

# ***Master Gardener Foundation Kitsap County***



## **Master Gardener Foundation of Kitsap County**

*Promoting long term environmental health  
through sound and sustainable horticultural practices*

*The purposes of this non-profit Foundation are solely educational and charitable to enhance and supplement the effort of the WSU Master Gardener Program and thereby provide education and information to the citizens of Kitsap County.*

## ***DRAFT Board Meeting Minutes***

Wednesday, September 5 2007

### **I. Call to order**

Sharon Howard called to order the regular meeting of the Master Gardener Foundation of Kitsap County at 1:00 PM on Wednesday, September 5 2007, at the Eagles Nest (Training Center), Kitsap Fairgrounds, Bremerton, WA.

**Our Friend and President, Terry (T.R.) Strong passed away on August 27, 2007.**

**A moment of silent thanks was observed by all present. We miss him tremendously.**

**Our prayers and good thoughts are with and for Terry's family.**

Board members in attendance: Sharon Howard, Vice President; Mary-Cathern Edwards, Secretary and Sandy Livermore, Treasure and Directors at Large; Georgene Smith, Ray Etheridge and Marialis Jurges. Also in attendance were: Sharron Etheridge, DeLona Kent, Alan McKibben, Donna Hamilton and Debra Hall.

The minutes of the August 1, 2007 meeting were accepted.

### **Reports and Announcements**

**Change to Agenda:** With a heavy heart, Vice President Sharon Howard will chair the September 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. The Annual meeting is September 19. Sharon will chair that meeting, as well. Should the vice president be unable to attend the annual meeting, it was determined the Secretary would be the next Officer in line to chair the September 19 Annual Meeting.

### **Treasurer's Review**

\$10,752.49 was reported in checking and \$39,943.26 in all accounts.

## **Horticulture Report**

Peg Tillery reported: Her Office is starting to recruit new Master Gardeners for 2008. The goal is 50 new Master Gardeners. The class of 2007 has 42 Master Gardeners who were able to stay with the Program and finish the course requirements.

The ten year old computer used for the Master Gardener diagnostic clinic desk has become permanently non functional. (Toasted) A replacement will be ordered at a cost of \$500-950. The new computer will be able to accommodate MGF programs, e.g. the MGF Newsletter and our accounting program. Although significant budget cuts within Kitsap County are affecting all departments, Extension will be able to utilize funds for the replacement of this computer. The Foundation will be asked in the new fiscal year to fund the computer. Peg will also include a line item in the 08-09 budget for supplies and computer maintenance/updates.

The 2007 Kitsap County Fair was very successful. Thoughts and comments were shared re: the many Master Gardener Program successes. The following is Peg's e-mail report to all MG's, which paraphrases her report at the September 5 MGF meeting:

"The second Directors Award went to the Horticulture Department for the most educational information I have ever seen with posters, signage, plants and great volunteers willing to explain and assist visitors with all kinds of planting information and other instructions on gardening."

Open Class Hort. received three fair ribbons and we've put them on display in the Master Gardener Clinic at the Extension Office. That way everyone who comes to the office can enjoy them. We received a 60 year ribbon, second place for exhibits and the Director's Award.

Thank you first of all to Carol Henning and Georgene Smith. They are incredible and even though the paperwork said Peg Tillery, Open Class Horticulture Superintendent, it was Georgene and Carol who were the real troopers, doers, attenders of meetings, cheerleaders and organizers. The three of us had a blast and we had so much fun, we're doing it again next year.

Thanks to Norm Smith, Georgene, Carol, her husband Bob, Gary Gratrix, Allen McKibben and Sandy Livermore for setting up the tables and everything before the Fair even started.

Next thanks to Virgie Jones for scheduling and coordinating all the volunteers; to Donna Hamilton, Virgie and Jeanette for being there quietly guiding us on check in day and other days. Thanks to Oggie Ogden for telling us how to do things - we reeled him in ahead of the fair, during planning, to advise us because he's done so many fairs and because he knows his fruit and veggies. He already has ideas for educational displays for next year. Georgene Smith and Carol Henning have lots of ideas already too.

Thanks to John Mikesell who put together the most wonderful and educational display on Native Plants. I wish we could have it at every event we attend. His photos were amazing; the plants were so helpful for people to see up close and personal. And, John put in countless hours putting it all together. Thank you thank you John.

Carol McCarthy had a display that won a major award from the Directors. She had ground covers planted in shoes of every shape and size. The list of groundcovers will be on our Kitsap Extension Website soon. Carol won three ribbons for the display. One of which is the coveted ribbon awarded for keeping with the Fair theme of "Kickin it Up." Way to go Carol.

Becky Croston's display on composting was wonderful. She had two examples of soil structure put into glass boxes so people could see the difference that worms and compost make in our soil. This was a very popular exhibit. You could literally see the tunnels made by worms and see how plant roots can make their way down into the soil rather than having to struggle through unaerated and un-composted soil. And, Becky had a worm that would "kick-it-up" when a string was pulled.

Jenny Lund had an herb display where people could taste and smell herbs. She'd come in regularly to bring fresh herbs and also to water the plants on display. Way to go Jenny.

All four of these educational displays received awards/ribbons.

In addition Mike Shannon put together a great fruit display (also received an award); Jackie Aitchison gave us lots of information for passing out about the Farmers Markets throughout the state; and Kathy Morse put together a display on the new organic gardening course offered this fall.

Ray and Sharron Etheredge, Wayne and Sally Tysver, and Jenny Lund also brought in extras of interest (gunnera, bay tree, pineapple plant). The crowds were very intrigued about the extra fun things to see.

Thank you each and every person who helped with the fair. It is an incredible educational outreach. More than 80,000 people attend the fair each year and we felt like all of them came through our section. We are so lucky to have all of you to make it such a success.

An organic gardening course, presented by Kathy Morse, Laura Pittman-Hewitt, Kim Schleis, Ann Pyles, Peg Tillery and Dave Peters will be presented as 4 separate courses October 20, 2007, January 19, February 9 and March 1 2008. It is sponsored by WSU Extension MG Program, Kitsap County Solid Waste, and Seattle Tilth.

Peg presented each of the Board Members with a 'sail boat' wind chime for our gardens. The chime represents a combination of TR's love of the water, sailing, and gardening and incorporates the memory of his much appreciated musical talents.

### **Communications Committee**

No report.

### **Newsletter Committee**

No report. Please submit all articles and Committee Reports by September 15 for the October 1<sup>st</sup> Newsletter.

### **Finance Committee**

An expenditure of \$768 for permanent MG clinic banners was noted. Bills for Fair expenditures are anticipated.

An audit will be performed prior to October 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Membership Committee**

Ray Etheredge noted a need for additional members for the Membership Committee.

Peg noted the State MGF provided 12 pages of ideas for recruiting new members. She will forward to the Board for consideration.

Donna Hamilton noted the intermittent failure within the on-line membership registration process.

Discussion progressed to request membership forms be included in the Newsletter. It is thought that a 2008 mailing to all 2007 members, including on-line registration capabilities, may increase

membership awareness. It was suggested membership forms need to be available in all the Clinic boxes, as well.

Sharon Howard noted that the bylaws need to incorporate language re: cutoff of member applications by May 1<sup>st</sup> for eligibility to vote in the annual election.

### **Programs and Publicity Committees**

Marialis Jorges, Co-Chair, reported the August 15 tour of the Ed Hume Garden included an appearance of Ed Hume, himself. Visitors were able to chat with Mr. Hume and review his books, which were for sale, on site. The lunch break was incorporated into the Pierce County Master Gardener's Children's Garden. Both visits were enjoyed. (As an aside, Ray Etheredge noted 82 Pierce County MGs are involved with plant propagation...what we could do if we had a greenhouse!!!!)

Sharon Howard reported the leaf casting event was well attended. The excess bags of QuickCrete were returned to the supplier, and the excess sand was transported to Ray and Sharron Etheredge's place to be utilized by MGF members in the future.

A 'Food Preservation' demonstration is scheduled for September 8 at the e Eagles Nest, 1-3 PM and will focus on food safety re: food dehydration, jams, jellies and home canning.

A September 28 tour of Pheasant Fields Farm is scheduled with Nikki Johansen. Please refer to the MGF website for more information.

### **Ways and Means Committee**

Preparation is underway for the September 19 annual report.

### **New Business:**

The imminent counting of ballots at the September 19 Annual Meeting will be processed as follows: Sharon Howard, Vice President will direct the Meeting. The current board will preside over the entirety of the Annual Meeting. The ballots will be counted by 2 members who are not on the Nominating Committee. The new Vice President will succeed to President. The Nominating Committee will provide a nominee for the position of Vice President. Write in candidates are acceptable from the floor. The Board will vote to accept the nomination(s) of a new Vice President. The Foundation By-Laws state per Section 5.4:

*"A vacancy in any Office may be filled by the vote of the remaining Directors though less than a quorum of the Board. The Officer who fills a vacancy shall serve for the unexpired term of his or her predecessor in office".*

The newly elected officers will take Office at the October 3, 2007 meeting.

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All Committee chairpersons will provide an annual report to include a review of past achievements, lessons learned and significant accomplishments. You are encouraged to keep your reports brief, and fun. (Note: The Newsletter also needs Committee reports by September 15 for the October Newsletter)

Food and beverages will be served at the Annual Meeting. Attendees are encouraged to bring a snack to share. Sharron Etheredge will coordinate the feast.

Members will bring items for a raffle (plants, books, etc.). Members will receive an extra ticket for every raffle item they bring to the Meeting. (Is this fun or what??)

**Sharon Howard** adjourned the meeting at 2:40 PM

Minutes submitted by **Mary-Cathern Edwards**, Secretary.