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## The Foundation Connection

A monthly e-newsletter from the Master Gardener Foundation of King County

April 2017 Issue



### Pot Up Your Extras for the Master Gardener Foundation Plant Sale: *More Plants Needed*

*...by Master Gardeners Alison Johnson and Gary Scheider*



Contribute pure profit to the Master Gardener Foundation with your donated perennials, herbs and veggies. We need more plants for the sale and it's not too late to pot up some of the extras in your garden.

[Read the full article](#)

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## 2017 King County Master Gardener Plant Sale & Garden Market

UW Center for Urban Horticulture  
3501 NE 41st Street, Seattle

Friday, May 5 and Saturday, May 6

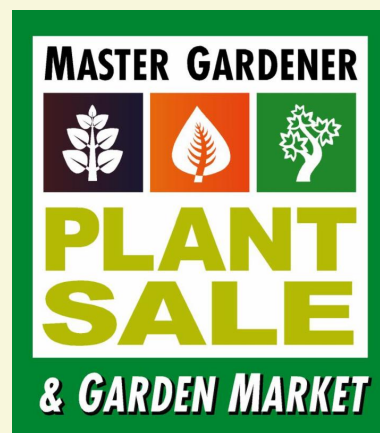
**Friday, May 5, 4 to 8 pm**, plant sale open to the public

**Friday Preview Party** [Tickets available online](#)

**Saturday, May 6, 9 am to 5 pm**

**Saturday, May 6, 10am to 4 pm**, Garden Education sessions, [tickets available online](#)

**No sale on Sunday**



This is the King County Master Gardeners' two-day sale. The weekend starts with the Preview Party on Friday, May 5, a fundraiser for the Master Gardener Foundation of King County.

Tons of tomatoes, veggie starts, fragrant herbs, perennials, native plants and specialty garden art vendors. Master Gardeners will help to choose the right plants, find easy-to-grow varieties, and give advice on planting and maintaining your garden throughout the year. Join us to get your garden growing this year.

**NEW this year: Garden Education Talks** on Saturday, May 6, ticketed events open to the public. Ciscoe Morris, Karen Chapman, Bill Thorness, Elaine Sherbrooke. [Tickets available online.](#)

Please visit our website for more details: [mgfkc.org/events/plant-sale](http://mgfkc.org/events/plant-sale)



### Master Gardener Debi Quirk: *Once a Gardener, Always a Gardener*

*...by Master Gardener Marty Byrne*

Debi Quirk, Master Gardener Class of 2015, has always loved gardening. Her yard and garden were once mostly tall trees and moss. Now she enjoys hydrangeas, rhodies, roses, herbs and vegetables in a "symphony of color."

[Read the full article](#)



## **From Overgrown to Amazing: A'Key Grant Helps Make a Demonstration Garden a Success**

*...by Dixie Chichester, 4H/Master Gardener Program Coordinator*

Pend Oreille Master Gardeners used their 2015 A'Key grant to restore a long-neglected garden and greenhouse. Read how they cleaned up a neighborhood eyesore, developed educational programs for the community, and provided fresh produce for their local food bank.

[Read the full article](#)

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## **Looking for Applicants for the 2017 A'Key Grant Program: Send Us Your Ideas**

*...by Bob Connor, MGFKC Board Member and A'Key Grant Committee Chair*

The Ellen A'Key Memorial Grant program is available to support Master Gardener organizations in all counties of Washington State. The Master Gardener Foundation of King County (MGFKC) awards up to \$1,500 each year to a Master Gardener program with a great idea for a project. Particular consideration will be given to smaller counties where support dollars might be sparse.

[Read the full article](#)

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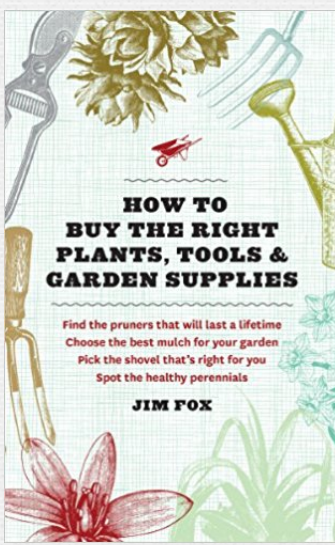
## **Your Chance to GiveBIG!**

*...by Anne Ellett, MGFKC Board President*

Your chance to GiveBIG will come on May 10th. Please consider a donation to support our Master Gardener Foundation. Read about the Seattle Foundation's one-day fund-raising opportunity.

[Read the full article](#)

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## Miller Library April Book Selection: *How to Buy the Right Plants, Tools & Garden Supplies*

Take a break from poring over plant selections and seed packets to make sure you have the right tools and supplies as you spend more time in your garden. You'll enjoy this different take on "spring shopping."

[Read the full article](#)



### News Shoots: *Short Subjects*

#### **Bellevue Demonstration Garden Plant Sale:**

The [Bellevue Demonstration Garden Plant Sale](#) is rapidly approaching! Don't miss this great shopping opportunity on Saturday, April 29, from 9:30 am to 2:00 pm at BDG (15500 SE 16th Street in Bellevue). Our list of veggies and herbs gets a little longer and more exotic every year - 61 varieties of tomatoes, 36 types of peppers, and an incredible selection of herbs, lettuces, Asian greens, and miscellaneous vegetables, gift planters, and ornamentals. New this year will be a nice variety of garden accessories for sale and a small tool sharpening service. We will also have some brand new dwarf-type vegetables bred specifically for container planting.

This is a great sale no matter where you live; access is easy just off of I-90 (148th Street exit) with both street and lot parking. If you can't make it on the 29th but really want to score some cool tomato and pepper varieties, we're holding a Master Gardener presale on Wednesday, April 26, from 9:00 am to 11:00 am at BDG, or contact Marcia Dillon for special orders at [dillon1962@att.net](mailto:dillon1962@att.net).

**MGFKC Board Elections Slate of Directors:** A strong and committed Board is critical to the Foundation's success. The Board shares your passion for and commitment to the Master Gardener program, often pitching in to do much of the actual work. Balloting will begin on April 15 and end on May 15. Watch for the email from the Foundation that announces the 2017 elections. Biographies of the candidates will be available online.

### Share Your Skills!

*Board committees offer opportunities to practice your current skills and learn new ones.*

## Can You Help??



### Commit to a Committee!

Would you like to help the Master Gardener Foundation? The Foundation

Board members often roll up their sleeves and go beyond their traditional tasks to help with the practical work of education, fundraising and recognition for Master Gardeners. The Board breaks down some of its duties for smaller committees to handle. The committees seek to match member expertise to the appropriate areas of interest. Consider joining a committee in an area of interest to you!

### *Education Committee*

The Board is currently seeking Master Gardeners interested in expanding the continuing education programs available to the King County Master Gardeners. There are several areas that could take advantage of your skills:

- Contribute ideas for topics for single seminars or series.
- Identify speakers and coordinate speaker preparation.
- Handle the logistics for education seminars, including planning for locations, set-ups and speaker preparation.
- Help prepare materials for education seminars.
- Coordinate the online registration and related publicity for the education events. Learn to use these internet tools.

You can have a big impact by participating on a committee. If you think the Education Committee is a fit for you, please contact Sue Kraemer ([smkraemer@gmail.com](mailto:smkraemer@gmail.com)) or Gordon Polson ([ancientbrit2@gmail.com](mailto:ancientbrit2@gmail.com)) for more information.

We need skills in several other areas to carry out the work of the Foundation. Here are some of our current needs:

- *Website & Graphics* is seeking creative and 'techy' skills
- *Membership* is looking for MGs to connect with our members, celebrating their commitment and keeping them engaged.
- *Communications* is searching for writers to contribute ideas and articles of interest to MGs, short subjects, editing and working with our online template.

You do not need to be on the Board of Directors in order to participate on a committee and yet you can have a big impact. Are you up for it? Contact us if you are interested or want to find out more.

[Read about our needs](#)

## What's Happening? News and Updates

- **Volunteer** for the Master Gardener Foundation Plant Sale May 5 and 6! We need MGs to help with set-up, various plant departments, parking and more. You can find information and register [here](#).
- **Next MGF Board Meeting:** Thursday, April 13, at CUH. If you are interested in serving on a committee, check the list at <http://www.mgfk.org/about-us/foundation-board>, or contact [president@mgfk.org](mailto:president@mgfk.org).
- **April 15:** Voting opens for the MGFKC Board of Directors. Watch for the email with a link to vote.
- **April 29: Bellevue Demo Garden Plant Sale.**
- **May 5:** MGF Plant Sale Preview Party. Join the Cinco de Mayo celebration. [Buy tickets online](#).
- **May 5** (4-8pm) and **May 6** (9am-5pm) MGF **Plant Sale & Garden Market.**
- **May 13: Cesar Chavez Demo Garden Plant Sale**
- Looking for CEs? Check our [Training](#) web page for opportunities year round.




WHERE am I?

[Find Master Gardener clinics and gardens](#) in King County using this MGFKC map.

[Forward this email](#)

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