

Today's column is a mishmash (is that a word?). I have no idea how to thread all these pertinent but unrelated ideas together, so let's just plunge in.

Savage Plants in Kingston is celebrating their ninth anniversary on the weekend of April 7 and 8. Robin, Holly, Joan and Jim want everyone to come help them celebrate. Hours are from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days. All perennials are on sale and Dana Hyde a metal artist from Sequim will be on hand to talk about her creations. Dana makes screens, chimes and stainless steel cutouts for decorating our gardens. Guests will enjoy strolling through the nursery and can sip and munch on refreshments and enter a drawing for a prize each day. Oh, and did I say, you can buy lots and lots of plants if you've a yen to.

Apple Maggot – If you have apple trees you won't want to miss this important meeting of the Peninsula Fruit Club on Thursday April 12 at 7 p.m. at Kitsap County Fairgrounds in the Eagle's Nest Catering building downstairs. Guest speaker is Master Gardener Dick Tilbury from the Seattle Tree Fruit Society. Dick is a recognized expert on apple maggot flies. For further information call 360-697-2783 before 9 p.m. Don't miss this important meeting.

One of my master gardener buddies said I wouldn't want to miss this web site set up and maintained by the Elizabeth C. Miller Horticulture Library in Seattle, with links to literally thousands of sites offering abundant information on gardening. Visit the site at <http://depts.washington.edu/hortlib/links/links.html> and you won't be disappointed.

You'll also want to visit websites at www.valleynurseryinc.com and www.bainbridgegardens.com for listings of free or low cost classes and activities offered at two of our north end garden centers.

New Master Gardeners – The Rookie Class of 2001 has just graduated. Congratulations to: Madeline Ancelard, Heidi Barnett, Vivian Bernhard, Diana Buckner, Marlo Burkey, Venita Caldwell, Jeri Coleman, Kathy Contreras, Cel Crane, Eleanore Curtis, Irene Dulin, Mary and Paul Everman, Dianne Gardner, Terri Gleich, Cindy Heins, Mark Herbert, Carol and Rick Holben, Joanne Holt, Sharon Howard, Kappy Inwards, Steve Jackson, Jim Jorgensen, Mary Kerdus, Kathy Krout, Dawn Levy, Dorothy Lindquist, Rosemary Long, Kim Loucks, Dick and Jennie Lund, Kat MacDonald, Jutta-Marie Martin, Joan and Lois Maynard, Allen McKibben, Trish Merrill, John Mikesell, Kara Mullane, Lorri Nelson, Jessica Nowoy, Lisa Phipps, Laura Pittman, Susan Poling, Laura Rencher, Emily Siltanen, Cathy Som, Pamela Tarver, Mimi Thomas, Scot Tydeman, Karel Winter and Kathy Wormwood. So far these folks have put in over sixty hours of class time and will volunteer more than fifty hours in the community between now and the end of September. Way to go guys and gals – you're superb.

So far I've received notice of these plant sales. Put these dates on your calendar. Friday and Saturday May 18 and 19 is the annual not-to-be-missed Master Gardener Plant Sale at the Kitsap Fairgrounds. Sale hours are from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. both days, but get there early because the plants go fast. Saturday May 19 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. is also the Poulsbo Garden Club Plant Sale at the Poulsbo Library on Lincoln. The sale is a new addition to Viking Fest celebrations. Poulsbo Garden Club members are raising money for the new perennial garden at the library. In addition to wonderful plants you'll also find great garden art and other tempting decorative items from thirteen vendors.

I don't always receive notices of events in time to put them in my column so please check the calendar elsewhere in this paper for other important plant sales. Most local garden clubs and plant societies have plant

sales from mid April through the end of May. They're wonderful opportunities to learn more about gardening and pick up some great plant additions for your garden.

It's never too early to mark garden tour dates on our calendars. Gifts of the Garden the South Kitsap Garden Tour benefits the Kerry Ogden Memorial Scholarship Fund for disadvantaged youth and takes place Saturday and Sunday June 23 and 24 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For tickets and information call 360-535-6163. The Thirteenth Bainbridge in Bloom Garden Tour to benefit Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities is Saturday and Sunday July 14 and 15 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Early bird tickets are on sale now. Call 206-842-3182 for Visa and MasterCard orders or call 206-842-7901 with other questions. The Summer Splendor Garden Tour sponsored by the Silverdale Chamber of Commerce is Saturday and Sunday July 21 and 22 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 360-692-6800 to order tickets.

Contact Peg with comments or questions in care of this newspaper or at gardenmentor@yahoo.com