration at the Master Gardener Office:

Email Karen Hausrath at [karen.hausrath@wsu.edu](mailto:karen.hausrath@wsu.edu)

or call the MG Office at 206 543 0221 (Tuesdays and Thursdays are best)

**Please do not call the nursery for registration.**

Checks should be made out to MGF of King County.

Send to: Master Gardener Program

Box 354115

Seattle WA 98195

Attn: Karen H

**These sessions will be open to the public so be sure to register early.**

Directions at [www.molbaks.com](http://www.molbaks.com)

There is a café on site for refreshments and drinks.

## Lake Wilderness Arboretum Evening Lectures

**Tuesday March 15, 2011 6:45 PM**

**Success with Seed Starting with Willi Galloway**

Willi will cover all the basics and offer strategies to reduce expenses, including using recycled containers, building your own light station, and sharing seeds with friends.

**Thursday, April 21, 2011, 6:45pm - 8:30pm**

**A Wildlife Watcher's Landscape with Russel Link**

Using examples from his Whidbey Island experimental acreage, Wildlife Biologist Link will share his years of experience designing and maintaining a landscape for family, friends and fauna. Topics will include timesaving approaches to landscape design and maintenance, nest box and bat house placement and management, strategies for feeding birds, not rats, controlling slugs with snakes, and pond, snag and other habitat.

Cost: free

Location: Tahoma Junior School, 25600 Summit-Landsburg Road, Ravensdale

Website: [www.lakewildernessarboretum.org](http://www.lakewildernessarboretum.org)

Contact [info@lakewildernessarboretum.org](mailto:info@lakewildernessarboretum.org). 425-413-2572

## Hands-on Diagnostic Training with the Our King County Diagnosticians (Master Gardeners only)

**Wednesday, March 9, in the atrium at CUH**

Two sessions: 10 a.m. - noon and 1 - 3 p.m.

The training is free, but you must pre-register \* Class size for each session is limited to 25

Contact Elaine - 206-685-5104 or [elaine.anderson@wsu.edu](mailto:elaine.anderson@wsu.edu)

Make sure to specify which session you'd like to attend.

## FREE Educational Event at Magnuson Park

**Saturday, March 19th from 9:30am-12noon**

The Seattle Dept. of Neighborhoods P-Patch Program is hosting a children's gardening workshop taught by Emily Bishton. Learn garden tips and techniques, along with fun and educational games and songs to do in the garden with children. The workshop is free, but advance registration is required. For more info or to RSVP, contact P-Patch staffer Kenya Fredie at [kenya.fredie@seattle.gov](mailto:kenya.fredie@seattle.gov)

## Bellevue Demo Garden Workshops

The Master Gardeners at the Bellevue Demonstration Garden hold weekly workshops on various topics. These are on Saturdays at 10:30 AM at the garden (15500 SE 16th St., Bellevue) and are free to the public. Contact Pat Naselow for information, [pnaselow@plnmortgage.com](mailto:pnaselow@plnmortgage.com)

Date	Topic	Speaker
3/5/2011	Pruning Shrubs and Ornamentals Overgrown Garden	Kathy Ewert, MG
3/12/2011	Roses	Lonnie Garceau
3/19/2011	Fragrant Plants	Helen Weber
3/26/2011	Drip Irrigation 101	Kevin and Susie Egan
4/2/2011	Clematis	Laura Meyer
4/9/2011	Coldframes & Greenhouses	Bryan Woolsey
4/16/2011	Tomatoes	Wally Prestbo
4/30/2011	Small Garden Design	Marty Wingate
5/14/2011	Horticultural Mistakes	Joan Helbacka
5/21/2011	Controlling those Pesky Moles	George Pinyuh

## Neely/Soames Gardening Series 2011

Please join us at **Neely Homestead** for FREE garden-related classes taught by King County Master Gardeners. Bring your questions, experiences, and love of gardening to our informative classes. The Homestead is located at 5411 So. 237<sup>th</sup> Pl. in Kent. To register, contact Sharon Englund 253-835-4144 or Penny Thayer 253-941-2628.

**March 26 Sat. 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.**

**SPRING PROPAGATION-K. Gordon**

Spring is prime time to make more plants from those you have in your garden. Plant starts are great for filling in empty spaces left by winter's freeze. Learn propagation techniques that are appropriate for this time of year.

**April 23 Sat. 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.**

**VEGETABLES IN CONTAINERS-C. Fulton**

Learn how to grow vegetables in boxes and containers and which vegetables and varieties grow best in these conditions.

**May 28 Sat. 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. ---**

**RENOVATING THE GARDEN-P. Roome**

Learn ways to improve your home landscape. Change an existing yard that has become overgrown or one that needs upgrading. This can mean less work, less water and more color throughout the year.

## NHS Presents: Inspired Gardening within the Environment

When **Sat, March 26, 8:30am - 4:00pm**

Where: Bastyr University 14500 Juanita Dr, Kenmore WA 98028 ([map](#))

Fee includes lunch: members/\$60, non-members/\$80. More information: 206-527-1794 or [www.northwesthort.org](http://www.northwesthort.org). The annual Northwest Horticulture Society's all-day spring symposium, co-sponsored by the Pendleton & Elisabeth Carey Miller Charitable Foundation, the Elisabeth Carey Miller Botanical Garden & Pacific Horticulture. The following speakers will explore how to create beauty in the environmentally responsible garden: Tom Hobbs, Dream + Desire = Destiny or Disaster Eric T. Fleisher, Managing the Environment: An Adaptive Challenge Kate Frey and Paul Bonine, Growing Dry in the Pacific Northwest Kate Frey, Pollinator Gardens

## Clinic Liaison

Board members have been assigned to facilitate communication between the board and the clinics. Emails and telephone information available at [mgfk.org](http://mgfk.org)

Clinic	Liaison
Auburn Farmers' Market	Joyce Harms
Ballard Farmers' Market, Ballard Fred Meyer	Rob Lehman
Bellevue Demo Garden clinic	Chris Cady
Bellevue Home Depot, Bellevue Nursery	Cecilia McGowan
Bothell	Steve Scott
Burien	Mark Pival
City People's, CUH	Anne Forestieri
Fairwood Library	Judy Porterfield
Federal Way Farmers' Market	Joyce Harms
Issaquah/ Snoqualmie	Bryan Woolsey
Kent/Covington	Jerry Twitty
Lake City Fred Meyer, Lake Forest Park	Karen Benson-Huck
Magnolia library	Laurie Myer
Maple Valley	Jerry Twitty
Mercer Island	Samuel Mitchell
North Bend	Bryan Woolsey
Redmond Farmers' Market	Cecilia McGowan
Renton Farmers' Market, Renton McLendon's	Judy Porterfield
Shoreline Fred Meyer	Karen Benson-Huck
U District Farmers' Market	Carol Arnold
Vashon	Mick Duggan
Washington Park Arboretum	Samuel Mitchell
West Seattle	Mick Duggan
Woodinville WDW Garden clinic	Chris Cady
Zoo	Karen Benson-Huck

## Foundation Committees: Volunteers are welcome.

Committee	Lead	Contact
A'Key grants	Mark Pival	mjpival@msn.com
Clinics	Joyce Harms	joyceharms@comcast.net
Development	Rob Lehman	grail2000@comcast.ne
Education	Tina Gruendike	mgruendike@hotmail.com
Finance	Bryan Woolsey	bryw@centurytel.net
Garden support	Mick Duggan	dug_man@msn.com
Marketing	Rob Lehman	grail2000@comcast.ne
Marketing	Laurie Myer	laurie2509@comcast.net
Membership	Joyce Harms	joyceharms@comcast.net
Newsletter	Samuel Mitchell	seattlebrahmin@hotmail.com
Website	Anne Forestieri	fioredesignsllc@gmail.com

WSU CONTACTS:

King County Office

Elaine Anderson, King County MG Coordinator, [elaine.anderson@wsu.edu](mailto:elaine.anderson@wsu.edu)

Tel: 206-685-5104, Fax: 206-221-2649

Karen Hausrath, King County MG Coordinator assistant, <mailto:karen.hausrath@wsu.edu>

Tel: 206-543-0221

MG Program / King County

Box 354115

Seattle WA 98195

Street Address: 3501 NE 41st Street, Seattle, WA 98105

Website: <http://kingcountymg.org> program website

Tonie Fitzgerald, State Coordinator, [tjfitz@wsu.edu](mailto:tjfitz@wsu.edu)

Tel: 509-358-7879

## Master Gardener Foundation of King County

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We're on the WEB . . . visit us at: <http://www.mgfkc.org>