



## Master Gardener Plant Sale May 11 & 12th

### Grape Propagation at the Greenhouse

I guess you could call us the “Sweet-n-Juicy” Team. For the first year, we are monitoring production and sales of berries, grapes and fruit plants. We also will be maintaining the Heritage Orchard at the 78<sup>th</sup> Street property. In preparation for the upcoming Mother’s Day sale, berries and grapes are beginning to take up the valuable space among the other preparations from various teams. Grapes, in particular, are an easy start. With just a short cutting placed in a pot of soil, growth begins fairly rapidly. No root hormone is needed, as an innate desire to grow seems to be within each cutting.

Already, we have planted several varieties: Glenora, Himrod, Vanessa, Suffolk Red, and both blue and white Concord. Held over from last year are: Einset, Venus and Reliance Red. If you



have an additional variety you particularly like, and would like to contribute, bring cuttings to the greenhouse and we’ll add them to the batch. Grapes need lots of sun, medium water and good drainage. Because blueberries are so expensive to purchase for the sale, we have started propagating them from cuttings. It is a slow process, and their use in sales is a ways in the future. The “S-n-J” Team at present consists of Joe and Robin Padron, Pam Sollars, Jerry MacQuarrie, and Dale Thompson. If you are interested in working with this team, let one of us know.

Here are some characteristics of the above grapes we’ll have available at the May sale, to help you choose a variety you would like to try this year.

**Pictured left, Glenora:** This is a dessert grape -- large, seedless, sweet-n-juicy, and blue-black. It works well on a grape arbor. It is vigorous, productive and

disease-resistant, and is easy to grow – great for the beginner. It can hold its own in a variety of soils, but prefers a light and sandy mixture for best growth. Glenora is self-pollinating, and will begin bearing about 2 years after planting.

**Vanessa:** Vanessa is as good as it tastes, blush-red, seedless, and a sweet, tangy flavor. It is great for juice, pies, or jam and jelly. Vanessa grapes can be harvested mid-September. It is resistant to grape pests with little or no spraying. It has a moderately vigorous growth habit, so some cluster thinning may be needed at bloom to improve berry size.

**Concord:** Concord grapes are derived from the grape species *Vitis labrusca*, used as a table, wine, jelly or juice grape. It is a lip-skin variety, meaning that the skin is easily separated from the fruit. It has large seeds and is highly aromatic. Two varieties are available, the typical blue grape, and also a white variety, Niagara Concord.

**Suffolk Red:** Suffolk red is also a *Vitis labrusca* grape that is used for fruit, wine

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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> Street Heritage Farm and other venues across Clark County through education, consultative programs and experiences which preserve or enhance our environment.

## Grape Propagation at the greenhouse for the Foundation Plant Sale, May 11 & 12.

**continued from page 1:** and shade. A single grapevine produces enough new growth every year to roof an arbor, arch a walkway, or shade over a terrace or deck. This variety ripens mid ...season, and has large, high-quality fruit on a moderately hardy vine. Its clusters are pink to bright red, have round firm berries with a mild spicy sweet flavor.

**Einsett:** The berries are oval, bright red with a light waxy bloom. The flesh is tender to firm, and has a fruity flavor, with a mild hint of labrusca and strawberry. It is an early maturing grape with extended storage life, has high fruit quality and is winter hardy. Vines are susceptible to powdery mildew.

**Reliance:** This fruit has a mild fruity flavor with high sugar content, of medium size and seedless. It has large, well-filled clusters. Good for eating fresh and using it in juice. It is a vigorous, productive, dependable vine, but is somewhat susceptible for black rot. It is well suited to train on arbor or trellis. It changes color as it develops, passing through an array of colors before it takes on a purple color, indicating it is ripe to eat. It ripens in early September. Pictured Right ►

**Venus:** The Venus grape is a large, seedless grape. Its flavor is a combination of Muscat and Labrusca. It is a moderately hardy variety, with early harvest. Seeds are usually soft and can be eaten with the grape. It can be spur pruned, but cane training gives slightly greater cluster size and yield.  
Submitted by Dale Thompson



### The Mysteries and Exercise of Working With Houseplants

Submitted by Wanda Wilson for the Warm & Tropical Team

So you want a rosary plant. What do you ask for at the nursery? Careful now! If you ask for a rosary plant you could get a *Ceropegia woodii*, a hanging plant with small variegated leaves and small pipe shaped flowers, or *Senecio rowelanus* with strings of globe shaped beads, or *Crassula rupestris*, a small spreading succulent with clusters of yellow flowers at the ends of the stems. Or who knows what else you might get with that common name.

What if you ask a friend to pick up a money plant for you? The friend might return with any number of *Crassulas* or *Lunaria annua*. Latin names are the only way to be sure you are correctly identifying the indicated plant. Sometimes Latin names change. What do you do then? Just choose the most recent authority and go with that.

What about pesticides? Can any pesticide be used successfully on all plants? No! Insecticidal soaps should not be used on begonias, Crown of Thorns, ferns, jades or palms. Neem oil should not be used on African violets, begonias, Crown of Thorns, ferns, geraniums, ivies, palms or *Scheffleras*. How do you decide how to eradicate an invading pest? If you have multiple plants, experiment on one. If you have only one plant research is called for. Research the plant and the insecticide using several references and hope for the best.

We tend to think of houseplants as being persnickety prima donnas but they are actually sturdy plants that have been pulled (however gently) from their natural environment and plopped into our low light, low humidity and chemically affected atmosphere teamed with erratic care and chemically treated water. No wonder they sometimes protest. In a mixed plant greenhouse many challenges arise. How does one care for plants such as cacti and succulents and ferns and bog plants that have such divergent needs? A desk top weather station can be helpful. In greenhouse 6 the area nearest the heater which has a pilot light is warmer and dryer than the opposite end of the greenhouse. In a different greenhouse with more sun exposure the arrangement could vary.

The exercise of growing houseplants is primarily mental but some lifting, squatting and reaching are involved. If you are interested working with houseplants or have questions call Wanda Wilson at (360)576-0539.





## News from the Master Gardener Foundation Board

Hello Fellow Gardeners,

It is hard to believe we are already into the last bit of the first half of the year. Where has the time gone? The last big push for the Mother's Day Weekend sale is hard upon us. The greenhouses are bursting at the foundation. Thank you to the many volunteers who have helped on the various planting teams. Tender vegetables are everywhere, along with herbs, perennials, shrubs and flowering annuals. Watch for the growing plants at the Welcome to Washington sign on I-5. Please remember to sign up to help with the planting of the I-5 sign which happens Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, after the plant sale weekend. This is the season where our hard work begins to pay off in our vegetable gardens and pots. I hope yours are doing well. Remember to tell folks about the next training class for the fall. This is a jam packed edition of the newsletter, so move on to the articles and photos. Thank you to all who contributed to this edition.



See you at some of the many Foundation activities, especially mark your calendar for the July 9<sup>th</sup> Volunteer Appreciation Annual Picnic.

Peg Schauer, Master Gardener Foundation President

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### At the April 2013 Foundation meeting several Master Gardeners were awarded service achievement awards.

The 10 year awards went to Fran Hammond and Carolyn Gordon, from the class of 2002.

The 1,000 hours awards went to Heather Lund 2005, Alice Pofahl 2005, and Stephania Potter 2004.



### MGF Mugs and T-shirts now available.



Stainless Steel MGF Mugs now available for \$5 each. 100% of the profits go toward the Foundation. You will want to get a couple. Remember, "Friends don't let Friends go without their MGF mug!"

Tshirts available \$15. Small, Medium, and Large sizes available. Orchid color in Women's sizes. Charcoal, Sage, and Olive available in Men's sizing.

Both can be found in Greenhouse #10 Wednesday mornings or contact Marie at [marieogier@comcast.net](mailto:marieogier@comcast.net), 360.901.3240 to make arrangements.

# Meeting Information for the Master Gardener Foundation of Clark County

**Master Gardener Foundation of Clark County educational meetings** are held the first Tuesday of the month except for July, August, and January. The meetings are held at CASEE Center, Bldg B, Room 202/205, 11104 NE 149th Street, Brush Prairie, WA 98606 Refreshments, Meeting at 7 PM.

## Program for Tuesday, May 7th, 2013 at 7:00 pm

**Speaker:** Chad Harris of Mt. Pleasant Iris Farm will speak on "The Water Loving Irises of Asia". The talk and slide show will be a brief history of the Iris in Japan and the flower forms of *Iris ensata*. Chad will also cover iris growth and cultural needs.

Chad Harris has been growing and hybridizing many different species of irises in SW Washington State for over 30 years. He is respected in the iris world as a



Master Judge with the American Iris Society and for his work with *Iris ensata* (*Hanashobu* in Japan). He also enjoys working with the related *Iris laevigata* (*Kakitsubata*), the true water iris of Japan. These two plants of the iris family are well suited growing near water, in rain gardens as well as containers. Mt. Pleasant Iris Farm is the site of a National

Display Garden of Japanese Iris and located in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, a 25-minute drive from the Portland Airport.

**The Greater Portland Iris Society**

An affiliate of  
The American Iris Society  
Presents

**3 IRIS SHOWS**

SATURDAY, May 4, 2013  
Lloyd Center Mall  
(10:00 am to closing)

SATURDAY, May 25, 2013  
Lloyd Center Mall  
(10:00 am to closing)

SATURDAY, June 22, 2013  
Lloyd Center Mall  
(10:00 am to closing)

**3 IRIS PLANT SALES**

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY  
APRIL 13 & 14, 2013  
Portland Expo, 10:00 am TO 3:00 pm

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY  
August 24 & 25, 2013  
Portland Nursery, 5050 SE Stark  
9:00 am to 4:00 pm

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY  
September 21 & 22, 2013  
Portland Nursery, 5050 SE Stark  
9:00 am to 4:00 pm

[www.greaterportlandirisociety.org](http://www.greaterportlandirisociety.org)  
For more information, call (503) 698-9230 or (360) 835-1016

## Program for Tuesday, June 4th, 2013 at 7:00 PM

**Speaker:** Emelie McKain of Clark County Environmental Services/Vegetation Management AmeriCorps member.

### Topic: Vegetation Management for the New Age Gardener

Clark County Vegetation Management, a division of Clark County Environmental Services, is your local source for information on noxious weed identification, control, reporting and management. Emelie McKain is the education and outreach coordinator for Vegetation Management and is spearheading several new programs this year; utilizing technology to put identifying, mapping and reporting noxious weeds at your fingertips. She comes with years of expertise in invasive species research, identification, mapping and management. Enjoy learning more about what Vegetation Management does for the county and the several free programs you can be a part of. In Emelie's presentation, you will also receive updates on local noxious weeds as well as ways to identify and report noxious weeds when you see them and where you see them. Learn how to take part in the citizen science campaign by letting your garden, backyard, local trail or park become your reporting field.



## Future Meetings, Mark your calendars!

**2nd Tuesday in July 9 "Volunteer Appreciation Annual Picnic" with drawing for the Quilt .**

**August no meeting**

**September 3,** Nancy Chennault, **Topic:** The Gardens @ South Bend, Evaluation and Trial Gardens

**October 1,** Samantha Hatch aka "Sam the Maple Lady," **Topic:** The care and pruning for Japanese Maples

**November 5,** Heather Havens, from Concentrates, Inc. **Topic:** Natural Fertilization and Soil Management

**December. 3,** Dr. Judith Harpel, **Topic:** Bryophytes (Mosses, Hornworts and Liverworts) of Yellowstone National Park

**Team Help Needed to find speakers for meetings, do promotion of the meetings and greet & set up the speakers for each meeting. Sharon Kitashima is the chairperson for this group and would greatly appreciate help in promoting our meetings and their educational presentations. Contact her at [snokit@msn.com](mailto:snokit@msn.com)**





**Treca, Kay and Fran are perennially Happy on the job!**

**Fran Hammond 10 year  
service Award, Class of  
2002**

## Perennials Create Beautiful Gardens

To give your garden wonderful color and texture year after year, be sure to check out the large collection of perennials available at the MGF Plant Sale this year. There are many great varieties for any type of light or soil conditions and it's fun to try new plants. There will be the old fashioned favorites, of course. Aster, Columbine, Iris, Shasta Daisy, Peony, Phlox and Rudbeckia, that we remember so well from Mother's or Grandma's garden. But, the more unusual perennials are always a pleasant surprise when you find Astilbe, Canna, Epimedium, Heuchera, Hellebore, Saxifrage and Toad Lily (*Tricyrtis*) lined up next to the variegated foliage of Hostas. You'll even find giant Banana plants (*Musa ensete*) for that special tropical look.

Native plants are a smart landscape choice if you'd like to attract birds and butterflies as well as reduce your watering needs. There will be a nice selection of native shrubs and perennials offered this year. Consider adding a Red Flowering Current (*Ribes sanguineum*) to attract hummingbirds or Fringecup (*Tellima grandiflora*) for an easy groundcover in shady areas.

**Submitted by Julie Carlsen for the Perennials Team** The perennial team often changes week to week; we are thankful for all our volunteers. Regular team volunteers are: Fran Hammond, Treca Selkregg, Kay Mackay, Alice Pofahl, Sandy Johnson, Kathy Perry, Sue Petersen, Tracy Wright, Dale Thompson and Wayne Chandler.



**Everyone is on the Water team**, including Alice Pofahl and Julie Carlsen, pictured left. **Photo right** ► Libby Adcock is perennially weeding, and in the lower right corner, Treca Selkregg and Sidne Kneeland fill up Greenhouse #12.



**Photo Left:** Directions from Wayne: "One more time on the bench, Ken, I seem to be missing my hand." The guys are always busy.



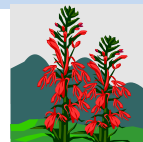
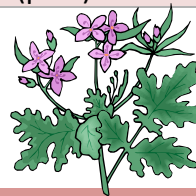
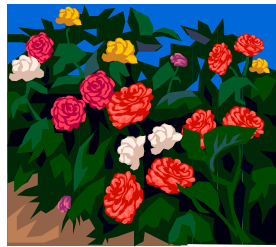
## May 11 & 12 th ANNUAL Plant Sale is in Full Bloom!



Annuals, Phil Gulling

### The Annuals Team has a Great Selection!

Plant Name	Variety/Color
Alyssum (p 20)	Snow Crystals Wonderland Series - Citron Wonderland Series - Pink Wonderland Series - White 29 Jan
Bacopa (p 23)	Utopia Collection - Blutopia Utopia Collection - Snowtopia
Begonia (p 25)	Whopper Series - Red w/Bronze Leaf Whopper Series - Rose w/Bronze Leaf Bada Boom - Scarlet Bada Boom - Rose Improved 5 Feb Bada Boom - White Go Go Series (Tubrous) - Rose Bi-Color
Coleus (p 33)	New Chocolate Covered Cherry Carefree Mix Kong Series - Empire Mix Wizard Series - Select Mix
Dahlberg Daisy (p 45)	Golder Fleece
Datura (p 45)	White
Dianthus (p 45)	Dulce Series - White to Pink
Dichondra (p 48)	Silver Falls Emerald Falls
Dusty Miller (p 49)	Silverdust Cartwheel Series - Chardonnay (yellow)
Gerbera (p 59)	Festival Series - Red w/ Dark Eye
Geranuims (p 56)	Maverick Series - White Maverick Series - Star BullsEye Series - Cherry Score Series - Deep Rose Tornado Series (Ivy Leaf) - Red
Impatiens (p 74)	New Guinea - Orange w/bronze leaf New Guinea - Scarlet New Guinea - Devine Pink
Lobelia (p 77)	Crystal Palace - Dark Blue (upright) Regatta Series - Marine Blue Riviera Series - Blue Eyes (upright) Sapphire (Blue)



The Annuals team, and many other volunteers (who range in age from 5 to ???), have produced a great crop of beautiful annuals for this year's MG plant sale. Greenhouse #1 is looking great; we think it's our best production yet. Nancy asked if they (the plants, not my team) were on steroids.

Our team (Penny Bartlett, Sandy Burckhard, Kathy Gallagher, Michelle Palmateer, and myself) started right after last year's sale by reviewing over our results, then in the fall ordering seeds, planning a seeding schedule, and then starting operations in GH#1 in January.

We have many beautiful hanging baskets (fuchsias and mixed plants) and pots (mixed plants). New this year, we have a mid-sized pot designed for sale as a nice, inexpensive gift for their mother, grandmother and/or wife. New plants this year include Datura (white), Gerbera, and some new colors of Begonias & Petunias.

You are welcome to come & look.....but you'll need to wait until Mother's Day weekend to buy!

Submitted by Phil Gulling



Marianne Gardner reaches new heights.

## May 11 & 12 th ANNUAL Plant Sale is in Full Bloom! Continued from Page ?

Marigolds- French (p 80)	Bonanza Series (Lg Flowers) - Yellow Little Hero Series (Dbl Flowers) - Yellow Hero Series (Dbl Flowers) - Flame
Osteospermum (p 90)	Asti F1 Series - Purple Asti F1 Series - Lavender Shades Akila Series - New White Purple Eye
Petunias - Shock Wave (p 108)	Denim (flower 1.5-2 inches)
Petunias - Easy Wave (p 108)	Burgundy Star (flower 2.5-3.0 inch) Plum Vein (flower 2.5-3.0 inch) Feb 19 Red (flower 2.5-3.0 inch) Jan 16 White (flower 2.5-3.0 inch)
Petunias - Tital Wave (p108)	Cherry (flower 2-2.5) Silver (flower 2-2.5)
Petunias - Debonair Coll (p118)	Dusty Rose (flower 3 inches)

**Total Annual Plants = 16**

**Total Varieties/Colors = 50**

Michelle Palmater, left and  
Kathy Gallagher check the planting list.



Please submit all of your volunteer hours. This data is so important to our program success and funding from WSU. Erika reports that in the first quarter of 2013, 126 Volunteers reported working **4,609 HOURS. WOW to US!**



## Farmer's Markets Kick off for the Summer!

The Camas Farmer's Market kicks off its 6th season on June 12th. The market will be open every Wednesday through October 9<sup>th</sup> from 3 to 7 pm in front of the Camas City Library and is a celebration of our region's agricultural bounty, fabulous food and community spirit. Each Wednesday the market fills up with freshly harvested seasonal produce, flowers, pastured meat, eggs, and prepared foods. Fill your shopping basket, chat with a farmer, visit the Kids Connection booth for fun activities, learn something new at our Healthy Living booth, leave the cooking to us and enjoy dinner while listening to live local music—all in one place.

**The WSU Extension Service Master Gardeners** will be with us again to answer all your gardening questions. For more information contact Marilyn Goodman at [marilyn@camasfarmersmarket.org](mailto:marilyn@camasfarmersmarket.org) or (503) 329-3165 (cell).

### More Dates to Note for Camas Gardeners

**May 11, 2013** – 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Camas Mother's Day Plant and Garden Fair – 9am to 4pm – Camas High School, 26900 SE 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Camas, WA. I know this is the same weekend as the BIG MG Sale, but bargain hunters may want to check out both! Submitted by Sally Greenlee

**May 18, 2013** – Community Garden Club of Camas Washougal's Annual Plant Sale – 9am to 2pm – Fellowship Hall of the Camas United Methodist Church, 706 NE 14<sup>th</sup> Ave. in Camas. One block from Crown Park –

**WSU Extension  
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Master Gardener  
Program**

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**Publication on Alternate  
Months**

**June 15:** Deadline to submit articles for the July-August Newsletter.

**Sunday July 14 - Earth-Friendly Garden Tour** - watch for details at <http://clark.wsu.edu/calendar/index.asp>

**August 1-11, 2013 Clark County Fair**, Set up is July 27, take down Aug 12  
volunteers contact [burk106@comcast.net](mailto:burk106@comcast.net)



Ah, spring! New life is bursting forth all around us, and I have a special happening on my little piece of the planet this year. I put up my first mason bee box several weeks ago after attending Mark Hallenbeck's presentation at the February Master Gardener Foundation meeting. I selected its spot carefully,

under shelter and facing toward the morning sun, and bought a bright, lovely dwarf forsythia and placed it on a table just outside and below the box. I wanted to construct a tiny sign on one of the branches that said "Welcome Mason Bees!", but refrained. I diligently checked the cocoons sitting atop the nesting chambers, each warm day in March, in anticipation, when lo and behold one visit revealed that all of the smaller cocoons had been opened and were empty. I knew that the males hatched first and that the females wouldn't be far behind. Two weeks of cold rain followed and I wondered if the females would arrive late to the party and miss the males. And would they see the forsythia blossoms or would they be drawn to some other flowers in someone else's yard?, I also wondered.

Fast forward a few days later on another wonderfully warm day, and a check on the cocoons revealed that the larger, female bees had emerged. So far so good! Later while mowing my lawn, I was swarmed by a flurry of bees coming and going, their little faces peering out of the holes in the block; yes - they were presumably making their special bee bread in the cocoon chambers! It was at this time that I also noticed several pieces of straw and some twigs alongside and on top the nest block and wondered if someone else had found the little shelter an attractive site for rearing young. Frequent watching out the window paid off when I spied a Bewick's wren hopping around on the rhododendron near the box - confirming my suspicions of who the new inhabitants of the mason bee box were. It will be a fun next few weeks watching these new strange, new bedfellows doing their thing!

**May/June events:**

On the Road Tour: May 25, Time, Love & the Land - Garden Transformations

On the Road Tour: June 18, Community Supported Agriculture Ventures in Clark County

Erika Johnson Master Gardener Coordinator



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

## The Educational Corner, Classes, Tours and More



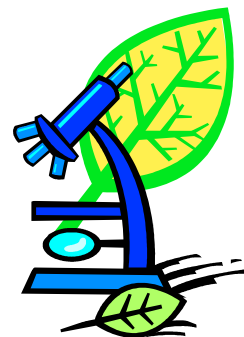
### Great Seminar! Advanced Plant Diagnostic Clinic

In February, many of us were lucky to attend the Advanced Plant Clinic taught by Jenny Glass of the WSU Puyallup Plant and Insect Diagnostic Lab. Jenny was a fun presenter with a mix of facts and interesting stories. The first half of the day was spent on a review of how to proceed through a diagnosis of a presented problem. Then the best part was the afternoon session with hands on attempts at diagnosis of various samples. It was not only educational and interesting, but gave an overall feeling that you are not alone in struggling for answers in the clinic – even the experts can get stumped.

**Photo Left:** Master Gardener Intern Bryan Preas getting instruction from Jenny

When presented with a problem in the clinic, follow the steps taken from an Ohio State Extension Fact Sheet: 1. What is the plant? 2. What is normal for the plant? 3. What are common problems for the plant? 4. What do you see that looks abnormal? 5. What is the overall health of the plant? 6. What exactly do you see? 7. What do you see on other plants? 8. What are the plant's site conditions? In all 20 step questions were given with the last three being: 17. What is the diagnosis? 18. What is the significance of the problem? and 20. What are the recommendations?

We learned that the final diagnosis may be a mystery. Just remember to seek help and be proud to say "I don't know, but I will try to find out." submitted by Elizabeth Ladd



## On the Road Tours for Spring 2013

### Living Soil, Compost and More, the March Tour was a success!

Submitted by Karen Plitt, MG Tour Team

Fifteen master gardeners or others interested in learning about soil, compost, raised beds and more took the Living Soil tour March 20 in Ridgefield and Vancouver. We began at Soil Builders in Ridgefield, where owner, David Cox, gave an enlightening presentation on turning horse manure and horse stall bedding into rich compost. We were able to purchase two cubic foot bags of compost or potting mix. If anyone wants to purchase material, contact David by telephone at 360-921-7256 to make arrangements for pickup at the NE 199<sup>th</sup> Street location. If you look on the website, Soil Builders is no longer located on NE 259<sup>th</sup> Street.



Following Soil Builders, we went to Shorty's Nursery Ridgefield location on NE 199<sup>th</sup> and NE 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue where manager, Jeff Olson, along with Shannon Philbrook from Swanson Bark & Wood Product of Longview, gave interesting presentations with samples of many grades of bark and compost products as well as provided handouts on the make-up of several products. Four of the group received door prizes of either premium potting mix, fertilizer, or compost. We purchased plants and then went on to Hockinson Café in Battle Ground for lunch.

Our next stop was H&H Wood Recyclers on NE 117<sup>th</sup> Avenue, where many of us take our wood and/or leaf debris. We walked down to the area where huge piles of leaves had turned into beautiful compost in just three months. At H&H, we also received price lists for delivery of their bark dust, dirt and compost, and rock. Continued on Page 13

## ***Garden Time*, Saturday mornings at 8:30, KOIN Channel 6-** Review by Barbara Nordstrom



The *Garden Time* TV show on Saturday mornings is a great way to start the weekend. Each *Garden Time* includes useful garden tips, plant care, and interesting ideas. Local nurseries that sponsor the show, are featured in addition to segments on area garden projects/events and monthly visits with retired Oregon State University Extension Agent, Jan McNeilan. The program does not consistently identify locations of events so you may need to check their web site. The companion show, *Fusion*, was discontinued, so this spring *Garden Time* will be one hour instead of the usual half-hour show, and this may increase the scope of *Garden Time*

to include home and entertainment segments. The show airs March through November.

**Photo Above** Last summer, *Garden Time* visited the Hazel Dell School and Community Garden. Producer, Jeff Gustin (left) videos host William McClenathan interviewing Jodee Nickel, WSU Ext. Food \$ense and 4-H Coordinator and children from the Boys and Girls Club summer session.

*Garden Time* is produced by Gustin Creative Group, a production and marketing company. The web site, [www.gardentime.tv](http://www.gardentime.tv), includes helpful information, links to local garden events, and archives of previous shows. A free monthly digital magazine for garden and home is available via email subscription; sign up at the web site.

To see segments featuring the Hazel Dell School and Community Garden (Aug. 11, 2012) and Second Step Housing (August 25, 2012), go to [www.gardentime.tv](http://www.gardentime.tv) archives: episode 254 and 256.



### **The Hazel Dell School and Community Garden is growing with spring activities.**

March 28th was a busy day at the garden. In the morning, the annual Enrichment Fair involved elementary students in a myriad of activities including "Lett\*uce Eat" in the school garden. Children examined and tasted butter lettuce, leaf lettuce, romaine, and spinach. They voted spinach as their favorite green! Many had not tasted raw spinach before and were surprised at the taste. In addition to a booklet about lettuce, students took home a leaf lettuce plant and a flower donated by the Lewis and Clark High School horticulture program and garden seeds donated by Yard N' Garden Land.

**Photo Above:** Master Gardeners Barbara Nordstrom, Lisa Sundstrom and Laura Heldreth help students learn that there is lettuce beyond head lettuce at the Hazel Dell School Enrichment Fair.

Later that day, during "Spring Break Days of Service," fifteen Clark College students spent an afternoon of their vacation pruning, laying ground cover, transplanting, and weeding at the Hazel Dell School and Community Garden. Clark's Volunteer and Service Learning program students were assisted on March 28th by WSU Master Gardeners Bobbi Bellomy, Laura Heldreth, Barbara Nordstrom, and Suzy Taylor. All agreed that the Clark students made an amazing difference in the garden: goodbye weeds, hello spring.

**Photo Right:** In the greenhouse, Clark College students (from left to right) Jamal Ford, Michelle Suchy and Vi Huynh, lay the new ground cover at the Hazel Dell School and Community Garden. The ground cover was made possible by a grant from the Master Gardener Foundation. Thank you MGF!

Other spring events, included the Community Gardeners spring planting day and the April 18 Vancouver School of Arts and Academics "Day of Caring."

We appreciate the Master Gardener Foundation's continued support of the Hazel Dell School and Community Garden; your support touches many lives and promotes gardening and healthy eating.



## Native Notes from Elizabeth Ladd

Plant: *Ribes sanguineum* or red flowering current

Growth: Deciduous Shrub to 6 ft.

Water needs: Tolerates dry to moist conditions

Light needs: Requires sun to part shade

This shrub is a great selection for a sunny spot or as a marginal plant in the woodlands. It is happiest in well drained soils and does not like summer water once established. So keep an eye on moisture the first couple of years and after that you can forget it – but don't use it in a summer irrigated bed. So far the deer have not bothered mine, and it is reputed to be deer resistant.

I have included picture of one of my one year old plants. The flowers on this one vary much more towards pink than average. Most specimens are much redder when in bud. These plants are available at many local nurseries, from the Clark County Conservation District plant sale, and from the Master Gardener Foundation plant sale at the 78th Street Heritage Farm.



### Books For Sale at the Plant Sale on May 11 & 12th

Book Reviews submitted by – Elizabeth Ladd

#### All New Square Foot Gardening Cookbook

By Mel Bartholomew

I'm not a square foot gardener because I have always had plenty of space in my yard. But this cookbook is a fun resource for anyone who vegetable gardens. My favorite part is that it is organized by vegetable – so when you just are out of ideas for eggplant, you can flip through that section for inspiration. The recipes are easy to follow and use common pantry staples. It is also family friendly with suggestions for kids projects. Included are basic gardening hints such as harvesting, expected yields, and suggested companions. If you are interested in square foot gardening, the appendix includes charts and suggestions on getting started.



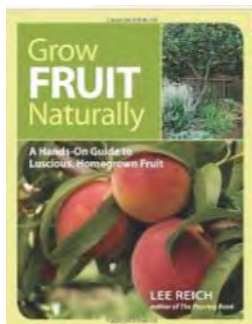
Photo above: potted *Ribes sanguineum* line up at the 78th St. Greenhouses

**GO NATIVE!**

#### Grow Fruit Naturally

By Lee Reich

This is a very comprehensive book on growing your own fruit with mostly organic methods. It includes common fruits as well as exotics such as kiwi fruit. For out of zone fruits, it has instructions for container planting. For each fruit there are guidelines on varieties, planting, pruning, general maintenance, pest and disease management, and harvesting. The only con I found was that it is



not specific to our area.

**These books are available through the Master Gardener Foundation at events throughout the year, including the upcoming Plant Sale**

#### Notes from the Washington State Native Plant Society

Botanical Rambles has posted a new item, 'Appreciating Native Plant Appreciation Week' by Sarah Gage. You may view the latest post and see events and activities planned at:

<http://www.wnps.org/blog/appreciating-native-plant-appreciation-week/>

#### Notes from Dr. Charles Brun

This new pub should be reviewed by all Clark County MG volunteers at their leisure at home:

<https://pubs.wsu.edu/ItemDetail.aspx?ReturnTo=0&ProductID=15566>

**A SPELLING QUIZ. Is it FUSHIA, or FUCHSIA???? Read on, the answer is at the end of the article.....NO PEEKING.**

Submitted by Fran Hammond

This is truly a plant that fits into any garden. It is prized for its easy care, never-ending summer blooms that can cover the branches on the entire plant, and its irresistible allure to hummingbirds. As a child I can remember the fun I had popping the bulging buds to see what the color was inside, and the most fun of all was picking them when fully open, twirling them between my fingers, pretending they were dancing ballerinas.

They come in almost all colors of the rainbow. Flowers can be a single color, two colors or even three AND they can be single or double. Some plants have flowers that are itty bitsy, some long and slender, some with elongated tubes, and some with a short tube. They can have upright branching, or be lax upright, or have a trailing growth habit. Leaves can be small, yellow, red, pink or even bi-colored, and they can grow in moderate sun or shade. Whew!



An irresistible feature of the “hardy” varieties is that like any perennial they return year after year. They may look dead over winter, but as spring approaches, they will sprout plenty of green from either the base of the plant or in many instances along the branches, if they have been left unpruned over winter.

Most winters in our area are mild enough that most hardy types in the ground don’t need mulching around the base of the plant before winter sets in. However, once in awhile we get one of those special winters where the temperatures dip fast and furious. A tried and true tip from the “guru” Ron Monnier is to plant them deeper in the ground than they were in the pot. Typically our ground doesn’t freeze more than a few inches and the focus is protection of the root. He classifies them as so hardy you “couldn’t kill them with a stick” or “hardy with protection”.

(Personally, I prefer to play it safe and throw a little mulch around them, regardless.)

**At the Master Gardener Foundation greenhouses we sell the “annual” tender hanging baskets as well as the hardy varieties. This year we will have around 75 hardy varieties to sell at our Mother’s Day plant sale,**

**(35 new varieties for this year alone),** but not a large number of any one variety.

Many won’t be in bloom yet in mid-May, however, we have a “descriptive list” of each of them so that we can tell you all of the particulars mentioned above, i.e., color, height, etc. and we’d love to talk about them with you. Our plants are

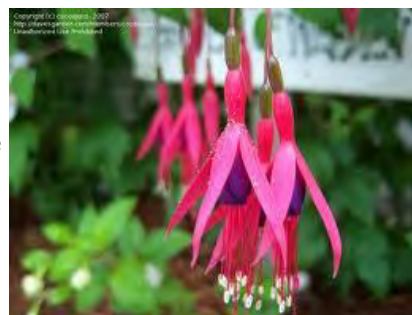
VERY healthy, so you definitely want to stop by Greenhouse #12. Guaranteed you will find one (or MORE) you just can’t live without! There you will also find a wide variety of irresistible Hostas, Heucheras and Abutilon.



Probably the best part about our plant sale is that it helps to satisfy your “*plant lust*” while helping our community, since the money raised by this foundation activity supports many worthy Clark County programs, so no need to feel GUILTY, just shop, shop, shop! (Besides, you can’t beat our prices.) (AND, the answer is..... **FUCHSIA**)

**Editor’s Note:** On the Clark County Master Gardener’s Web site there is an excellent article written in 2008 on Fuchsias. If you want more technical information on growing this plant, check out the web site

[http://www.clarkwsu.edu/volunteer/mg/gm\\_tipsFuchsia.html](http://www.clarkwsu.edu/volunteer/mg/gm_tipsFuchsia.html)



## On the Road Tours for Spring 2013, continued from page 9



Our final stop at Yard'n Garden Land featured owner, Mark Sonney, who showed samples and explained the differences between 3-way, 4-way, raised garden bed mix, compost, super compost, river sand and mason (screened) sand. We received price lists for delivery and suggestions for how to use the products. Again, we shopped and the truck and vans were full by the end of the day.

Our Living Soil tour was highly informative and fun for all, especially to several of us who are building new raised beds. Plan to join future tours to get to know other Master Gardeners, learn new information, and visit many interesting nurseries. All of our tours in 2013 are scheduled in Washington with the next tour on Thurs-

day, April 25, to Burnt Ridge Nursery, Onalaska; and Raintree Nursery, Morton. The Thursday, May 23, tour will feature four Clark County diverse properties with challenging, successful transformations. Look for the flyers for future tours and plan to learn new ideas and meet fellow gardeners.

### Looking ahead for the On the Road Tours

**Thursday May 23** - Tour stops may include iris gardens and a foray into beekeeping. Enjoy a Japanese garden at a private home in Vancouver.

**Tuesday June 18** - Community Supported Agriculture ventures in Clark County offer produce, flowers, and meat. Come meet the farmers and see the amazing local operations.

**Sunday July 14 - Earth-Friendly Garden Tour** - watch for details at <http://clark.wsu.edu/calendar/index.asp>

**Thursday, September 26** - Visit the gardens of three Master Gardeners and some of their neighbors to see how the lessons learned are applied in diverse landscapes and micro climates.

## April On the Road Tour Summary

Submitted By Suzanne Michalik  
and Karen Plitt

It was a sparkling sunny morning when 20 women and 7 men rolled out of the Enterprise car rental parking lot. Little did we suspect the adventure that awaited us.

At mile post 68 we pulled off Hwy 5 heading for Burnt Ridge Nursery. Only the name on the mailbox indicated our destination.

Burnt Ridge Nursery sits on 20 acres of south-facing slope with stunning views of Mt. St. Helen's – from the North, looking into the crater.



Owner Mike Dolan started his nursery in 1980 when it was unimproved logged out land. He dynamited stumps and cleared brush by hand. But Mike had a passion for exotic fruits and nuts. He told us his was a "hobby gone wild" – one which now employs a dozen local residents.

Mike knew every plant on his farm like a personal friend. Latin names rolled off his tongue Continued on page 14

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with ease. We learned the growth habits of plants – what the fruit looked like, how it tasted, how it was cooked, its medicinal value, vitamin content, hardiness to our climate, disease resistance and varietal variances. I felt like Alice in wonderland! We were all spellbound by the wealth of information Mike relayed with boundless enthusiasm as we wound our way through the grounds.

**Photo Left at Burnt Ridge: New plants (nuts and or fruit trees or shrubs).**

We started with berries: mulberries, elderberries, service berry, currants, autumn-olive (goumi berries) to name a

few. As for nuts, he touted the Korean Nut pine – a top choice for pine nuts. He had several varieties of blight-resistant Hazelnuts and Chestnuts. He had grapes, Kiwi fruit, bamboo, apricots, apples and Asian pears.

Did you know that you can tell ripeness of hazelnuts when the husk easily peels away from the nut? This is the time to harvest the nuts (which will stay on the tree for another month) before the squirrels and jays do it for you.



We left Burnt Ridge Nursery & Orchards with a pickup truck-load of bare root trees!

Our next stop was Rain Tree Nursery where we were given a very useful lecture and demonstration and container planting. We learned about soil mixes, planting techniques and fertilizers. Our speaker demonstrated planting a bare-root shrub and repotting a one gallon plant into a larger container. This was fascinating to watch! Such a simple task that we've all done, and yet there is an art to it. I was surprised by how much I learned.

**Photo Left from RainTree Nursery: A Belgium pear design and other espalier exhibits**

After a break for shopping, we were given another talk on fruit tree espaliers. "Espalier" refers to practices for training trees onto trellises. At the entrance of Raintree is the espaliered display of various apple, Asian and European pear, and a peach tree. The trees were trained along the same plane in a 3-tier, T-shape, horizontal cordon. Trees are spaced about 8-10 feet apart with branches 1-1/2, 2-1/2 and 3-1/2 apart. The entire display is about 25 years old; the peach tree needs to be replaced soon. If anyone has a catalog, sample espalier patterns are shown in the catalog.

**Do not miss our next On the Road Tour on Thursday, May 23rd; sign up early!**

### **Field Trips** submitted by Elizabeth Ladd

Just when it seemed that spring would never come, I took a trip down to Eugene for a wonderful treat. Northwest Garden Nursery, specializing in hellebores, has one open house a year, but it was well worth the trip. While my yard looked dreary and dormant, their demo gardens were alive with color and texture – all in the middle of February!! During the open house days, they have hellebores and a few other specialty plants for sale, but if you want to buy, get there early – you are not alone in craving unusual specimens. I took a few photos while there, but if you want a better preview, log onto their website – they have great photos – and while you are there, you can sign up for notification of next year's open house.

#### **Northwest Garden Nursery**

86813 Central Road, Eugene, Oregon 97402 Phone: 541.935.3915 Email: [info@nwgnursery.com](mailto:info@nwgnursery.com)  
[www.northwestgardennursery.com](http://www.northwestgardennursery.com) .



## The Herb Team Seasons the Plant Sale



The Herb Team has been working since the end of December to bring you more than 1700 herb plants. Six varieties of basil (nearly 500 plants including 6-packs), more than a 150 Lavender Lady plants. A full range of culinary herbs for your cooking pleasure: chamomile, chives, cilantro, dill, fennel, lemon balm, marjoram, mint, oregano, parsley, rosemary, sage, savory, tarragon and thyme, among others. Some are available in either 4" or gallon pots. We've got some unusual ones, too.

We're offering large 12-inch decorative pots with a lush collection of a dozen culinary herbs, perfect for a Mother's Day gift.

Our team members have been known to break into song with stirring renditions of "Scarborough Fair" ----- you know ----- "parsley, sage, rosemary and thyme". Team members are: Brenda Miles, Susie Bjordahl, Sue Farnsworth, Craig Lane, Lydia Casey, Brigitte Pisarek, and Paula Reynolds (The Herb Lady) submitted by Paula.



Jim Cave waters in the Tomato House.



Russ and Barbara Wegner with Anne Cashion tend the tomato seedlings.



Treasurer Joseph Zimba checks out the plants before he writes the checks.



**Wanda Wilson with the Warm & Tropical Team** serve a full house. Photo left: Wanda and a shopper; left below: always watering, Penny Matkins. Other members of the team are Angel Ensley and Libby Adcock



The April Home and Garden Idea Fair brought out the Plant shoppers. The MGF plant holding area was very busy with 3 shifts to cover each day. Nearly 70 Master Gardener volunteers gave 3 hrs or more per shift to make the weekend event a big success.

**Thank you Volunteers!**



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> Street Heritage Farm and other venues across Clark County through education, consultative programs and experiences which preserve or enhance our environment.



Mother's Day Weekend



# PLANT SALE

SAT May 11 ~ 9 am to 4 pm

SUN May 12 ~ 10 am to 3 pm

DELIGHT THAT SPECIAL SOMEONE WITH A LIVING GIFT

**Fuchsia & other Colorful Hanging Baskets**



**Ornamentals ~ Trees, Shrubs**

**Edibles ~ Vegetables, Fruit**

**Flowers ~ Perennials, Annuals**

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[www.mgfcc.com](http://www.mgfcc.com)

Designed by Dawn Christensen Culler, MA, WSU EXL ~ Clark County Master Gardener, 2013

2013 ~ As a non-profit, proceeds from this sale support food and garden growing education programs in Clark County