

Skagit County Master Gardener Foundation

DISCOVERY

GARDEN

TIMELINE

1996 to 2019

1996

Discovery Garden Beginnings

- **Memorandum of Agreement** between **SCMG Foundation (tenant)** and **NWREC (landlord)** – *April*
- **Goals established:**
 - To interest, inspire and educate the public
 - To develop a garden for community use and enjoyment
 - To enhance the quality of the environment of Skagit Co.
- **Structural work & garden design – Shed & Pavilion**
 - Designed by **Herta Kurp**

People

Garden Manager – **Julie Hubner** • SCMGFB President – **Liz Jones**
WSU MG Program Coordinator – **Ellen Cooley**
Skagit County WSU Extension Educator – **Dyvon Havens**
WSU Research Station Director – **Dr. Wilbur Anderson**

1996

13 Gardens	People
Naturescape	Heidi Zeretzke, Gloria Williams
Children's	Sharon Evans
Herb	Judy Callahan, Pam Putney, Becky Stinson, Julie Powell
Entrance	Julie Hubner
Enabling	Marty Jerome, Annette Haggard
Vegetable	Doreen Schreuder, Jerry Schreuder
Shade	Karen McLain
Cool Color Border	Patty Yount
Hot Color Border	Carolyn Broderick
Cottage	Peggy Van Allen
Easy Care	Anita Davis, Diana Wisen
Japanese	John Merkel, Cherry Dennis
Fall & Winter	Janet Foster

1996

Events

Groundbreaking Ceremony – Sept 15

- Keynote Speaker
- WSU Western WA Extension Supervisor
- Skagit County Commissioner
- Skagit County WSU Extension Agent
- Project Coordinator
- SCMGs

- Contributors & Tradespeople:

People

- **Ciscoe Morris**
- **Al Pettibone**
- **Bob Hart**
- **Dyvon Havens**
- **Julie Hubner**
- **45**

**More than 65 listed at
Entrance Portal**

1997

Gardens

- **Plantings continue in 13 original gardens**
- **First Vegetable garden plowed, amended & planted**

Structures

Pavilion
Shed

Designed by
Built by
Built by

People

- **Herta Kurp**
- **Hansell Homes**
- **Skagit/Island County Builders Assoc.**

Events

- **4th Annual Plant Sale** –*May*
- **Gardens opened to public** –
August 15

Garden Manager – **Julie Hubner**
SCMGFB President – **Jerry Schreuder**

1998

Gardens

- **Add Joe's Place**
- **Add Doc's Arbor**
- **Children's** – install waterscape
- **Enabling** – lay pavers

Structures

Entrance Portal

Built by

Gazebo

Built by

People

➤ **Mary Lou Grafton**

➤ **Julie Powell**

Garden Manager – **Julie Hubner**

SCMGFB President – **Jerry Schreuder**

➤ **Herta Kurp**

➤ **Edan Construction**

Events

• **Liaise with other societies & groups**

Puget Sound Iris Society • Cascade Fuchsia Society • Skagit Valley Rose Society
Dahlia Society of Skagit County • Skagit County Master Composters
North Cascade Heather Society • Salal Chapter Native Plant Society

1999

Gardens

- **Add Ornamental Grasses**
- **Add Honeysuckle**

Structures

Flagpole erected

Donated by Kiwanis,
Anacortes Noon Club

People

- **Peggy Van Allen**
- **Art Kermoade, Native Plant Society**

Garden Managers

- **Peggy Van Allen, Anita Davis**

Discovery Garden Steering Cmte

- **Judy Callahan**
- **John Markel**
- **Frank Thompson**
- **Peggy Van Allen**

2000

Gardens

- **Fuchsia Society** – evergreens planted

Structures

Pavilion – seats *Added by*

Entry – pavers installed

Enabling – grant for tool display, benches, signs

People

Garden Managers

- **Peggy Van Allen, Anita Davis**

SCMGFB President – **Anita Davis**

Plant Fair Chair – **Becky Stinson**

➤ **Herta Kurp**

➤ **Mullikin Family**

2001

Gardens

- **Add Heather**

Plants donated by North Cascade
Heather Society

- **Replant Iris**

Designed by

Structures

Pavilion – ramp & railing added

Enabling – installation of structures

Events

- **Garden Daze & Bonsai Show**

- **DIG-IT! School Garden launched**

- **Spring Recognition**

with

People

- **Lloyd Eighme, Rick Ocheltree**

- **Heidi Zeretske**

SCMGFB President – **Anita Davis**

- **Berentson Construction**

Garden Managers

- **Peggy Van Allen, Anita Davis,
Ann Tanner, Debbie Lycette**

- **Doreen Schreuder**

- **Ciscoe Morris**

2002

Gardens

- **Add Groundcovers**
- **Entry** – remove bamboo
- **Enabling** – install irrigation
- **Salal NPS Garden started**

Structures

- **Greenhouse** *Built by*

Events

- **Steve Lorton Garden Tour**
- **DG highlighted in *Sunset* Magazine**

People

- **Valerie Herlocker, Sherri Reed**
- **Buzzy March, Evelyn Greenlee**
- **Diane Ramerman, Christina Anderson**

- **Frank Thompson, John Markel, John Rasavage, Jim Toland, Harvey Hutchings**

Garden Managers

- **Peggy Van Allen, Anita Davis, Ann Tanner, Debbie Lycette**

SCMGFB President – **Sue Christianson**

2003

Gardens

- **Add Fuchsia**
- **Vegetable** – new coordinators

Structures

- **Shed Addition** *Built by*
- **Paver Project initiated**
- **Worm Bin installed**

Events

- **Garden Daze** – *July 26th*
- **Steve Lorton Garden Tour**

People

- **Ann Tanner**
Planted by Cascade Fuchsia Society
- **Ruth Sutton & Kathy Wolfe**
- **Herta Kurp**
- **Anita Davis**
- **Master Composters**
Garden Managers
 - **Peggy Van Allen, Anita Davis, Ann Tanner, Debbie Lycette**SCMGFB President – **Sue Christianson**

2004

Gardens

- **Vegetable** – added raised beds

Structures

- **Entrance Plaza** *Designed by*
Built by
- **Fence, Arbor & Trellis**
installed at Shed *Built by*

Events

- **Formation of COEC**

People

- **Ruth Sutton & Kathy Wolfe**

- **Herta Kurp**

- **Summersun, Anita Davis**

- **Herta Kurp**

- **Ellen Cooley, Diana Wisen, Jerry Sells**

Garden Manager – **Julie Powell**

SCMGFB President – **Diane Ramerman**

2005

Structures

- **Fountain installed in Entrance**

Designed by

Built by

People

➤ **Kathy Hirdler, Herta Kurp**

➤ **Kathy Hirdler**

Events

- **Groundbreaking for new WSU Research Center (NWREC) – June 1st**

Garden Manager – **Jim Toland**

SCMGFB President – **Diane Ramerman**

2006

Gardens

- **Heather** – extended
- **Naturescape** – pond relined
- **Add Rhododendron** (from Society)
- **Add Rose** (from Society)

Structures

- **Trellis border in Herb**

Events

- **Dedicated Skagit County
WSU MG Training**

People

- **Lloyd Eighme**
- **Sandy Fielden, Molly Dight & team**
- **Sandy Dixon, Sonja Nelson**
- **Molly Dight, Virgene Link**

- **Judy Callahan**

Garden Managers

- **Jim Toland, Jerry Sells, Julie Powell**

SCMGFB President – **Jerry Sells**

Skagit Co Ag & Natural Resource Educator
– **Don McMoran**

2007

Gardens

- **Rose re-design**
- **Groundcovers** – new walls installed

Structures

- **Composting area remodeled**

People

- **Molly Dight, Virgene Link**

Garden Manager – **Julie Powell**

SCMGFB President – **Jerry Sells**

- **Herta Kurp**

2008

Structures

- **World War I Memorial Monument installed at edge of Rose Garden**
- **Composting area – “Great Wall” installed**

Events

- **Dedication Ceremony of World War I Memorial –**
May 24th

People

- **Molly Dight, Virgene Link, Al Call, Julie Powell**
- Land donated by **WSU/NWREC**
- Stone memorial donated by **Jerry & Carol Farnsworth** in memory of LeRoy Anderson
- **Herta Kurp, Nancy Rusher**

- Color Guard – **Marine Corps League Detachment #1043**

- Garden Manager – **Julie Powell**
- SCMGFB President – **George Meekins**

2009

Gardens

- **Four Seasons created**

Structures

- **Composting area – new bins installed**

Events

- **Plant Fair moves to Fairgrounds** (from NWREC)
- **Skagit Talks radio show launched** – Nov

People

- **Linda Walz** – out of area from Wells Nursery Conifers, Tulip Town Tulips, Dahlia Society

- **Herta Kurp**

- **John Raymond**, PF Chair

Garden Manager – **Julie Powell**
SCMGFB President – **Molly Dight**

2010

Structures

- Restrooms installed

People

- NWREC

Garden Manager – **Bob O'Brien**

SCMGFB President – **Molly Dight**

2011

Structures

- Plant House installed
- New garden signs installed

People

- Bob Bryan

Garden Manager – **Bob O'Brien**

SCMGFB President – **Ruth Sutton**

2012

Structures

- **Greenhouse** – new floor installed
- **Drainage project** – paths from Plant House to Rose Garden

Events

- **Jane Billingham awarded Washington State Master Gardener of the Year**

People

- **Nancy Rusher**

- **Brian Wolfe & Tricor**

Garden Manager – **Bob O'Brien**
SCMGFB President – **Ruth Sutton**

2013

Gardens

- **Rose** – renovation started
- **Children's** – renovation started – installed checkerboard & hopscotch

Events

- **Skagit Valley College Course initiated by MGs – "Gardening Successfully in Skagit County"**

People

➤ **Molly Dight, Virgene Link**

➤ **Molly Dight, Virgene Link**

➤ **Jane Billinghamurst**

Garden Manager – **Sandra Swarbrick**

SCMGFB President – **Al Call**

2014

Gardens

- Children's water feature re-built
- Herb renovation

Structures

- Plant House Archway installed
- Greenhouse floor raised & rebuilt

Events

- Outreach Clinics launched at Farmers Markets

People

- Molly Dight, Virgene Link
- Judy Callahan, Lynne Poling

➤ Herta Kurp

➤ Brian Wolfe & Tricor

➤ Sacha Buller & COEC team

Garden Manager – **Sandra Swarbrick**

SCMGFB President – **Al Call**

2015

Gardens

- **Add Sedum**
- **Herb** – renovation of hedge

Structures

- **Pavilion & Entry Portal re-stained**
- **Pathways refurbished with chips**

Events

- **Elm Tree planting** – *March*
- **Discovery Garden showcased on Skagit Symphony "Gardens of Note" tour** – *June 28th*

People

- **Kathy Nelson**
- **Judy Callahan**

- **Sandra Swarbrick**
- **Sandra Swarbrick**

- **Al Call, NWREC**

Garden Manager – **Sandra Swarbrick**
SCMGFB President – **Al Call**

2016

Gardens

- **Sedum > Succulent** – expansion
- **Groundcovers** – renovation
- **Naturescape** – trees removed from border

Structures

- **Gazebo re-stained**

Events

- **Discovery Garden 20th Anniversary Party** – *July 23rd*
- **Diana Wisen - Washington State MG of the Year**
- **NWREC 10th Anniversary**

People

- **Kathy Nelson**
- **Rin Goble**
- **Sandra Swarbrick**

- **Sandra Swarbrick**

- **Nancy McMillin, Julie Powell**

Garden Manager – **Sandra Swarbrick**
SCMGFB Pres. – **Deborah Smeltzer**

WSU / Skagit County Master Gardener Foundation

Community Outreach & Education

Selected Annual Events

'Ask the Master Gardener' Column Skagit Valley Herald	Bi-weekly
DIG-IT! Youth Outreach	May – June
Discovery Garden Docents	All year – on request
Know & Grow Workshops	Monthly at NWREC
Latino Outreach Events	Year round
Plant Clinics – Anacortes, Burlington	April – October
Plant Fair (+ fund raising for all MG programs)	May
Ask A MG Booths at Farmers Markets Mount Vernon / Sedro-Woolley / Concrete	June – September
Skagit County Fair MG Booth	August
Tulip Festival Tours MG Step-on Guides	April

2017

Gardens

- **Rose** – gravel paths installed, raised beds expanded
- **Heather** – renovation started
- **Drip Irrigation Project**

Structures

- **Shade Structure**

Events

- **PSE Volunteer Day** – *June 20th*
- **Ask A MG Day** – *July 8th*

People

➤ **Molly Dight, Virgene Link-New**

➤ **Dave Buchan**

➤ **Bob Bryan**

➤ **Herta Kurp, Bill & Janine Prichard**

Garden Manager – **Pat Hoover**

SCMGFB Pres. – **Deborah Smeltzer**

➤ **Diana Wisen, Dave Buchan**

2018

Gardens

- **Groundcovers + Dwarf Conifers**
- **Pollinator** – renovate Hot Color
- **Meadow** (Naturescape) – renovation
- **Gravel Paths** – Phase 1

Structures

- **Children's** – rebuild boat & path
- **Greenhouse / Herb Fence**
- **Plant House** – new side walls

Events

- **Ask A MG Day** – *July 7th*
- **Elm Tree Veterans Memorial,**
50th tree planted – *Nov 10th*

People

- **Gail Beasley, Gloria Sinclair**
- **Alix Foster**
- **Nancy Crowell**
- **Bill & Janine Prichard & team**
Garden Manager – **Jean Longspaugh**
- **Victor Monlux**
- **Herta Kurp**
- **Bob Bryan**

- **Diana Wisen, Dave Buchan**
- **Al Call**
SCMGFB Pres. – **Deborah Smeltzer**

2019

Gardens

- **Gravel Paths** – Phase 2 & 3
- **Children's Sunflower Haven**
- **Naturescape Pond** – renovation

Structures

- **Table Replacement** – PH / GH
- **Spanish-English Signage**

Events

- **Ask A MG Day** – *June 29th*
- **Toddler's Day in the Garden** –
July 31st

People

- **Bill & Janine Prichard & Team**
- **Herta Kurp**
- **Kay Torrance**

- **Tom Peebles**
- **Sandra Swarbrick**

- **Diana Wisen, Dave Buchan**

Garden Manager – **Jean Longspaugh**
SCMGFB Pres. – **Deborah Smeltzer**