



Fort Garden Photo by Rick Edwards

# The Garden News

September-October 2012

**Harvest Fun Days, 78th Street Heritage Farm**

**Saturday, September 22 from 10 AM to 3 PM**

**with MGF Fall Plant Sale**

## **The Interpretive Garden at Fort Vancouver**

The Interpretive Garden is the oldest and most-visited historical venue at the Fort, with an estimated one million visits per year. There are also uncountable numbers of visitors before and after 'duty hours', as the Garden is always open, 24/7, and always free. To be sure, part of the reason is its strategic location between the parking lot and the main entry to the Fort – visitors must walk through or around the garden on their way into or out of the Fort. The garden has been growing in popularity

amongst professional photographers for wedding and family photos.

The Garden's layout is a composition which beckons and welcomes the visitor. It is laid out as a semi-formal mid-19th century English kitchen garden. The North Flower Garden is the grand entry, with a semi-circular view point, and pathways laid out in a starburst – each ray leading to a different feature, for visitors to compose their own visit. To the left and right are paths along the flower bed; along both diagonals, paths to the herb beds; and straight ahead, a grand vista – an *allée* – through the heart of the garden, the vegetable beds; to the hop tunnel leading to the South Flower Garden at the far end – a quiet space designed for rest and reflection, at the end of a visit through the Garden or the Fort.

The Interpretive Garden, at only one-half acre, is a tiny fraction of the much larger historic garden, which at its peak in 1845 ultimately reached eight acres. For all that, today's garden contains representative examples of every type of fruit and vegetable, herb and flower known to have grown in the historic garden. The number of varieties has grown to include 60 kinds of vegetables; 50 of flowers; 25 of herbs; 15 of fruits; and 33 heirloom roses. The array is stunning. The garden today has nine varieties of squash (4 of 'summer', 2 of 'winter', 3 of pumpkins) and six of tomatoes; five varieties of cucumbers; four kinds of potatoes, corn, and peas; three each of beans and eggplants. 'Root crops' include five varieties of beets, four of turnips, three of carrots, two of parsnips and radishes. The Cabbage family is well-represented with four varieties of cabbage, three of kale, two of broccoli; and mustard. Salad greens include three kinds of lettuce, two kinds of celery, and sorrel.

There are three kinds of onions, two of leeks, and chives. Fruits include three kinds each of muskmelons and watermelons; gooseberries and red and white currants; grapes and blueberries; and figs. (Fruit trees are admittedly under-represented in our small garden, due to lack of space.) Several beds are dedicated to 'field crops' like wheat, barley, oats or buckwheat, to represent, in a small way, the valuable 'cash crops' of Hudson's Bay Company (HBC) times. The traditional English herbs had many valuable culinary,



## The Interpretive Garden at Fort Vancouver, cont. Article and Photos by James Pestillo

medicinal, and cosmetic uses; and, together with the other plants in the Garden, could have been used to make vegetable dyes in any color of the rainbow. Every effort is made to use only varieties from the historic HBC period. Only organic gardening practices are allowed, starting with a carefully-planned crop rotation schedule. (See page 11 for garden diagram) Clover and legumes provide nitrogen to the soil; natural compost provides other nutrients and biomass. Companion planting and beneficial insects are used. All this is explained to interested visitors and students at the Fort's *Dame School* and *Young Engage School*, for girls and boys between the ages of eight and fourteen. These schools provide thirty students each year



with training in the traditional home-maker skills of the time, including cooking and sewing for the girls, and blacksmithing, carpentry, and farming, for the boys. The produce is used, first and foremost, in the Fort Kitchen, for historic cooking demonstrations in the *Dame* and *Young Engage Schools* and other living history programs, including the twice yearly Blacksmith events. Excess is given to Vancouver's *Share*

*House* - with just a little taken home by the people who grew it - the Garden Volunteers (much of which returns in the form of pastries, jams, and side dishes, in monthly meetings and pot-lucks, and Open Garden Days for visitors).



Some of the Garden Volunteers also work in the Kitchen, linking the two activities together. Volunteers have always been a part of the Garden program, from its inception in 1974. Since 1978, the garden has been maintained *entirely* by volunteers – many of whom are Master Gardeners who received their training through the *WSU*

*Master Gardener Program*. (The Head Gardener has *always* been a Master Gardener – starting in 1983, when new MG graduate Bill Green elected to devote his “payback” year – and two dozen more – to the Interpretive Garden.) For most of this time the Garden was funded entirely by the NPS – but during the past several years the Garden has survived thanks to generous grants from the *Master Gardener Foundation of Clark County*. The current Head Gardener is Nancy Funk, a MG Foundation board member.

Over the last few years, the MGFCC has given the garden grants of between one and two thousand dollars, for a total of more than six thousand dollars. This is used for compost, seeds, fertilizer, and other essentials. It is fair to say that the Garden owes its continued existence to the Master Gardener Foundation of Clark County.

Volunteers are welcomed to work at the garden on Thursday mornings starting at 9 AM.



## News from the Master Gardener Foundation Board



### Insects and Gardens

In Pursuit of a Garden Ecology



Eric Grissell  
with photographs by Carll Goodpasture

### Watering Systems for Lawn & Garden

A Do-It-Yourself Guide

- Sprinklers
- Soaker Hoses
- Drip Systems
- Gravity Distribution Systems
- Overhead Irrigation
- Water Sources
- Pump Types and More

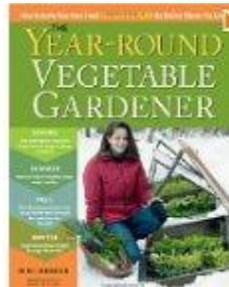
R. Dodge Woodson

### Books for Sale

by Karen Palmer

Did you know that the Master Gardener Foundation sells gardening books? We are able to buy books from a few publishers at a deep discount and we pass most of the savings on to you. Plus there is no sales tax since we are a non-profit. We are in the process of restocking the book shelves with some new titles so if you like to browse for gardening books, this is the place to go for good prices. We will be selling books at the state conference in Pasco in September and at a few of the Master Gardener training classes this fall. Wednesday mornings at the Heritage Farm are also a good time since we are there at the greenhouses anyhow. Inquiries can be sent to <mailto:mgfclark@gmail.com>.

Just to tantalize you, a few of the new titles ordered: *The Year-Round Vegetable Gardener*, *Vertical Vegetables & Fruit*, *Fallscaping*, *Watering Systems for Lawn & Garden*, *Fruit Trees in Small Spaces*, and



*Insects and Gardens*. Isn't it time to start thinking about Christmas presents? Gardeners love receiving gifts of gardening books!

### Master Gardener Foundation of Clark County seeks three new board members

The Master Gardener Foundation of Clark County (MGFCC) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to promote research-based horticultural practices in Clark County. MGFCC provides funds for the WSU Master Gardener Program in Clark County each year, as well as other 4-H, school, and community gardens. MGFCC is governed by a nine-member board of directors and assisted by an appointed Executive Administrator. This board determines matters on fund-raising activities and grant approvals. MGFCC leases space from Clark County at the 78th Street Heritage Farm so we also have close ties to the County, the WSU Extension Service, and other community groups who have a presence at the Heritage Farm.

Term of service for the board of directors is three years and three members of the board rotate off each year. Term of service for new board members will be January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2015. If you enjoy the Master Gardener Program and/or the activities of MGFCC and are interested in serving, we are looking for candidates. MGFCC membership will elect the three new board members in October. To qualify you must be a Master Gardener and a member of MGFCC. The board holds a meeting on the first Tuesday of each month (exceptions are second Tuesday in July and usually no meeting in August). Board members are expected to participate in these meetings as much as possible. Other projects require board member participation from time to time. If you have questions or would like to submit your name or recommend someone, please contact Dean Sutera, Vice President at [dsutera45@msn.com](mailto:dsutera45@msn.com) or 687-1967.

### Foundation Office Location

#### Heritage Farm

1919 NE 78th Street  
Vancouver WA 98665  
360-397-6060 ext. 5706

#### Web Page:

<http://www.mgfcc.com>

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# News for the Master Gardener Foundation Meetings



**Mark your calendar for future MGF Meetings: The meetings are held at CASEE Center**

**11104 NE 149th St. Bldg B, in Brush Prairie. Start time is 7 PM with refreshments.**

**September 4-** Pat Jollota, local historian will speak on Paddy Hough's vision for the youth of Clark County and the CASEE Center

**Program:** An evening with Pat Jollota, a premier local historian, author and community advocate of SW Washington.

Pat Jollota, recently selected as Clark County's First Citizen of 2012, is best known for her 20 years of service on the Vancouver City Council. Pat realized the important role history plays in strengthening communities during the early part of her life and feels the lack of local history appreciation contributes to a decline in a community. With her wit and special humor, Pat Jollota will fascinate us with stories of local history, including how one of Vancouver's pioneer teachers, Patrick "Paddy" Hough's vision of establishing an agricultural high school in Clark County brought about building the CASEE Center in Brush Prairie, WA. Pat is always willing to educate those who want to understand what makes this area so special and she continues working toward achieving environmental and historic preservation with her community involvement.

**October 2-** Jacqueline Freeman - Friendly Haven Rise Farm - will speak on Heritage Apple Trees, Biodynamic Orchard methods and Honey Bees.

**Program:** Jacqueline Freeman talks about the history and qualities of heritage apples. Tasting included! Jacqueline grew up in a New England apple orchard surrounded by dozens of old breed apple trees. Her farm, Friendly Haven Rise, is home to an apple tree (Gideon Sweet) that was thought to be extinct for the past half century. Jacqueline is an active member and speaker for the Home Orchard Society, a frequent contributor to the WA Extension programs, and a committed biodynamic farmer. Her recent article on heirloom apples is in the fall issue of "In the Pacific Northwest". Each year, she and her husband, Joseph, host an apple tasting (October 28th at the Venersborg Schoolhouse) with 200+ varieties, and Jacqueline knows the backgrounds of many of these apples, [www.FriendlyHaven.com](http://www.FriendlyHaven.com).



**November 6-** Vern Nelson - columnist for The Oregonian will speak on "Gifts from the Kitchen Garden"

**December 4-** Dean Sutura & Carolyn Gordon will talk about the "WSU Growing Groceries Program of Clark County"

**Looking to 2013,** Foundation meetings are not held in January. The first meeting in 2013 will be the first Tuesday in February.



## Foundation Grants: The Minnie Stromgren Memorial Garden at Vancouver Heights United Methodist Church

Since 2010, Vancouver Heights United Methodist Church has provided garden space for church members, neighbors, Martha's Pantry and other community members. In addition to the regular 10' x 20' garden plots, there are smaller raised beds used by children and low-income families.

It is amazing that such a small space can grow so much produce. Even more amazing are the volunteers and the tremendous amount of work they provided to launch this project. Enthusiasm has continued as some gardeners have moved on and new folks have joined. This year we have added three additional garden beds.

In mid-April, when it felt like 'summer,' gardeners were hard at work preparing the garden beds, cleaning up the shared spaces. Last year's addition of a much-needed tool shed has enabled gardeners to securely store tools. In addition, it provides a place for people to leave seeds, plant starts and garden supplements to share with fellow gardeners.

On July 13, a mid-summer work/party took place for path maintenance, compost mixing, and weeding. It was also the perfect time to pull cool-weather crops and focus on tomatoes, peppers and other warm-season vegetables anxiously awaiting the sun.

We wish to thank the Master Gardener Foundation of Clark County for their generous continued support.

Sincerely, Italia LaRuffa and the Community Gardeners



2012 Clark County Fair Floriculture Judging takes careful consideration of all the many flower classes and lot numbers.



**Do not forget to record your volunteer hours into the WSU volunteer database by the end of October! Hours for Answer Clinic payback and continuing education should be met. This is VERY IMPORTANT for our funding from WSU and Clark County.**

## Hazel Dell School and Community Garden News: Foundation Garden Grants at Work



### Two Eagle Projects have been completed at the Hazel Dell School and Community Garden.

The Hazel Dell School and Community Garden has 25 families planting in raised beds, five communal beds for shared harvest and donations to the Homestead Homeless Shelter, beds for the Boys and Girls Club and beds for school classes.

### <<< Glenn Whearty of Troop 14 puts the finishing touches on the irrigation system at the Hazel Dell School and Community Garden.

A summer session for the children at the Boys and Girls Club was held Wednesday mornings from July 11 through Aug. 15. Two Eagle

Projects have been completed at the Hazel Dell School and Community Garden. Glenn Whearty of Troop 14, installed irrigation to the fifteen beds in the upper garden and Jarron Simon of Troop 343, built a kiosk/message center. WSU Master Gardeners and volunteer Hazel Dell Garden Coordinators Bobbi Bellomy and Barbara Nordstrom appreciate all the hard work that the Scouts put into these projects. Barbara Nordstrom praises the results, "Both Eagle Projects will make an important difference in the garden. Being able to control the amount and time of watering, will conserve water and the message center will be invaluable in communicating with the 25 families who have raised growing beds and the children of Hazel Dell School and the Boys and Girls Club who enjoy the garden." In addition, most of the soaker hoses in the garden have been replaced allowing for leak free irrigation. Thank you to the Master Gardener Foundation of Clark County for the new soaker hoses and help with materials for the kiosk!

**Photo right: Jarron Simon** of Troop 343 is congratulated by Barbara Nordstrom, WSU Master Gardener and volunteer Hazel Dell Garden Coordinator on the construction of the kiosk/message center for the Hazel Dell School and Community Garden.



The theme of the eighth annual Wednesday morning summer program for the children at the Boys and Girls Club was "If given your own planet on which to live, what plants would you take with you and why?"

If you would like to be involved in activities at the Hazel Dell School and Community Garden, please contact Bobbi Bellomy or Barbara Nordstrom, [GrowSmiles@hotmail.com](mailto:GrowSmiles@hotmail.com) or 574-6290.



<<< *Garden Time* producer, Jeff Gustin, films William McClenathan, interviewing WSU Master Gardener, Barbara Nordstrom, for the Aug. 11<sup>th</sup> episode of *Garden Time*. In the background, Jodee Nickel, WSU Food Sense and 4-H Coordinator and Bobbi Bellomy, WSU Master Gardener, work with children from the Boys and Girls Club during a summer garden session at the Hazel Dell School and Community Garden. The *Garden Time* segment is available at

In cooperation with Clark County and Washington State University, the Master Gardener Foundation of Clark County is dedicated to promoting research-based horticultural practices at the 78<sup>th</sup> St. Heritage Farm and other venues across Clark County through education, consultative programs and experiences which preserve or enhance our environment.

## Master Gardener Volunteers



### A Sad Loss

The Master Gardener community lost Toni Wyffels, a friend and tireless volunteer, on July 21.

Toni was very active in many projects, including the Plant Sale, the Fort Vancouver Historical Garden, our State Conference, and the cookbook project, just to name a few. Toni was quick to jump in and do whatever was necessary with lots of energy and a bright smile. We extend our condolences to Willy and their family. She will be missed by all.

Editor's note: Toni is pictured with the group of volunteers, at the Fort Vancouver Interpretive garden, on the first page of the newsletter.

**"I don't know what your destiny will be, but one thing I know: the only ones among you who will be really happy are those who have sought and found how to serve."** -Albert Schweitzer

**Master Gardener Volunteers at work.** It took more than 86 volunteers to make the Floral Exhibit at the Clark County Fair happen. ►

**Volunteers are seldom paid; not because they are worthless, but because they are PRICELESS!**



Fair Photos from Angelique Harris

To the left: Our own Dick Bernard, 15 year WSU service pin award earned, shows off his beautiful Gladiolus.

Below: Local judges pick the ribbon winners.



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Master Gardener  
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Newsletter Alternate Months

**September 11**, Tue., 6:30 to 8:30 PM, Rain barrel workshop. Free! Again on Sat., **Oct 6th** from 9 to 11 AM. The Watershed Stewards Program.

**September 15**, a Saturday **On the Road Tour!** See the flyer on page 15

**October 11, Thurs. Fall On the Road Tour** to Sauvie's Island Organic Farms. October will be the final tour of the season...March 2013 New Tours!

**October 15:** Deadline to submit articles for the Nov./December Newsletter

**WSU Extension Clark County Calendar of Events**

Did you know that our website has a calendar of events on it? It's your one-stop shop for finding out about all of the great offerings from Watershed Stewards, Master Gardeners, the Small Acreage program, Food Safety and Nutrition and others. The calendar is accessible on the home page of our website (top left corner) or at the following link. Check it out!

<http://clark.wsu.edu/calendar/index.asp>.

Many thanks go out to the Master Gardener volunteers who participated in the Clark County Fair in August, as well as those who came in and staffed the answer clinic, toiled in a garden, worked a farmers market booth, coordinated a tour, or participated in other Master Gardener projects this summer.



Fall is fast approaching, and with it comes a new class of Master Gardener trainees. As I write, registrations are coming in daily and the class is nearly full. **The training is at the American Legion, 4607 NE St. James Rd.**

Announcements start at 8:45 with classes until 2 or 2:30 PM. Many days will end with a field trip around the county.

I am excited about meeting the newbies and I share in their inquisitive enthusiasm on what becoming a Master Gardener volunteer is about. I will be enrolled in the class myself, even as I coordinate it. I am thrilled to have Treca Selkregg helping out as training coordinator. Feel free to attend a class or two if you feel you need a brush-up on one of the topics offered.

2012 will see two more On the Road Tours, a couple of workshops, and a few more work parties at the Pacific Park natural garden demonstration area. And after a summer hiatus, monthly Master Gardener Foundation meetings are back on. If you have not yet reached your service hour goals for the year, I hope you'll consider participating in some of these events. As the last long days of summer come to an end, I hope you'll take a little time to sit back, relax, and reflect. Sincerely,

Erika Johnson, Master Gardener Program Coordinator

WSU Extension programs and employment are available to all without discrimination. Evidence of noncompliance may be reported through your local WSU Extension



## WSU Master Gardener Training Schedule

The following are Master Gardener training classes suitable for veteran MG continuing ed. Space will

be limited in the hall, so MGs will need to make sure that there is room for all of the current students, when they arrive. **Wednesdays in the Fall:**

**September 19** Weed Management & I.D (9:00am to 11:45am)

Chip Bubl Pesticide Safety (12:15pm to 2:45pm)

**September 26** Vegetables in Western WA (9:00am to 10:45am) Karen Palmer

**October 3** Plant Pathology (9:00am to 11:45am) Charles Brun

**October 10** Tree Fruits in Western WA (9:00am to 10:30am)

Charles Brun Tree Fruit problems (10:30am to 11:30am)

**October 17**

Craig Cogger Soils (9:00am to 11:45am)

Beth Goodnight Successful Landscaping (12:30pm to 2:30pm)

**October 24** Erika Johnson Native Plants (9am to 10am)

Charles Brun Ornamental Plant Problems (10am to 11:30am)

Small Lot Landscaping (12:15 to 1:15)

**October 31** Entomology (9am to noon)

Todd Murray

**November 7** Beneficial Landscaping Principles (9:00am to 10:30am)

Charles Brun Invasive Plants (11:00am to 11:45am)

Jen Naas Water Quality, Rain Garden Management (1:00pm to 2:30pm)

**November 14** Erika Johnson Caring for Urban Trees (9:00am to 10:00am)

JoAnne Dolan Compost (10:45 to 12:15)

### WSU Master Gardener Service 5 year Pins

Class		
2007	Peggy	Agar
2007	Jac	Arnal
2007	Joseph	Aubele
2007	Pamela	Barnett
2007	Penny	Bartlett
2007	Joyce	Brekke
2007	Richard	Brown
2007	James	Cave
2007	Judith	Dennis
2007	Kathleen	Erickson
2007	Lynn	Findlay
2007	Margaret	Florey
2007	Barbara	Garrison
2007	Kathy	Glass
2007	Donald	Gold
2007	Janet	Graves
2007	Renee	Habibi
2007	Bruce	Hall
2007	Melissa	Harris
2007	Judith	Hodges
2007	Dianne	Huff
2007	Kathleen	Jans
2007	Kathleen	Kennedy
2007	Sarah	Kleven
2007	Helen	Koeppen
2007	Elena	Kokta
2007	Susan	Kuhl
2007	Sherry	LaCombe (Ingham)
2007	Sherry	Lambert
2007	Paula	Langendoerfer
2007	Linda	Laughlin
2007	Edward	Lebo
2007	Virginia	Lensing
2007	Loran	Mate
2007	Judith	Mayfield
2007	Patricia	McGrath
2007	Beverlee	Miller
2007	Catherine	Miller-Smith
2007	Nancy	Morgan
2007	Raejean	Newell-Scheuerell
2007	Janalee	Park-Rogers
2007	Mary	Poyfair



Wayne Chandler puts time into the weeds at Pacific Park

## WSU awards Master Gardeners Service Pins

WSU Master Gardener Service Pins 5 yrs.		
2007	Nancy	Preece
2007	Sandi	Rank
2007	Vincent	Rosales
2007	Marguerite	Roth
2007	Lynn	Sherman
2007	Roberta	Silbernagel
2007	Susan	Simshaw
2007	Robert	Spencer
2007	Maggie	Stone
2007	Susan	Tedder
2007	Sharon	Tounzen
2007	Joan	Veach
2007	Virginia	Wambold
2007	Carrie	Ward
2007	Debora	Wickes
2007	Donna	Wieder
2007	Laura	Wilkinson
2007	Johanna	Wolff
2007	Jane	Yahrmarkt



WSU Master Gardener Service Pins 10 yrs.		
2002	Kathy	Aronson
2002	Cathy	Askren
2002	Linda	Bailey
2002	John	Benson
2002	Michele	Bloomquist
2002	Diane	Brockman
2002	Karen	Callen
2002	Laurel	Dailey-Hill
2002	Patricia	Edwards
2002	Janice	Ferguson
2002	Marcia	Gabriel
2002	Carolyn	Gordon
2002	Rhoda	Gorman
2002	Marsha	Gregor
2002	Frances	Hammond
2002	Sue	Knable
2002	Thomas	Koskinen
2002	Kathy	Manning
2002	Rita	Marion
2002	Julie	McLaren
2002	Laura	McNary
2002	Lynette	Metza
2002	Jan	Odegard
2002	Deby	O'Neil
2002	Michele	Pidcock
2002	Katie	Reed
2002	Janet	Senning
2002	Kellie	Sinclair
2002	Justine	Templeman
2002	Gary	Williams
2002	Ann	Wills

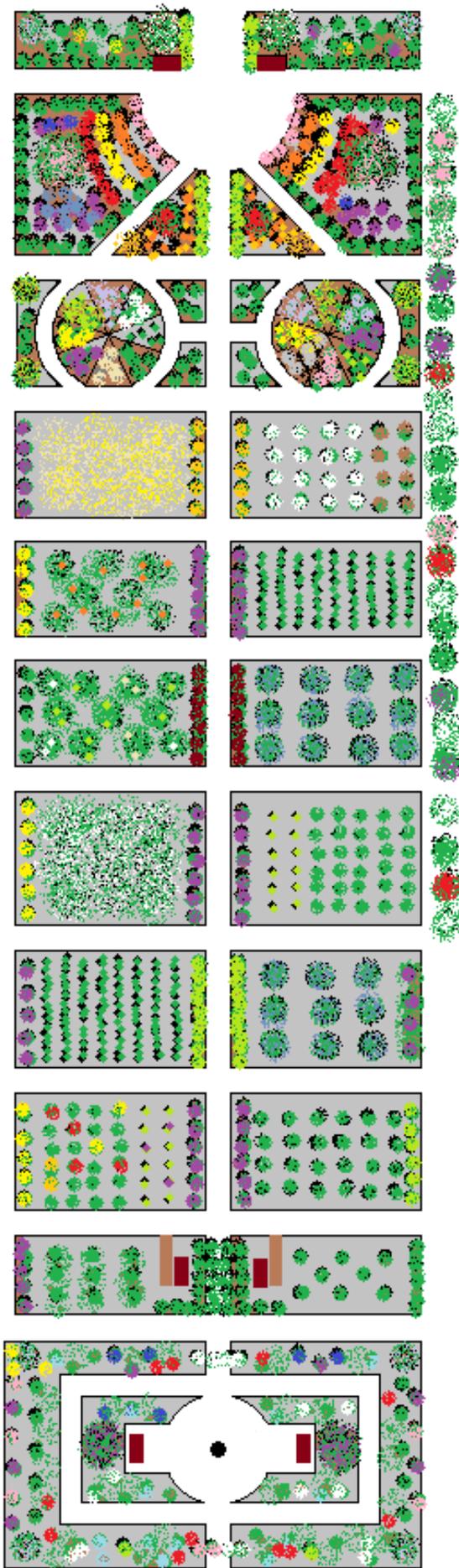
WSU Master Gardener Service Pins 15 yrs.		
1997	Dick	Bernards
1997	Elizabeth	Boileau
1997	Evelyn	Cunningham
1997	Vern	Cunningham
1997	Cindy	Dougherty
1997	Judy	Francis
1997	Jeannette	Goostree
1997	Claudia	Heacock
1997	Lorie	Hoffman
1997	Pat	Hogan
1997	Karen	Mathison
1997	Don	Mitchell
1997	Vernon	Schanilec
1997	Anna	Theobald



### 2012 Garden Quilt Raffle Winner

Many thanks go out to all the people who bought raffle tickets for the Garden Quilt. Gratitude is especially given to Ken Pelens and his wife Val who donate the quilt each year to raise funds for the Master Gardener Foundation horticultural programs. I am a most joyful winner. Editor, Heather Alice Lund





## The Fort Vancouver Historical Garden Diagram & Garden Description by James Pestillo

The **North Flower Garden** is the grand entry, with a semi-circular view point, and pathways laid out in a starburst – each ray leading to a different feature, for visitors to compose their own visit. To the left and right are paths along the flower bed; along both diagonals, paths to the herb beds; and straight ahead, a grand vista – an *allée* – through the heart of the garden, the vegetable beds; to the hop tunnel leading to the South Flower Garden at the far end.

The **Herb Garden** is an extension of the North Flower Garden. The traditional English herbs had many valuable culinary, medicinal, aromatic, and cosmetic uses, as well as natural dyes.

The **Vegetable Garden** contains representative examples of every type of fruit and vegetable known to have grown in the historic garden – a total of 60 kinds of vegetables and 15 kinds of fruits. The array is stunning. The garden today has nine varieties of squash (4 of 'summer', 2 of 'winter', 3 of pumpkins) and six of tomatoes; five varieties of cucumbers; four kinds of potatoes, corn, and peas; three each of beans and eggplants. 'Root crops' include five varieties of beets, four of turnips, three of carrots, two of parsnips and radishes. The Cabbage family is well-represented with four varieties of cabbage, three of kale, two of broccoli; and mustard. Salad greens include three kinds of lettuce, two kinds of celery, and sorrel. There are three kinds of onions, two of leeks, and chives. Fruits include three kinds each of muskmelons and watermelons; gooseberries and red and white currants; grapes and blueberries; and figs. (Fruit trees are admittedly under-represented in our small garden, due to lack of space.) Several beds are dedicated to 'field crops' like wheat, barley, oats or buckwheat, to represent, in a small way, the valuable 'cash crops' of Hudson's Bay Company (HBC) times.

There are nearly three dozen **Old Garden Roses** along the East Fenceline, plus another half-dozen at the North and South Flower Gardens, and a pair of roses in the small garden at the south side of the Chief Factor's House. All are of pre-1860 vintage.

The **South Flower Garden** is a quiet space designed for rest and reflection, at the end of a visit through the Garden or the Fort. There are also a pair of garden benches, and a sundial.

# Review: Smartphone Gardening Applications

by Carolyn Gordon



Now that so many of us have smartphones, it was only a matter of time before gardeners got into the “app” business. I’ve tried out several gardening applications and here is one that I think is worth trying.

**XID Weed ID app for Android and tablets (\$9.95)**



If you have been to a Master Gardener conference in the last few years, you have probably seen Dr. Richard Old on the syllabus. His “What is a Weed” and “Weed ID” lectures are popular, and Dr. Old is a great speaker. This app is based on the 1,200 Weeds of the 48 States and Adjacent Canada interactive DVD created by Dr. Richard Old. (the app for the 200 grass-like species will be released at a later date). The DVD is purported to be “the most comprehensive weed identification reference ever created for North America”. Dr. Old has been the weed identification specialist for Washington State University since 1976.

This is my favorite Weed ID database and is very easy to use once you learn Dr. Old’s system of weed characteristics.

From the Google app website, “The app allows you to identify plants by specifying characteristics from a variety of categories (e.g. flowers, leaves, stem) and sub-categories (e.g. flower color, leaf shape, stem cross-section). You simply examine your plant and make choices based on its traits. You can choose to focus on very sophisticated characteristics like ovary position, or you can choose to focus on more obvious characteristics such as flower color, plant height, or leaf shape. All characteristics are displayed via detailed scientific illustrations in the interactive botanical glossary, which is as useful to novices as it is to professionals. With each choice you make, the list of possible plants shrinks.

For example, to identify dandelion:

Flower color > yellow: reduces the remaining species from 1,000 to 385

Milky juice > yes: reduces the remaining species from 385 to 44

Plant height > 2 - 4 inches: reduces the remaining species from 44 to 8



Highly interactive, the app can even provide suggested characteristics based on ease of use, effectiveness, and the remaining species.

It is easy to confirm your identification by comparing your specimen to the many colored photos or be directed to the specific page number in your favorite weed reference book.

All images and data can be cached to your Android device, allowing the app to be used in the field where phone and internet access may not be available.”

Yes – it is much more expensive than most apps that are either free or only a few dollars, but the price is worth it for the incredible amount of information it contains.

This is not an app that most people will be able to use right out of the box – but the youtube tutorials offer a great way to learn. [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u\\_In1XiU4Sg&feature=results\\_main&playnext=1&list=PL29277543CA29DBD0](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u_In1XiU4Sg&feature=results_main&playnext=1&list=PL29277543CA29DBD0)

The only drawback to the application is that the amount of information on the screen is so great that it is sometimes hard to read. And although the photos can be enlarged, they are small on the screen of most smartphones. This issue would be solved by using the app on a tablet or I-pad where the screen size is much larger.

If you are on the fence about purchasing this app, check out the youtube tutorials or borrow the DVD from the program coordinator and give it a spin.

## Rainy Day Gardening Books

***American Grown* by Michelle Obama, National Park Foundation. 2012.** \$30.00 (author proceeds going to the National Park Foundation).

A book pretty enough to sit on your coffee table with beautiful photos of the White House Kitchen Garden, scrumptious looking produce and recipes, plus the children, Parks Department staff, and White House chefs who work in the White House Kitchen Garden.

This is the story of Michelle Obama's quest to lead our country on a healthier path through gardening, access to fresh and affordable produce, information to make healthy choices, and rediscovering active play and exercise. Regardless of political views, as Master Gardeners, we can agree with these goals and the "Let's Move" campaign to help children lead healthier lives.

Included are the successes and failures (lessons learned) of the White House Kitchen Garden. In addition to the development of the White House Kitchen Garden and the garden plans of spring, summer, fall, and winter, *American Grown* presents interesting historical information such as one of the first farmers' markets in Washington, D.C. was started by Thomas Jefferson in 1801.

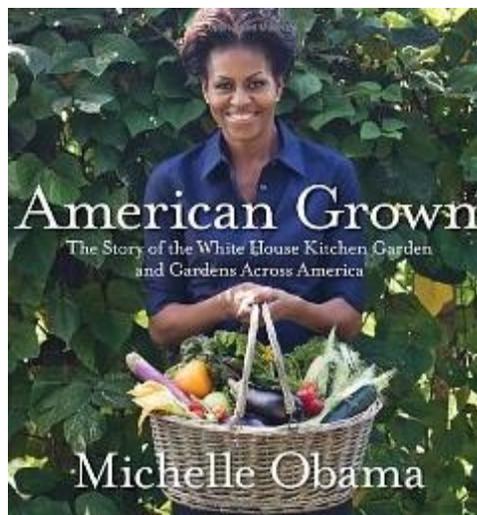
There are contributions about the success stories of other gardens including the "P-Patch" gardens of Seattle started in 1973 and a container vegetable garden in Houston, Texas with each floor of the nearby office building adopting a container. Also covered are tips on starting community gardens, farmer's markets, and children's gardens.

Favorite quotes from the book:

"Dirt is something you want to brush off you, soil is something you want to preserve for generations."

"Gardening makes me forget all my troubles. No matter where it is located, a garden can bear fruit through a labor of love by so many caring people."

Book review submitted by Barbara Nordstrom, Master Gardener 2005



Broken underground pipes have caused long term flooding and marsh-like conditions between greenhouses 11 and 4 at the 78th St. Heritage Farm. As a result three, 3 ft. American Heritage alligators have moved in to call this new habitat home. No greenhouse volunteers have been lost or harmed so far. Needless to say authorities are skeptical of the possibilities. Negotiations are now under way between MGFCC and the producers of "Swamp Thing". Extras may be needed when production starts later this Fall.

*Disclaimer: No 'gators were harmed in the making of this Hoax.*

Unharmd source  
Marie Ogier



# 2112 FALL PLANT SALE

**78<sup>th</sup> Street Heritage Farm**

**1919 NE 78<sup>th</sup> Street, Vancouver WA, 98665**

In conjunction with Harvest Fun Days

**Saturday, September 22, 10 AM – 3 PM**

Fall Vegetable Starts      Perennials

Shrubs and Trees

Houseplants      Activities for the kids

**Cash & Checks Only**

**All proceeds benefit local horticultural programs.**





## Master Gardeners on the Road Tour

# Sustainable Fruit Production & Growing up the Wall

PUBLIC WELCOME

Saturday, Sept. 15, 2012

8:30 am – 5 pm

Van transportation from  
NW corner of Fred Meyer  
parking lot, Mill Plain  
at I-205

- Home Orchard Society  
Arboretum, Oregon City
- Vertical Garden  
Institute at Singer Hill  
Café, Oregon City
- One Green World,  
Molalla



Come learn about sustainable fruit production ... think columnar trees, smaller trees; focus on "right plant, right place." See why comfrey is our friend.

At the Home Orchard Society Arboretum, we'll have a guided tour and time to see what works on their 1.6-acre site. Learn about grafting, pruning, and more.

We'll have lunch at Singer Hill Café while surrounded by the (WOW!) vertical gardens plus an art & jewelry gallery.

One Green World offers currants, guavas, cherries, kiwis, mulberries, apples & more. Purchases must be arranged in advance (on-line or by phone) for pick up on tour day.

Cost: \$30 (+\$9 for box lunch)

Online registration required by 4pm on 9/13:

<https://ocrs.wsu.edu/Signup/?eventid=835>

For more information, call 360-397-6060 x 5738

Note NEW departure point.  
New Master Gardener  
students are especially invited.

WSU Extension programs and employment are available to all without discrimination. Evidence of noncompliance may be reported through your local WSU Extension office.

