



The Foundation Connection

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

June 2018 Issue



Master Gardener Garden Gala: 12 Years of Great Fun...and Fundraising



...by Master Gardener and Garden Gala Committee Leader Bonny Nordgren

Another year, another great party, organized by Master Gardener Bonny Nordgren and her hardworking committee. The party featured great food, the Golden Brussels Sprouts and Celebrity Chef awards, fine wines and beer and a first-ever "party-only" raffle.

[Read more](#)

Garden Gala Gift Raffle: Extra-Special Donations Benefit the Foundation

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...by Master Gardener and Plant Sale Leader Gary Scheider



Master Gardener Plant Clinics, Demonstration Gardens, and several commercial nurseries contributed special items to be raffled off at this year's Garden Gala. The handmade and unique gifts offered at this initial "party-only" raffle added to guests' enjoyment and

brought in additional funds for the Foundation.

[Read more](#)



Master Gardener Suzanne Abbott: Keeping Busy, Sharing

Knowledge...and Plants

...by Master Gardener Suzanne Abbott

MG Suzanne Abbott likes to keep busy. She found the perfect volunteer opportunity with the Master Gardener Program: education, community involvement, and plants, plants, plants.

[Read more](#)



Earth Day at Bothell Children's Garden: Girl Scouts in the Garden

...by Master Gardener and Garden Leader Sharon O'Grady

Master Gardeners Ruth O'Brien, Christina Nunez, and I hosted Girl Scout troop 40588 at the Bothell Children's Garden on Earth Day 2018, April 22. Five members of the Woodinville Garden Club Youth

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Quick Links

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Staying Smart

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Of Interest to You

Continuing Education

Learning takes place in many ways, and the Program is offering more ways to learn than ever before. [Find CE opportunities](#)

Tip Sheets for KC

Browse tip sheets about Puget Sound Gardening [Garden Tips](#)

WHERE am I?

Find King County Master Gardener **clinics** and **garden** locations using the [MGFKC map](#).

Outreach Committee participated in the event and a few neighborhood families came by as well. We were blessed with great weather and delicious strawberry-rhubarb shortcake made by Chef/MG Christina. We'd like to make this an annual event.

MG June Mah, whose daughter is in the troop, sent this to the Master Gardeners:

"Thank you so much for inviting us to the Bothell Children's Garden on Earth Day! We learned so many things about vegetables, composting, and pollinators through the event. The Master Gardeners showed the girls fresh worm compost, and they learned that vegetable food scraps and papers can be used to make compost. We can reduce our waste and recycle it! The girls also learned the importance of the role of bees as pollinators. It was such a wonderful opportunity for our troop to learn about ecosystems and work together in your garden."

Photo: MGs Sharon O'Grady and Ruth O'Brien with members of Girl Scout Troop 40588



Foundation Plantings

President's Letter: Thriving in a Healthy Environment

*...by MGF Board President
Penny Kriese*

In her final message to Master Gardeners, outgoing Board President Penny Kriese encourages MGs to think about the ways we can positively contribute to our environment. That includes a healthy round of thanks.

[Read more](#)

Master Gardener Diagnostics Lab: Problem Solvers Extraordinaire

This is a shout-out to the Master Gardeners who serve as the King County Diagnostics Lab. Led by Elaine Sherbrooke, this group of trained diagnosticians is here to support our plant clinics by identifying plant problems and recommending solutions for King County residents.

Each year, the Lab analyzes over 400 samples. They

are able to diagnose most of the problems, sending the unknowns to the WSU lab in Puyallup for a final resolution. The King County Diagnostics Lab is unique in the state and funded through the Master Gardener Foundation of King County with no financial support from WSU Extension.

Most importantly, the Diagnostics Lab spends two days with each year's intern class: one day with hands-on diagnostic training, and a second session during training to identify and report back to the class on the "Stump the Diagnostician" samples they provide.

Lastly, there is *Heads UP!*, the newsletter published by the Lab with seasonal information and tips during the growing season from March through October. This newsletter helps diagnosticians share their accumulated knowledge with the community.

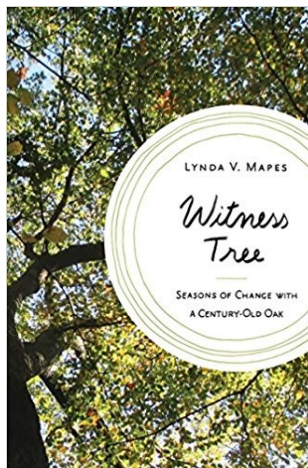
You have a role in this, too. Submitting samples as requested extends their viability until the Lab receives the sample. Providing the necessary information in the diagnosis and/or ID forms as legibly and completely as possible gives the diagnosticians the details they need. Be sure your clinic name is included so the Lab can share their findings with the clinic as well as the client. Thank you for doing your part to help the diagnosticians. You can read more about the history of the lab in *The Connection's* September 2015 [article](#).

MGF Foundation President Penny Kriese

Elisabeth C. Miller ***Library Selection***

Witness Tree: Seasons of Change with a Century-Old Oak

Local reporter Lynda V. Mapes spent an entire year observing an oak tree as it transitioned through the seasons. Curator of Horticultural Literature Brian Thompson reviews the book.



[Read more](#)

Save the Date: Bellevue Botanical Garden Sale & Speakers

Mark your calendars for Saturday, September 22. The September event at the BBG welcomes Christina Pfeiffer and Bill Thorness -- both well-known authors and successful speakers. The Plant Sale runs from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. At 10 a.m., Cristina will be speaking on "Adapting Old Gardens for New Times," coupled with "Planting Tips for Success." These topics are ideally suited to the time of year, as perennials are recommended to be planted at this time and there are bound to be perennials moved in any garden adaptation.

Bill will be speaking at 12:30 p.m. on winter gardening, and selecting and planting vegetable starts, followed by winter soil-building, using cover crops and pointing out the different contributions each seed makes to the soil. He will finish with a talk on early planning for 2019. This is a great idea and one that I almost always leave too late.

Master Gardeners Gordon Polson & Alison Johnson



News Shoots: *Short Subjects*

New Foundation Board

Members: Thank you to those who voted in this year's MGF Board elections. Nancy Simons and Andrea Gleichweith have been

elected to serve three-year terms beginning in June. Election for officers takes place at the June 14 Board meeting.

GiveBIG Results: On behalf of the Foundation, thank you so much for being a part of GiveBIG in 2018 and for the last seven years. Board Treasurer Peggy Smith reports that donations to the Master Gardener Foundation totaled \$4,072. Several of our donors have matching donations from their employers. Thank you to all our donors for helping us meet our donation goals for 2018.

Foundation Board President Penny Kriese

Plant Sale Raffle Winners! Winners of the Plant Sale Raffle included two interns and one Master Gardener Emeritus.

- First Prize \$500: Cheyenne Schultz (first-year intern)
- Second Prize \$300: Judi Pagenkopf (Master Gardener since 1989)

- Third Prize \$200: Heather Fuller (first-year intern)

We'll follow up with these Master Gardeners in a later issue to find out how they spent their winnings.

News & Updates

What's Happening & When

Next MGF Board Meeting:

Thursday, **June 14, 2018.**



Staying Smart -- Save the Dates!

Sept 22, 2018, Fall Plant Sale &

Speakers at Bellevue Botanical Garden. Watch your email for registration and sale details.

Nov. 17, 2018, Southsound All-Day CE Opportunity

at Renton Tech, 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Watch your email for registration info.

Sep 26-29, 2018, [State MG Advanced Education](#)

[Conference](#), Wenatchee, WA. Registration is open, but Early Bird Registration ends July 1, 2018.

Check out our **[Continuing Education](#)** page for other CE opportunities.

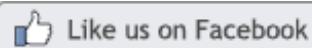
Save the Date!

Oct. 20, 2018 -- Annual KC MG Recognition Event.

Details to come.

Do you have an event or CE opportunity to share? Submit items to consider for our list of announcements to communicate@mgfkc.org.

Stay Connected:



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