

April 2023 Foundation Meeting

**Master Gardener Foundation of Yakima County Meeting Followed by  
Yakima County Master Gardener Program Meeting**

**April 12, 2023 / 10:30 AM**

**29 members attended including board members : Melody  
Westmoreland-Past President,**

**Debra Kroon – President, Dan Fortier – Vice President, Gilbert  
Plascencia – Treasurer, Pat Bombard – Secretary, Dick Larson and Mike  
Wood – Members at Large, Also attending : Program Coordinator Patty  
Ratzlaff**

**Foundation Meeting Call to Order**

**Call for Additional Agenda Items**

**Opening Remarks Debra Kroon, President**

**Approval of Minutes from March 8, 2023, by Debra Kroon, President**

No discussion. Beatrice made the motion to accept. Deanna Husch  
seconded. Motion carried.

**Treasurer Report (reports sent via email) by Gilbert Plascencia,**

**Treasurer** – Gilbert gave a brief report on forms he emailed out. \$42000  
available, should have enough until Plant Sale. Utilities in April, Gas  
double in April (\$4000 every month). Jenny M made motion, seconded  
by Beatrice. Motion carried.



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**Greenhouse Lorie Harrison/Camille Smith/Skip Brockman** Everything good. On track to be done a week before. Will let you know if need help. Mike talked about 4<sup>th</sup> week of this month putting in fencing.

**Plant Sale by Deanna Husch/Susie Walters** Committees: Cashier – Gilbert; Security – Annette & Patti; Short on tables. Need ice chest. Need interpreter, especially Friday and Saturday. Tables, etc bought stored in greenhouse storage unit. Julie made motion for buying tables if not enough donated. Sally M seconded. Motion passed if needed.

#### **New Business:**

**Sponsorship of 2023 State AEC Foundation by John Strong** We have already voted for Silver level but John is proposing changing to Gold Level. Gold is twice as much. We are one of the richest Foundations in the state. Larger amount can help make our 50<sup>th</sup> conference more successful. Discussion of doing a match/challenge to other Foundations. We need to do several updates to greenhouse to make it safe. This will be tabled until May, after Plant Sale.

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**Board Representative to State Foundation by John Strong** Each Foundation can have three spots on board. Meetings are on Zoom two hours or so in the evening. Submit names. May board to decide.

**Booth at State AEC by Gilbert Plascencia** Booth to raise funds that we keep. We would need staffing. AEC is September 27 – 30 in Tacoma. Silent auction – We need five items. Think about it and let us know.

**Old Business:**

### **2023-2024 Foundation Elections by Melody Westmoreland**

nominees for our election was presented: • President: Dan Fortier

- Vice President: Rick Russell
- Secretary: Janet Jones
- Treasurer: Gilbert Plascencia
- Member at Large: Dick Larson
- Member at Large: Sheila Gunderson

The full slate of officer

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Secretary Pat Bombard asked three times “one vote for slate”. Carried.

**Photo Library by Andrea Altmayer – looked at** set up “forever.com” at Microsoft 365 for non- profit. Motion made by Andrea to pay for it to try. Jenny M seconded it. Motion carried.

**Conclude Foundation Meeting at 11:24**

**Master Gardener Program Meeting \*\* Team Updates & Reports**  
**Program Coordinator announcements by Patty Ratzlaff**

**50<sup>th</sup> Year Celebrations Resources** are now available at <https://mastergardener.wsu.edu/50th-resources/> .

- 1) Our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Updates
  - The celebration we are invite to is May 20 from 1:00 – 4:00 pm in Prosser.
  - We have 22 people currently signed up for the event. It is free but seating is limited to 200, so they encourage people to sign up. We can invite a friend and it is actually open to the public but we are advertising it through the Master Gardener Program.
  - Staying Mission Driven updates -
- 2) Endowed Chair – I will be creating a half sheet for you to share with anyone at the plant sale that asks about donating to the MG program.

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### 3) Upcoming Training

a. Julie and I will be hosting a 10:00 GivePulse training on May 31<sup>st</sup> at the Extension

Office so that we can have live internet. Sign-ups's are required and are at the front table. We will likely limit the group to about 12-15. If we have enough interest, we can host it twice. Please bring any devices you like to use to log in your volunteer hours.

### **Old Business**

**Annual Educational Conference** – Price for conference this year: Early

Bird is \$259 from now to July 1. (MG save \$30 over the public attending). After July 1 the price is \$299.  
It will be held at the Marriot in Tacoma.

<https://Mglearns.mastergardenenfoundation.org>

**Give Pule by Julie Hunziker** Please put TIME! Put the name of instructor, make sure it can be verified, the more information the better.

**Diagnostic Clinic by Margaret Morris** Report by Ken because Margaret is working the clinic. Hortsense website updated.

**Farmer's Market by Ken Tolonen** Moving to permanent site near Tract 29 area parking lot. Sign up online for both clinic and Farmer's Market.

**Youth Team Michele Murphy/Sarah Judd** Juvenile Justice and Ridgeview Garden Club are on hold. They have had staff turnover and neither place is prepared to carry on a program. Both programs almost always have scheduling programs and the follow through has not been consistent.

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Selah Middle School – is a snowball of enthusiasm that keeps growing. It is fantastic. We meet weekly with Julie Rust (Life Prep Skills Instructor) and Nathalie Haste (Ag instructor). They each have five classes per day of 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students. Therefore, we have the potential of serving up to 250 students per week. Julie is putting together a multi-discipline team within the school that will include an Art Instructor, Digital photo instructor, and an English instructor to help spread the joy and enthusiasm of our program. The roll of the Master Gardeners is to provide assistance in program development for the use of the greenhouse, as well as establishing garden areas for food to table produce, succulents, and possibly a heritage landscape area. In addition, we provide information to help develop curriculum and activities for students. With the beginning of a new term, we are

working with the instructors to assist with the hands on portion of their curriculum for the greenhouse and garden beds. Our Master Gardener team consists of Gini Obert and Sarah Judd – vegetable propagation and vegetable garden production. Annette Olsen – Heritage garden meadow. Angela Gilbreth – succulents. Anna Swedin and Reggie Sanderson are providing assistance in the classroom, the greenhouse and are members of our design team. We act as a link to the Master Gardener community, and all of their resources.

Selah STEP – monthly classroom sessions continue: a field trip to Demonstration Garden is scheduled for June and includes a flower pressing activity.

Summitview – on hold for this school year but activities planned for the Fall.

Washington Middle – participated in STEAM night in March and will participate in Science night this month using the seed bomb project.

Naches Middle – will participate in STEM night this month, the hands on project is seed bombs. Arborfest – partnering with Jenny Loyd/4H. The hands on project is seed bombs.

Downtown Yakima Farmers Market – volunteers are lined up for all but last Sunday in August. Please contact Michelle or Sarah if you would like to volunteer.

Foster First and Lewis & Clark – not active this school year but will circle back in the Fall.

## **Garden Reports**

- **Demonstration by Diana Pieti/Skip Brockman** Visitors are coming the end of April. WSU State Magazine! We meet at 9 am every

Wednesday until after the plant sale.

- **Heirloom by Sally Mayo/Judith McDonald** Sunnier location with arbovitia coming down. Meeting this Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at 8 a.m. until ??? We will be raking/pruning, etc.
- **WVFG by Camille Smith/John Strong/Kelli Barton** A lot of work needs to be done before planting. Bark, trellis, compost spread, etc. meeting 9 a.m. Friday.
- **Kamiakin Gardens by Debra Byrd/Patty Ratzlaff** April 17<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. meeting. First work day Map 15<sup>th</sup>. Debra will get a map to get there.

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• **Classes by various devoted volunteers** Demo garden classes 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays. Heirloom classes will be 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday. Food Garden classes will be 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday.

**Social Media Presence/Face Book/Photo Library by Andrea Altmayer / Clinic Team** – Every Sunday article included. Plant Sale included as well as local posts. A lot of clinic questions. Over 100 comments. Carol did an article on the plant sale. Send photos to Andrea or Janet with signed photo release.

**Writer's Guild, and Speakers Bureau by Claudia Steen -**

## Columbines – Writer’s Guild

After Sue Bird’s, Noxious Weed presentation in class she agreed to write an article or two for the Yakima Herald. A couple other articles came in for editing from our MGs and will be sent to Karen at the Herald. Carol and Claudia so appreciate MGs stepping up to help write our MG columns.

## Speakers Bureau –

Carol and I have had a few requests for MG seekers to give gardening presentations. Carol had to turn down one for Sunnyside but will help with another request. Claudia will be giving a vegetable gardening presentation on May 13<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am to the LDS church on Englewood. Claudia was also contacted by Chuck Austin Homeless Veterans organization to help them plant their 10 raised beds and give vegetable gardening advice on May 11<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 at their location at 1630 S. 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Last year Debra Kroon helped and MGs also donated left over plants from the plant Sale. Claudia turned over that request to Debra as it sounds like it would be a good cause to honor our veterans.

Just to let the SB know that both Carol and I will both be going on European vacations and will need the help of our team if requests for presentations come in. I will be gone from May 17<sup>th</sup> until June 5<sup>th</sup> on a Rhine, Moselle River boat tour from Switzerland to Amsterdam. Yay!

## Old Business

Repeated information on AEC cost and time.

## New Business

### Good of the Order Conclude Program Meeting

**Meeting adjourned at 11:54 Enter one and a half hours on GivePulse under Program Support.**

**Next Meeting: May 10, 2023, at Red Barn at 10:30**