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The Newsletter is Back!!

By Sam Mitchell, MGFKC President

The MGFKC newsletter returns! We heard you saying you wanted it back, so after many months of not having a newsletter, welcome to its return. This issue comes to you in an email with a link to its duplicate on the MGFKC website. If you lose this email, or forget to save it, or want to reread it, it'll be available to you on the web. If you haven't registered for a members' only login, this is the perfect excuse to do so. It's quick and easy and offers access to the membership directory and other information.

Keep reading this issue and future ones to find information about upcoming events, changes that affect Master Gardeners, continuing education opportunities, and other information of interest. We will transition over the next few issues to publishing entirely on the MGFKC website. We have put substantial resources into the website and feel it's the obvious home for our news to

and about each other. Have ideas about what you'd like to see in future newsletter? Send an e-mail to us at: Newsletter@mgfkc.org or call us at: **206.543.0221 Tuesdays or Thursdays.**

WATCH FOR YOUR MGFKC NEWSLETTER EVERY MONTH!!



state for his knowledge of native plants and willingness to educate and bring together community volunteers.

Judy Porterfield, currently Vice President of the King County Foundation Board, was elected President of the Master Gardener Foundation Board of Washington State and will serve in that role for the next two years. To read more about these King County Master Gardeners, go to: <http://www.mgfkc.org> where they are featured in the carousel!

Highlights for October

By Your Newsletter Committee

King County Master Gardeners Honored

Two King County Master Gardeners were honored at the Master Gardener Advanced Education Conference held in Vancouver, Washington September 23rd through 25th, 2010. Ed LaCrosse, lead for the Neely–Soames Homestead Heritage Demonstration Garden in Kent and a Master Gardener since 1992, was chosen as the Washington State Master Gardener of the Year for 2010. Ed is known in King County and across the

Foundation Board Liaisons

By Sam Mitchell, Foundation Board President

Board members are here to serve the interests of the MG Foundation of King County and its members. Committee work is noted below, as are liaison assignments. Each garden and clinic is assigned a board member to act as that groups liaison to the Foundation board. The assigned board member is there to answer questions clinic and garden members may have about procedures, current budget, securing additional funding, and whatever important to help share the accomplishments of individual clinics and gardens with the board and the Foundation in general. Please contact your assigned board liaison with questions, concerns, and ideas. Check out <http://www.mgfkf.org> to find your liaison.

Regular Features.... Check This Out!!

By the Newsletter and Website Committees

Year Around Gardening – Written by Marty Bryne, MG and faculty member at South Seattle Community College, this features information, pictures, plant lists, and even things you can do with the plants for each season in your garden. Each season there will be a new article. Look for this on the website – Winter, Spring, Summer, and Fall!! You may be surprised at what you can grow in King County and the Pacific Northwest year around without a greenhouse!! Read more at: <http://www.mgfkf.org/garden-in-autumn>.

Cedar Flagging – Looks like a disease; acts like a disease, but isn't really a disease! This is a normal process in which evergreen plants shed old foliage each year. More common when there has been hot weather followed by cold weather (as in the Puget Sound area this year) – and most obvious in the fall.

Plant Sale 2011 – SAVE THE DATE!!

By Horst Momber, 2011 Plant Sale Chairman

The MG Foundation Plant Sale 2011 will be May 6th and 7th next year – **Mothers Day weekend!** Although that's still seven months away, it's time to start planning, time to enter those dates on your calendar. Friday, May 6, will be set-up and the popular Pre-Sale Party. Saturday, May 7, and Sunday May 8, are the dates for the actual sale – great opportunities to get hours. We're looking for volunteers to work the sale; we are also looking for task oriented gardeners who are interested in assuming more of the planning and organizational responsibilities. Contact Horst Momber, momberh@mac.com for more information.

*"If you have a garden and a library
you have everything you need."*

~Cicero “

Bug or Plant Problem of the Month – Written by MG's, including diagnosticians, this will feature a bug or plant problem each month. Do you get questions in your clinics that you can't answer? Do you look at a sample brought in by a client and know they expect you to be able to identify the problem with a glance? Then this is the section for you! For this month, see the article about tent caterpillars:

<http://www.mgfkf.org/plants/bite-back/bug-of-the-month>.



Cedar flagging – A natural physiologic process by which evergreens shed old foliage.

Tips for Donating Plants to the 2011 Plant Sale

By Xenia Callahan, Chair Plant Sale Donations

Why not rejuvenate your tired and tight clumps by dividing and potting them up now in anticipation of the 2011 plant sale? Plants potted up in fall have the added bonus of time to get comfortable and happy in their pots. They just look better & healthier at sale time.

What are we looking for? *Ideally, plants that are unusual or rare are best*, though we can always use small quantities of the basics too. Unknown irises are a no-no. We simply can't sell them if we don't know their name or at least their color. Typically we have donated too many common iris, daylily, crocosmia and even too much tradescantia & strawberry last year! If you have boatloads of something that is common, it makes sense to only pot up 10 pots and



the rest should go to friends, neighbors or to compost.

MG donated & consigned plants contribute in a huge way to the success of our sale every year. **FYI: this sale is the *major* MG fundraiser!** And one more benefit you can count your hours spent digging and potting this fall as support credit hours for 2010. **Get digging!**

Donating Ornamentals to the Plant Sale – Dos and Don'ts

By Sam Mitchell, Plant Sale Ornamentals

Fall is the perfect time to plant in King County. It's also the perfect time to pot up shrubs, trees, and other woody ornamentals you may be removing from your garden to sell at next May's plant sale. Donating or consigning shrubs and vines are a great way to make room in your garden for new plants, and to open up space in general. However, not all shrubs are worth digging up and donating either due to their commonality, market saturation, or just disinterest among shoppers. Following is a quick guide to help you make decisions about what to pot and what to compost. Please contact me with specific questions: Samuel Mitchell at seattlebrahmin@hotmail.com.

YES for Donations

Cool stuff with a full Latin name, including cultivar
Unnamed more common shrubs with accompanying photos and/or descriptions

Rooted suckers from more unusual plants such as:

Grisselinia racemosa

Itea virginica 'Henry's Garnet'

Beautiful, larger specimens of common shrubs:

Rosa glauca with several stems in 2-5
gallon pots

Kerria japonica with several stems in larger
pots

NO for Donations

Unnamed lilacs

Unnamed azaleas

Unnamed roses without accompanying pictures of
blooms and/or descriptions

Small suckers or common seedlings:

Rosa glauca in 4 inch pots

Horse chestnuts

Filberts

CE And Other Events of Interest October

FREE 2010 Workshops * Master Gardener Bellevue Demonstration Garden

15500 SE 16th Street * Ranger Station Next to the Garden * 10:30 a.m. until Noon, No Registration Required

9 *Dahlias*, Betty Burton

17 *Winter Plants and Gardens*, Susie Egan

23 *A Practical Home Greenhouse*, Dick Chapin

~~

Northwest Conifer ID * Tuesday, October 12 * 10 a.m. until noon. Meet at Washington Park Arboretum's Visitor Center. Master Gardener Dawn Cuellar will lead a one-hour walk through the Arboretum followed by a one-hour Q & A and activity session in the Visitors Center. Class size is limited, and a \$5 registration fee is required in advance, sent to Elaine Anderson at: elaine.anderson@wsu.edu.

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Planting and Caring for Young Fruit Trees

October 9, 10 am–12 pm

Bradner Gardens Park Classroom: 1750 S Bradner Pl, Seattle, WA

The class covers site selection, fruit tree selection (how large? What type?), where to buy fruit trees, how to plant them and how to care for young trees. Jana Dilley works on the Green Seattle Initiative with the City of Seattle Office of Sustainability and Environment.

All classes are \$15 members, and \$20 non-members. Register at <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/> or send a check to City Fruit, PO Box 28577 Seattle 98118.

Last year Master Gardeners donated over 28,850 volunteer hours in King County (valued at \$611,043), serving 40,000 adults and more than 5200 children and youth. Already in 2010 we've reported over 21,000 hours at a value of \$446,369.

We did this through about 35 plant clinics, 6 demonstration gardens, 3 outreach gardens, 6 youth outreach gardens, a speakers' bureau and a phone clinic, as well as a classroom outreach program and dozens of classes and workshops.

October 9, 2pm–4pm Celebrate Woodinville Wines

By Molbak's Garden Café & Russell's Restaurant

- Sample wine from the acclaimed Woodinville Wine Country; eight wineries
- Learn how to harvest and preserve herbs from a Molbak's herb expert.
- Watch a Molbak's Designer create a fabulous outdoor fall container.
- Learn from a Master Gardener how to successfully grow grapes in the NW.

FEE: \$15 per person, \$10 for Rewards members – 6 pours per person. Reserve your spot on-line at <http://www.molbaks.com>.

CE and Other Events continued on Page 5

*CE and Other Events from Page 4***Event: Easy Plants to Prune**

When: Sunday, October 10, 2010, 10am – 12pm

Where: Sand Point Magnuson Park; Building 406 (The Brig)

Cost: \$15 for the general public; \$10 for Plant Amnesty members, \$5 for horticulture college students and native Spanish speakers. No pre-registration is necessary. Just show up and pay at the door. Questions? Email Plant Amnesty at info@plantamnesty.org or call 206-783-9813.

This class covers basic cuts, basic plant habits, and what Cass Turnbull calls the pruning budget. Then five plants that are relatively easy to prune are dealt with specifically: nandina, evergreen azalea, lilac, camellia, and yew.

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SAVE THE DATE: August 20th, 2011

Event: 10th Anniversary Rededication of the Neely-Soames Homestead Heritage Garden House Demonstrations by Master Gardeners

King County Library Talks for October:**Joan Helbacka: Culinary Herbs**

When and Where: Sunday, October 10 at 2pm, Des Moines Library.

When and Where: Wednesday, October 13 at 7pm Sammamish Library.

When and Where: Thursday, October 21 at 7pm, Fall City Library.

Larry Davis: Spring Flowering Bulbs

When and Where: Monday, October 18, 7pm, Richmond Branch

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HAVE AN EVENT YOU WANT TO POST? Let us Know!!

**Why Do We Remain Master Gardeners? CE News!!**

A large part of the MG experience is sharing our knowledge with others and continuing to learn with other members. We know that it's fun and it's rewarding.

Learning takes place in many ways and the MG Program is offering more ways to learn and keep us current than ever before including its community gardens, phone and plant clinics, workshops with MG's and expert horticulturalists, online learning through WSU and our websites, diagnostics and more.

What is the MGFKC Education Committee?

The MG Foundation supports the MGKC Program Coordinator with some of these aspects. The foundation Education Committee along with your board is planning workshops and tours for the 2011 season.

Want to know what will be coming up for CE?

Instructors at Lake Washington Technical College Horticultural Program in Kirkland WA will offer some new topics this year on weekdays. As soon as these and other workshops are confirmed for 2011 you can find

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them on www.mgfkc.org in the members section, in direct e-mail communications and in the new newsletter. Don't forget the Bellevue Demo Garden Saturday morning talks by many of our members.

Tina is always interested in suggestions for workshops and for venues that would work for you. If you would like to host a speaker for a class we would appreciate your assistance. Now is the time to be involved for 2011.

E mail works best: mgruendike@hotmail.com Tina Gruendike



We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

<http://www.mgfkc.org>

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