

OCTOBER 2009

Cowlitz County

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WSU Gardening Websites

<http://mastergardener.wsu.edu>
<http://gardening.wsu.edu>
<http://gardening.wsu.edu/eastside>
<http://cowlitz.wsu.edu>

HortSense Fact Sheets

<http://pep.wsu.edu/hortsense/>

PestSense Fact Sheets

<http://pep.wsu.edu/pestsense/>

Pest Leaflet Series

[www.puyallup.wsu.edu/plantclinic/
resources/pls-res.html](http://www.puyallup.wsu.edu/plantclinic/resources/pls-res.html)

WSU Educational Materials

<http://pubs.wsu.edu>

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Prepared by Diane Dick, Nancy Rausch Contributors: Joy Carter, Carla Coffey, Marge Lippincott, LaDonna Slack, John McClelland, Alice Richter, Marjorie Pitcher, Gary Fredricks

REFLECTIONS FROM THE GARDEN:

By Gary Fredricks, Cowlitz County Director

What magic lies ahead...

The first time I took my 5 year old to a toy store, it was a magical event for him. His eyes got big and the joy inside him couldn't be contained. Around every corner was something new to look at until we got to the section with Barbie. He touched everything and his decision to buy one toy was almost impossible to make. It took several hours, but we finally came home with a prize that he played with for many years.

As we get to the end of this year, I look back at all the workshops, activities and demonstrations that were held and also stand in amazement. It has been a magical year for this organization. So much was accomplished that touched the lives of so many people. In some cases it was just answering a simple question, while for others, the impact from the Master Gardeners will be felt for years. It's been awesome!

While it's great to look back at all that has been accomplished, now is the time to look forward. A planning meeting for next year's activities has been set for October 27 at 10:00 a.m. here in the office and you're all invited. You all deserve a pat on the back, but that won't last long if we don't continue to put out great programs.

There is so much that needs to be done when you set up a meeting. You secure a meeting room, contact a speaker, advertise the meeting to the general public, copy handouts and then hope that someone attends. But for me, the hardest part is determining what subjects to offer. The traditional programs such as composting and pruning will always be welcomed by the general public. The tough question is what new programs should we be offering?

That is when we need all your help! Thanks to some great suggestions we had several wonderful new workshops this year. The seed saving class allowed people to learn how to save seeds. This next spring it is hoped that their efforts were successful and they will return to participate in the seed exchange. The cooking class was a huge hit with all those who attended. One MG noticed that while people were successful in growing a garden, many didn't know when was the best time to pick the vegetables that they grew. This will be a workshop that will be offered next year. If you have noticed a need in your community, please share it. One good idea when nurtured and acted upon can have a great impact that will change people's lives.

The community appreciates how hard all of you have worked this year. Next year we can continue to bring a greater variety of activities to serve and educate the people of Cowlitz County. May your garden delight all those who watch it bloom and may their kids trample all your weeds.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Oct. 5 – Master Gardener Foundation Meeting

6:00 p.m. Business Meeting, 6:30 p.m. Program

Mark Sand of Ashley Creek Farm will present on “Garlic”. He will speak on how to grow and care for your garlic plants. He will also teach us how to make a garlic rope, along with bringing some of his garlic products for sampling. For the past few years Mr. Sand has presented the successful Garlic Festival in Chehalis. Friends and neighbors are welcome.

Oct. 13 – Master Gardener Business Meeting

10 a.m. Extension Office All MGs are welcome.

Oct. 17 – Composting Workshop

10 a.m. Demo Garden

Oct. 27 – Master Gardener Planning Meeting

10 a.m. Extension Office All MGs are welcome.

Nov. 2 – Master Gardener Foundation Meeting

6:00 p.m. Cowlitz Ccounty Training Center (on the dike next to the Hall of Justice)

Awards Banquet – bring a potluck dish to share and celebrate 2009 accomplishments.

Nov. 7 – Plant Propagation Workshop

10 a.m. Three Rivers Mall. Watch for signs that direct you to the specific location.

Nov. 10 – Master Gardener Business Meeting

10 a.m. Extension Office All MGs are welcome.

MG Volunteer Opportunities

P & I Clinics

The Clinic is still staying busy and there are still openings for PIC sessions in October. See the planning calendar on page 6 to see when volunteers are needed. Contact Nancy to schedule a PIC shift.

Volunteer Corner

BY CARLA COFFEY

WSU MASTER GARDENER

Carla is off to the MG conference in Pullman and will report next month.

The Demo Garden

BY LADONNA SLACK

WSU MASTER GARDENER

We had 27 people tour the Demonstration Garden during the Plant Sale on Saturday. They came with pictures trying to identify plants, comments about how they've always driven by but never stopped in the garden, or others who said they visit the garden during all seasons and bring family and friends with them too. And they all had wonderful comments about our beautiful and well-cared for garden.

Thanks to all of you who regularly weed, prune, and keep the garden looking lovely. Special thanks to Dale Hurley for the maintenance work on the garden shed and Gary Fredricks for finding that can of grey paint to repaint the patch work. I still have a picket fence to move in the compost area if anyone is looking for a handy-person project.

We do have a problem with the Venus purple grapes. And special thanks to Linda Klein for researching what was causing the filmy coating and splitting grapes. It seems they have a grey mold fungus, most probably caused by the summer weather and possibly a lack of air circulation in the arbor. Linda is also checking to make sure that the fungus won't affect the January pruning starts. However, the Candice grapes are wonderful and ripening nicely, so if you need a few grapes for that special grape jam or stomping project, they're in the garden. The apple trees are abundant with apples but have a little extra worm protein this year. I'm not sure we'll be donating them but they'd probably make great apple cider if anyone has a cider pressing party.

Fall is here now and our garden is starting to show fall colors. It won't be long until we'll be putting our garden to bed for the winter season. Remember, Thursday 10 a.m. to noon is the weekly garden party and I hope to see you there.

Thanks again for all who help to keep the Demonstration Garden beautiful.

LaDonna

From the Editor's Desk

BY DIANE DICK

To borrow a phrase, gardening is like a box of chocolates. You never know what you're going to get. Unless of course you buy all nut-filled.

This was a summer when expectation constantly turned to surprise. Yes, in my neighborhood there was a dearth of honeybees but I have not remembered such a variety of bumblebees doing their pollinating best. The exceptionally dry hot weather made irrigation an ongoing job, but I have yet to see late blight on the tomatoes which in my garden are still producing.

The 'Bountiful' bush beans I collected seed from last year after enjoying a long harvest, this summer set a bountiful crop quickly and then called it quits. So this year I got fewer tender beans and lots of seed. The Tarahumara Tecomari runner beans, which in past years never failed to produce pods all summer, this year grew tall, bloomed profusely but in the heat refused to set pods until I started pouring on the water. They are now producing a crop and continue to bloom.

The Meyers lemon, which has chronic battles with scale insects, is loaded with fruit and setting another flush of blooms. It must think it's in the tropics.

The apple trees get A for effort but have been tortured by the sun and heat. In my laxity I failed to thin the little fruits which meant I fortunately still had apples on the trees after I removed the considerable number which suffered sunburn, an almost unknown malady for our area.

Nature drove home to me this summer the importance of diversity. When weather and seasons are unpredictable the best insurance for a harvest is to plant a diversity of crops and varieties. I have six varieties of blueberry bushes with different harvest times and every year depending on growing conditions different varieties will be more productive. My little apple orchard has a dozen varieties and it is always interesting to see which are more fruitful or have best resisted disease and insects. This year I have more grapes and almost no plums or pears.

So when you can, hedge your bets and plant a variety of fruits and vegetables, because depending on one crop is just nuts.

Trainee Tales

All That Grew From Our Landscape Plan

BY MARY ANN PLEGER
WSU MASTER GARDENER



It all started several years ago at a silent auction to raise funds for Habitat for Humanity. I was taking a quick look at the auction items when I noticed one for a landscape design consultation. That could be useful. We were in the middle of building a house on two acres between Woodland and Kalama and I was pretty sure that I would have no idea where to start with an undeveloped lot with slopes and flat spots and native things growing that I knew nothing about. So, bid I did! – and won it. That would make that the best \$100 I had ever spent.

And so Cynthia from Gardenscapes came to our just finished house. We chatted amicably indoors for a bit, where she asked me many questions about my preferences for color, how much maintenance we were prepared to do, and what “visions” I had. I told her I didn’t have any really – that’s why I was glad to have her here. She spent some time looking around the house, getting a feel for my design style I suppose. That made sense. Then we went outside and she gave me a sketchy idea of some of her ideas, asked a few more questions and off she went, promising a meeting to go over her plan within a week or two.

It was a fabulous plan (easy for me to say, since I had NO plan!). But I was just so impressed – groups of plants on the slope above our driveway that would stabilize the slope, be drought tolerant once they were established and would grow to essentially fill the space. That sounded perfect. There were

Staghorn Sumac (I think I had heard of those), Hemerocallis (aren’t those daylilies?), Red Twig Dogwood, Burning Bushes, Ceanothus, Abellia, Berberis (oh, yea – barberry), Red Twig Dogwood and many others.

On the other side of the driveway, which would be the yard in front our house, she had designed planting beds galore. Now we were really talking. Nandina, Heuchara, more Hemerocallis (I have grown to love Stella d’Oro), Lavendula (yummy, lavender!), Rhododendrons of several types (I did know about those), Daphne O’dora, more Berberis, Rudbeckia (now one of my favorites – did you know that black-eyed Susans just bloom and bloom in late summer for weeks and weeks?!), Crocosmia (ditto for these) and so many, many more.

At our meeting she described each plant (even had a book to show us pictures of many of them). Our excitement grew. We had a Plan.

And so we took our plant list (beautifully organized and supplied by Cynthia) to Circle S Nursery and started buying all of these wonderful plants. We began with the slope plants since they seemed most vital. We came home with a pickup full of lovely green growing beauties. This bare, scalped piece of property may have some hope after all. Armed with shovels, pick axes, hearty gloves and much determination, my husband and son-in-law took on that very rocky, hard-clay soil and painstakingly planted over 100 plants just on that slope. It started to look like we had a Plan – yippee!!

Several trips to the nursery and many planting sessions later, we gradually filled the planting beds with all of those beautiful trees, shrubs and flowers that Cynthia thought we’d enjoy in our landscape. It took most of that first spring/summer to plant the lion’s share of the specified plants, but we were gratified and somewhat assured at that point that it would be a good effect and certainly a huge improvement from the blank slate where we started.

Okay – so fast-forward six years later. We now have a slope that IS both stabilized and beautiful. And we have a small lawn and lovely plants, trees and shrubs that are growing up and filling empty spaces and looking very beautiful. The maintenance isn’t daunting, but we’ve learned that there is certain amount of work that’s required for keeping up with even a low-maintenance landscape design. This experience has taxed us, taught us, fulfilled us and brought us to this place where we better understand and respect this land that we own and love and enjoy.

Am I still learning? – ABSOLUTELY!!! Thanks to my wonderful friend and neighbor, Marge Lippincott, I began hearing about the Master Gardener program and her enthusiasm was contagious. “Sign me up” I said, and so I became a trainee. And what an experience it’s been. The main thing that this Master Gardener Training has taught me is how much I do

NOT know. But I do now understand so much better the importance of soils, the role of fertilizers, the ways of wise water use, respect for the insects that are ever present, the importance of planting the right plant/tree in the right place for its needs and the enormity of the plant world and all that it means to us. I now know, like I didn't know those six years ago, that a Plan is a very important tool in this world of landscape. Ours has made our immediate environment ever so enjoyable and helped us become better stewards of this beautiful land where we live.

From those six years ago until today, I think I'm developing into an actual "gardener". Starting with our Plan, we naively and trustingly planted as directed. We watered and fertilized as told; we weeded and pruned and dead-headed.

But now that Master Gardeners has become a part of my life, I can feel a new attitude developing and I'm now feeling a connection with this gardening activity. It's becoming fun and I'm feeling a new passion. All because we had a Plan, we worked the Plan, and now, as a Master Gardener trainee, I better understand the Plan.

I'm off to work in the yard now – there's much to do. But there is also nothing else that I'd rather be doing . . .

I've come so far!!!

October Garden Junky

BY JOHN MCCLELLAND
WSU MASTER GARDENER

It's about this time of year that I start thinking "when is it going to rain". It must be my English heritage that makes me think this way. I do enjoy the sun but enough is enough. Today I got my wish, it poured and I couldn't take my usual walk with my dogs. They had to be satisfied with a game of ball in the house.

My garden is producing fruit and veggies by the bushel. My neighbors and the family are getting their fair share.

The Asian pears are getting ripe and I'm overdosing on them. I do love them but sometimes a little too much fiber is not always a good thing.

We are just getting back to normal after spending two weeks in Maine, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, the land of Anne of Green Gables. We visited the farm where she was raised, even though she is a fictional character. L. M. Montgomery the author lived there. It is now a Provincial Park and has beautiful gardens and walks and the house is open to visitors. At night we attended a show about the story; it was really enjoyable. The three hours went by so fast.

We spent a day whale watching and saw about twenty whale sightings. It was awesome. I fully



recommend a visit to that part of the Canada, but only in the summer. I think winter comes early there and leaves late.

Back to local area gardening. It is about time to get out and get the garden ready to plant bulbs for spring. I personally am waiting a couple of weeks to see if the price will come down. In the meantime I will be cleaning up the garden of the dead and dying annuals. My wife Alison has persuaded me to pressure wash the deck and front walk and seal them. Which being a nice guy who knows which side his bread is buttered on, I will do it. By that time the leaves will be falling and our annual fall cycle will be in full swing. My son likes to blow and rake leaves, but then he is a little crazy.

I have to stop now as my granddaughters have just arrived for the weekend.

Get out and get your hands dirty, John Mc

Tomatoes and Summer Squash Usually Clobbered by First Frost

BY DON TAPIO, AREA EXTENSION AGENT

It's October and any time now we will have our first killing frost. In our coastal area, the first frost is often followed by several weeks of good growing weather. Gardeners can take advantage of these extra weeks by protecting their plants through early light frosts. For gardeners who are prepared, an early frost does not need to halt the growing season.

Plants vary in their susceptibility to cold temperatures. Tender crops, such as tomatoes, peppers and cucumbers cannot withstand frost, unless protected by some insulation. Cool-season crops, such as cabbage, broccoli, Brussels sprouts and kohlrabi will tolerate frost or even a light freeze. Other crops, such as beets, carrots, lettuce and potatoes, will withstand a light frost.

It's easy to prevent frost damage in the vegetable garden simply by covering plants with blankets, tarps, floating row covers or any other kind of close fitting cover. A cover is effective because it traps the radiated heat from the soil at night and raises the temperature enough around the plants to ward off a light frost. Beans, tomatoes, squash and cucumbers are usually still productive in autumn and worth saving for a few extra harvests.

If covering plants is not feasible, pick as much produce as possible when frost is predicted. Some crops can be further ripened indoors if they are not fully mature. Most green tomatoes can be ripened to full red indoors. Light is not necessary to ripen tomatoes. In fact, direct sun may promote decay of the fruit due to excessive heating. Ripening is mostly affected by temperature-the warmer the temperature, the faster the ripening. To store tomatoes for later use, wrap the fruit individually in newspaper and store at 55 degrees F. The tomatoes

will gradually ripen in several weeks. Don't put green tomatoes in the refrigerator.

While many garden vegetables like tomatoes and cucumbers cannot withstand frost, there are other crops that light frosts won't bother at all. In fact, kale, collards and Brussels sprouts will continue to grow and be harvested for a substantial part of the winter. They are even likely to taste better after they have been subjected to a few frosts.

Cabbage, cauliflower and kohlrabi are not normally hurt by temperatures below freezing so you certainly don't need to worry about harvesting them immediately. Root crops will also be all right and in fact if your garden is well-drained, you can leave your turnips, rutabagas, carrots and beets in the garden until you're ready to use them. The garden makes a great place to store them.

Summer squash are usually clobbered by the first frost. Harvest these and use them right away. Winter squash and pumpkins can stay in the garden for now until the vines dry up and the stems begin to turn brown.

It's Time to Tidy up the Garden!

October's cooler temperatures, shorter days and rain showers all serve to validate fall's arrival. For gardeners, it's time to tidy up those unsightly plants that are still lingering in the garden. A general clean-up now will not only improve the garden's appearance, but also help in the prevention of insect and disease problems next year. Most disease causing organisms such as fungi, bacteria and viruses, as well as insect pests, spend the winter on plant debris and weeds. Getting rid of spent plant material can make a significant difference in the occurrence and severity of pest problems next year.

Once vegetables are harvested, remove the entire plant. This will help with foliar diseases such as late blight of tomato and with nematodes and nematode eggs if roots are infested. If there is still plant material in the garden, follow up with tilling or turning the soil over. Most micro-organisms that cause foliar diseases are destroyed quickly once plant foliage is in contact with the soil and starts to rot. After the first killing frost, remove annual flowers from the garden and till the soil to a depth of eight inches to bury any remaining infested plant material. Remove weeds from the garden, too, because in addition to producing seed, they can harbor diseases and insects.

Herbaceous perennials such as hosta and iris are beginning to succumb to the short days and cool nights as well. After the tops have died back, cut them back close to the ground to help reduce slug populations.

October In the Garden

Garden essentials:

- Sharpen shovels and tools--it's a great planting month!
- Divide and add new perennials, plant ground covers, shrubs and trees.
- Transplant from now through March.
- Choose and plant crocus, daffodils, and tulips.

Veggies year-round:

- Plant garlic cloves now for a pungent harvest next summer.
- Compost garden wastes as you tidy for winter.
- Sow a green manure crop such as crimson clover, vetch or field peas, in empty spaces.
- Green manures suppress weeds and add nitrogen and organic matter when dug in next spring.

Lawn care:

- Thatch, aerate and install sod.
- Top dress with a light layer of sifted compost if lawn was planted with very little organic matter.
- Turn off irrigation system.

Additional gardening tips from Washington State University Extension publication "The Gardener."

- Fall is a good time for a soil test. If your soil is too acid (low pH), you can apply lime. It takes about three months for agricultural or dolomite lime to actually raise the pH.
- Plant winter cover crops now. Winter wheat, crimson clover, annual ryegrass, and fava beans are some options and can be tilled under next spring.
- Most plants transplant best in fall. However, wait to move magnolias and dogwoods in late winter or early spring.
- Dig geraniums, tuberous begonias, dahlias, and glads. Store where they will be protected from frost. If dahlia roots or glads are at least six inches deep, they will probably survive the winter in the ground, especially if covered with a few inches of mulch
- Store fuchsias where they won't freeze or dry out. Hardy fuchsias can remain in the ground if mulched.
- Protect tomatoes from frost. Cover if frost is expected, or pick them and ripen inside. They don't need light to ripen.
- Plant garlic this month.
- Rake leaves from lawn frequently so they don't smother the grass.
- Use healthy leaves as a mulch or compost them.
- Diseased leaves, fruit, and twigs should not be composted.
- Keep the lawn mowed to the recommended height: 1/2 to 3/4 inches for bentgrass: 1 to 1 1/4 inches for fescue-rye combinations.
- Winter pears and kiwis should be stored for a month or so at a temperature slightly above 32° F. Then they can be ripened at room temperature.
- Oven dry walnuts and filberts at 95° F. - 100° F. after harvest, or they will turn rancid in storage.

George Pinyuh, WSU Extension Agent--Retired



OCTOBER PLANNING CALENDAR							
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
	<div style="border: 1px solid green; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> Cottage Project Garden Work Party 10 am every Friday </div>				1 10-12 Demo Garden Work Party DEADLINE: MG of the Year	2 Plant Clinic V Jane Hagwell V Adele Gowdy	3
4	5 Plant Clinic I Jeri Kay Lesneski V Theresa Rice 6:00 MG Fnd Mtg "GARLIC"	6	7 Plant Clinic I Karin Stormo I Patricia Bosh	8 10-12 Demo Garden Work Party	9 Plant Clinic I Phyllis Hull I Dale Hurley	10	
11	12 Plant Clinic I _____ V Marge Lippincott	13 10 am MG Business Mtg	14 Plant Clinic V Betty Bates V Mary Eaton	15 10-12 Demo Garden Work Party Volunteer Time Sheets Due	16 Plant Clinic I _____ V _____	17 Composting Workshop 10 am Extension Office & Demo Garden	
18	19 Plant Clinic I Natalie East I Jeeri Kay Lesneski	20	21 Plant Clinic I Karin Stormo V Eileen Reinecke	22 10-12 Demo Garden Work Party	23 Plant Clinic I Phyllis Collins I Phyllis Hull	24	
25	26 Plant Clinic I Natalie East V _____	27 10 am MG Planning Mtg	28 Plant Clinic V Betty Bates V Eileen Reinecke	29	30 23 Plant Clinic I Phyllis Collins V Leeann Colwell	31 BOO!	

NOVEMBER PLANNING CALENDAR						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Plant Clinic V Theresa Rice 6:00 MG Fnd Mtg AWARDS BANQUET	3	4 Plant Clinic I Karin Stormo	5 10-12 Demo Garden Work Party	6	7 Plant Propagation Workshop 10 am Three Rivers Mall
8	9	10 10 am MG Business Mtg	11 Veterans Holiday Office Closed	12 10-12 Demo Garden Work Party	13	14
15	16 Managing a Greenhouse 6:30 pm County Admin Bldg. Kelso	17	18 Plant Clinic V Betty Bates V Eileen Reinecke	19 10-12 Demo Garden Work Party	20	21
22	23	24	25 Plant Clinic I _____	26 THANKSGIVING Office Closed	27 Office Closed	28
29	30	Plant & Insect Clinic Times November through February Wednesdays– 10:00 a.m. to Noon Extension Office				

MASTER GARDENER FOUNDATION OF COWLITZ COUNTY NEWS

2009 MG Foundation

President

Alice Richter

President Elect

Carla Coffey

Vice President – Programs

Joy and Rex Carter

Secretary

Marjorie Pitcher

Treasurer

Fran Boucher

State MG Foundation Representative

Marge Lippincott

Past President

Darlene de Vida

Foundation Meetings

1st Monday of the month,
6:00 p.m. Expo Center

Business Meetings

2nd Tuesday of the month,
10 a.m. Extension Office

FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Alice Richter

FOUNDATION PRESIDENT

Fall is here and the leaves are beginning to fall. As Master Gardeners we look forward to adding all those leaves to our compost piles, along with clean up and spreading more compost around our plants for the winter. Of course our workshop on October 17th will refresh our knowledge on compost, compost, compost.

The Plant Sale went so well. I am amazed at what great organization and enthusiasm does for any activity. Fran Boucher did a great job of overseeing and making sure everything was done in a timely fashion. We potted plants this summer and the publicity did a good job. Pat Huson was right there making sure everything was set up and under control. Carol Lowman has such great experience that adds so much expertise and new ideas to the sale. Phyllis Hull and Jane Hendrickson had a great idea with the children's corner. I guess we need to publicize the children's corner more next year to bring out more kids in the fall. In the spring there were plenty. Everyone helped with great efficiency. I am glad we keep earning a little more

each year. We are getting known in the community so each year is better. With this our main fund raiser we can continue our funding the education of gardening in the community.

However, now is the time to start preparing plants for next spring and fall sales. I know I need to propagate starts from my shrubs now. It is starting to cool off, and hopefully rain too, which is what makes the fall time ideal to start rootings from cuttings so they will be established and grow all winter long to look great next spring and fall. The workshop in November on propagating will help us manage our propagation process that we need for the plant sales.

There is one project this year that I think became more successful than we ever dreamed it would when started this spring with a load of horse manure. Gary took the Cowlitz County Historical Museum up on their idea of a fall harvest garden and with the enthusiasm and expertise that the interns put into the project it took off with endless energy. The Museum people have been marvelous to work with. We thank them!! The two workshops about saving seeds and preparing food from the garden to the table only added to its success. Thanks to everyone who worked on this project, especially Patricia Bosh and Karen Stormo.

I know that the community gardens have taken great strides to be successful this year also. Patti Castaneda has put her heart and soul into the Longview Community Garden. Thank you, Patti!! This process will only become more successful as we keep on working with the community gardens in our community.

The best event in September is our trip to Pullman on WSU campus for the yearly Master Gardener Conference. We have nine people attending this year. We will all take the highly esteemed classes from WSU professors and knowledgeable people. Since we have the opportunity to learn so much from an important resource, each one of us will take good notes and come back and share our knowledge with all of you in the next newsletter. I am sure we will all have a great time while we are there too.

This next year looks like a promising year of many successes. The new line up officer nominees will work diligently to have an educational and successful year. Thank you for being active Master Gardeners.

Have a great October. Alice Richter.

Board of Directors Business Meeting

September 8, 2009 Minutes

BY MARJORIE PITCHER

FOUNDATION SECRETARY

President Alice Richter called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Minutes for the August 11 meeting were approved as corrected: Marge Lippincott was appointed to the selection committee for the A' Grant.

Treasurer's Report. Fran Boucher reported on Treasury activity during August. Expenses of \$916.66 for MG monogrammed shirts and hats. So far income of approximately \$663 has been received toward the costs. Additional income is anticipated as the hats are sold.

Fran asked that an audit committee be appointed to review the books before new officers are elected. Patricia Bosh said the nominating committee was working on appointment of an audit committee.

State MG Foundation Representative Report. Marge Lippincott reported she has prepared a three-panel display for the State Conference showing highlights of the Museum and Juvenile Gardens. Marge said she will need produce for the Cowlitz MG table decorations for the conference. Need the decorations by Sept 23. Bring donations to the Extension office. Phyllis Bosh has volunteered to be one of the photographers during the conference. She said there will be some ten to twelve photographers recording events during the conference.

Alice reported that Jeri Kay will be purchasing the **sound system** this month.

Director's Report. Gary Fredricks announced the following workshops and events:

- Sept 16 - Cooking what you grow. 6:30 p.m. CC Historical Museum
- Sept 19 - Fall Plant Sale 9:30-3 (Set up is Sept 18, 1 p.m.)
- Oct 17 - Composting -10 a.m. Demonstration Garden
- Nov 7 - Plant Propagation - 10 a.m. Three Rivers Mall

Gary recommended Master Gardeners give a donation of \$50 for fuel to the horse manure provider. The owner uses her tractor to load the manure into our trucks, and has been doing this for free for the past two years. It would be nice to help reimburse part of her costs. We have made great use of the manure in all our demonstration gardens during that time, and we plan to do more next year. A motion was made, seconded and approved to give \$50 to offset some of her fuel costs.

Congratulation Gary! Gary has been given two Extension awards, Regional and State.

Museum Garden. Patricia Bosh reported so far they have harvested about 75 pounds of produce and donated it to the CAP food program.

The seed saving workshop at the museum had 26 attendees.

Patricia said they will be making, showing and tasting foods prepared from the garden during the workshop Sept 16. Pickles, salad, soup, stew and pesto are some of the planned goodies. Recipes will be available.

Community Garden. Patte Castaneda reported the committee is considering planting kohlrabi, beets, thyme to continue using the community garden. Next year she would like to secure two plots, instead of only one. She said there are some wonderful gardens and gardeners at the Community gardens and she would like to encourage them to be more involved with Master Gardeners. We can learn from them!

Youth Garden. Carla was unable to attend our meeting, so there was no report. However, some produce has been harvest and donated to the Women's Shelter.

Demonstration Garden. LaDonna Slack reported there is a fungus on the red grapes at the demonstration garden. Ted Cunningham has started to harvest some apples and pears. The old garden shed needs some maintenance attention. The committee would like to screen some of the composting area from view from Washington Street. The new garden shed at the Cottage Garden house has been put together and pots will be moved into it when shelves are installed. Need shelving.

Plant Sale - Fran passed around some of the tags that have been printed showing what specific plants look like. Each pot at the sale will have the plant name and a picture. Our calendars will be available for sale during the plant sale.

Nominating Committee. Patricia Bosh reported the following nominees:

- President - Carla Coffey
- President-elect - Jon Griffin
- Treasurer - Ann Wilder
- Secretary - Marjorie Pitcher
- State Representative - Mary Ann Pleger

The committee is recommending that the standing committees have co-chairs in the future.

Programs. Joy Carter reported that Craig Williams, Vice-president of the Oregon Orchid Society will be the speaker at the September 14 meeting. She would like to see more publicity for our programs. They are free to the public, and she believes the garden clubs and general public would be interested in many of the programs.

The **Awards Banquet** is set for the November 2. Forms nominating the Intern of the Year and Veteran Master Gardener of the Year should be sent to the Extension office as soon as possible so the committee can order the awards for presentation during the meeting.

The next Board meeting will be October 13, at 10 a.m. The meeting was adjourned at 11:43 a.m.

Marjorie Pitcher, Secretary

[These minutes have not been approved.]