



St. Louis Master Gardener Garden Talk

Volume 4
February 8, 2018

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Glenn Kopp	2
Did you know?	3
Goodbye	4
Online Classes	6
Speakers Bureau	8
Crossword	7
MG News	10

Upcoming events:

- **Rolling Ridge**
Saturday,
February 10th
- **MG Volunteer
Open House**
Saturday,
February 24th
- **MG Advisory
Committee
nominations
will open in
March.**

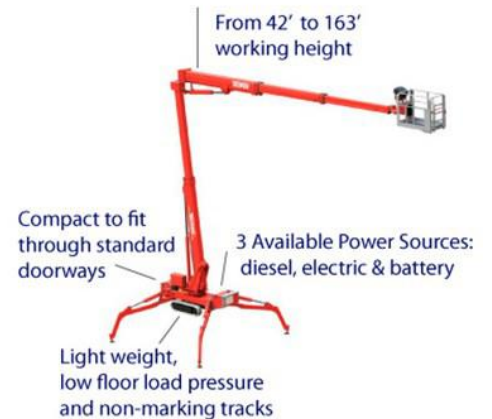
Master Gardener Donation

The Missouri Botanical Garden is now the proud owner of a Teupen spider-style lift. It arrived in early December and the hort staff could not have received a better Christmas gift. Able to fit into tight places and balance on uneven ground it almost sounds like a super hero.

MBG tree crews can now respond more quickly to tree issues and access areas that traditional equipment could not. I saw the tree crew remove the *Ginkgo* near the Kemper Secret Garden in what seemed like minutes. Can you say AMAZ-ING?

If you are walking in the Garden and see the spider moving along you will notice no one is driving. It's remote control.

The St. Louis Master Gardeners donated \$10,000 towards the purchase of the Teupen spider-style lift.



**St. Louis
Master
Gardener**



Glenn Kopp by Ann Robison

The venue was the perfect setting for Glenn's retirement luncheon in late December. There was standing room only in the Kemper Center Classroom; friends, volunteers and colleagues came to send him off. Chip, June Hutson, and Steve Cline all recounted experiences (mostly humorous) they shared while working with Glenn. The mirror above the countertop where Glenn taught cooking classes reflected an abundance and variety of foods brought by his protégés and friends. Since he was the guest of honor he didn't bring that mouth-watering turkey made famous at the holiday parties. The overhead screen was not pulled down as it usually was when Glenn taught the monthly Plant Problem class for Plant Doctors. During his tenure if he wasn't in his office fielding questions or out and about photographing specimens, the Kemper Center Classroom is where you would find Glenn. After 33 years he's retired as Horticultural information Manager.

Glenn's love of plants and cooking grew on the farm where he was raised in North Dakota. He found time as a youngster while working on the farm, in the kitchen garden and helping his mother prepare meals to sneak away to watch Julia Child on TV. Later a professor's family at the university introduced him to Asian cuisine and that started a life-long love.

With a degree in horticulture and art from the University of North Dakota, he enlisted in the Peace Corps and was delighted to be sent to Thailand. After ten weeks of training including a tutorial in the language, Glenn wound up in a small town in northeastern Thailand where he spent 2 years teaching horticulture at a teachers' college in the late seventies. The agricultural classes the students took prepared them to help farmers when they returned to their rural villages.

And then, having fallen in love with the culture, the food and the people, he extended his stay for a third year.

If you've been in one of Glenn's classes you know he can never resist recounting stories of the notorious native fruit, durian, said to smell like a dirty baby's diaper but to taste delicious. I don't know how they did it but someone at the luncheon managed to present Glenn with a durian smoothie which he eagerly slurped. Holly couldn't resist trying it but she did resist commenting on it. I noticed that no one else asked to have the drink passed around.

After the Peace Corps, Glenn worked for 3 years at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden where he oversaw the Adult Education classes and the Education volunteers.

When he became Horticulture Information Manager at the Missouri Botanical Garden, he began developing the *Plant Finder* and the *Gardening Help* website. He was excited by the new technology and found it greatly facilitated his interest in providing horticulture information to a wide audience. Glenn is rightfully proud of the fact that the information has gone worldwide: 15 million (15,000,000 !) page views in 2017 , a million more than the previous year. Glenn said he found it wonderful to read comments from garden professionals and home gardeners around the world about how much they use our information and that they would now like to visit the Missouri Botanical Garden. The information is used extensively by the Plant Doctors, The Horticultural Answer volunteers and the Receptionists. (When I began working at the Plant Doctor Desk in 1997 the resources consisted mainly of the books on the shelves there. Ann Case used to bring a bag of resource material of her own. Now we are connected to the web: we have 2 computers at the desk for the docs to use and a nearby one for clients. We can print information. The reception desk has a computer too. We turn to *Gardening Help* often and provide clients with a bookmark containing the website address so they can access our information independently.)

No matter how involved Glenn was in his research for *Gardening Help* he was never too busy to be enticed to the Plant Doctor desk to help identify a specimen or to help us solve a client's problem. You could say he was our 'live' gardening help. Glenn said, "I liked working with and helping the volunteers. Learning from their experiences and sharing knowledge made each day fun and exciting for me. I also have to give credit to many, many Kemper Center volunteers without whom the development of the *Gardening Help* website and the *Plant Finder* would never have been possible."

Now Glenn is in the retirement phase of his life which he says he's enjoying so far.

Glenn managed to be a mentor, a scholar, a cook and a gentleman. We know him to be amazing but modest. Our gift of a stay at a Bed and Breakfast and a dinner at Stone Soup Cottage is a small token of appreciation for all he did during those 33 years. And in return he left us with a world class website to make our task of helping the public easier and more productive.

Did you know?

In honor of Black History Month—Little Known Black History Fact: African Gardens from blackamericaweb.com. African slaves pre- and post-slavery held gardening traditions with spiritual roots that some blacks in America carry forward today. Traditions like upside-down glass bottles hanging from tree limbs are meant to capture evil spirits that might get into the yard. The bottles were typically blue, the color that repels evil spirits. The appearance of vertical pipes in the ground are meant to allow the spirits of ancestors to communicate with the living. Items in the garden that are colored white signify a color of good character. Traditional African gardens are gateless, indicating to visitors that they are always welcome. And the dirt was raked in a circular manner to give the space a calm, open feeling and to keep evil away.

Horticulture is Weird – Plantology is Cool! By Susan Yoder. What's in a name? According to middle school students, everything. Recent research to uncover the roots of why we have a lack of qualified candidates in the greenhouse industry and across all of horticulture led to some distressing truths — yet encouraging findings. But, are we up for making the adjustments necessary to attract more talented young people to careers in the plant world? Read the complete article in Greenhouse Product News.

Paraguay Lagoon Sees Giant Lily Pad Return. “The beautiful plants are returning to a place where the locals were sure they had already gone extinct. In a gorgeous lagoon in the South American country Paraguay, giant lily pads were popular with both residents and visitors — until they slowly began to disappear due to dredging and visitors collecting the plants. Giant lily pads were even listed as endangered back in 2006. But the magnificent lilies, known for both their incredible shape and their ability to grow to nearly 5 or 6 feet in size, just made a *very welcomed and well-received return to that same lagoon.*”



Butterflies might be more attracted to your weeds than your flowers.



Colorful blooms aren't the chief reason these insects love your garden – it's more about the fragrance and nectar. According to the [Smithsonian Institute](#), new cultivars of popular flowers have been bred for enhanced color and size, but have often lost their fragrance in the process. So everyday weeds, like dandelions and clovers, might actually be the most appealing things in your yard to butterflies (they hate pesticides, too). Taking care to choose [heirloom flower seeds](#) can get them to also fly your way.

Meet the man who makes music with plants. Musician Duane Bridges wasn't always a plant person. A little gadget called the [MIDI Sprout](#) changed that. This is a really interesting article and you can actually listen to his plant music. Interesting if not a little creepy. I love that he is a teacher and hopefully encourages his students to think outside the box. Here is a little more from the article. “Duane says that in recording mode, he allows for the bio-feedback to trigger different informational options. The plant itself, through the bio-feedback, is giving the MIDI Sprout raw materials, which are then manipulated by Bridges, or played along to, like the e-bowed guitar on [Four Plantasias](#). While most of that sound manipulation is taking place in the world of software on his laptop, he's found that he can also actively stimulate changes in the bio-feedback by subtle, physical, tactile acts; say, pinching a leaf, which will cause a change in tones. ”



Goodbyes are Difficult by Susan Pang

Goodbyes are difficult, but inevitable, as time changes everything.

While preparing to move, memories swirl your mind as you go through photos, trophies or great grandma's dishes.

The pursuit of acquiring and storing tangible remnants of years' past is ordinary. We can't let things go until the moment arrives when you realize you can.

The hardest thing to let go, as we depart, will be our outdoor space. It is the space that many homeowners are happy to see the changing of the guard. It's not a manicured lawn, pretty flowers or finely trimmed hedges that we'll miss.

In 2010, we began the process of converting our lawn into gardens filled with native plants. All kinds of Native trees, shrubs and forbs were planted or sowed over many seasons.

It is now 2017. The spaces outside changed many times and we hope google scanned us on a good year.

It wasn't the plants, themselves, that inspired so much fondness for the outdoors. It was the other kinds of life that came forth from or were attracted to the natives.

It was astounding to see spicebush swallowtails after we planted spice bushes. Like how did they ever find us?

Counting the Monarch caterpillars or to-see their metamorphosis was an enchantment beyond words. And bees will come if you plant what they co-evolved with over the vastness of time.

I always appreciated mom and dad robins feeding their juveniles for the first week or so after they fledged. Hopping around the yard, carefree of pesticides and other toxins, that might harm them in a neighboring yard. These creatures are pure themselves just wanting the tiniest sliver of our yard to carry on with another generation in tow. We decided we could foster for them an organic yard and oblige the window nest in exchange for their beautiful songs.

There were nights when we saw or heard the great horned owl or a bat coming out of the bat box we put out. The hawks and migrating birds reminded us that spring was here or winter was nigh.

So to all the fascinating life forms in our erstwhile outdoors, we say goodbye and thank you.

Thanks for those memories, so in the present, that they couldn't manifest themselves in a box.

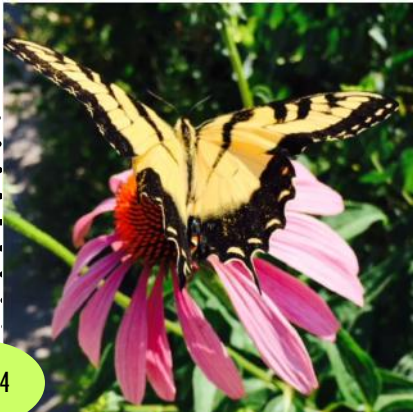
Thanks to the native vegetation that made this life possible.

To learn more about native plants please see www.grownative.org. Buy plants or seeds from Grow

Native vendors or become a grow Native vendor yourself.

You won't be disappointed.

Happy new year and cheers to more gardens!!! Susan Pang



INTRODUCING...

THE YOUTH MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM

Students ages 9-13 are invited to join in hands-on investigations and project-based learning. Youth Master Gardeners will gain an appreciation of gardening and the environment, learn to work cooperatively with others, and understand science and math concepts through nature-based lessons.

DETAILS:

Ages:	9-13 years old
Dates:	Saturdays April 7, 14, 21, 28, May 5 & 12
Times:	10 a.m. to Noon
Location:	Queeny Park (Ballwin, MO)
Price:	\$60 per child (Advance Registration Required)



OVERVIEW:

Each week students will enjoy fun, interdisciplinary lessons and investigations led by Master Gardener Instructors. Students will learn about botany, horticulture, and garden design, planning, and maintenance. An established fruit and vegetable garden and the parks' forested trails will provide an ideal outdoor classroom for hands-on learning.

OBJECTIVES:

By the end of this program, students will be able to:

- classify plants using botanical and horticultural terms
 - describe plant needs and garden planning steps
 - demonstrate planting and care skills
 - be able to explain the benefits of growing and eating fruits and vegetables.
-

REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

For registration and more information, please contact Diane (St. Louis County Parks) 314-615-8481 OR dpfeiffer@stlouisco.com

Advance registration is required by April 6th

A COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIP SPONSORED BY THE ST. LOUIS COUNTY PARKS,
MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN, UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI EXTENSION, ST. LOUIS COUNTY
PARKS FOUNDATION AND ST. LOUIS MASTER GARDENERS

Online Gardening Classes

Horticulture Magazine's Smart Gardening Online Workshops— Horticulture Magazine's free online Smart Gardening Workshops give you access to great garden speakers from the comfort of your own home.

Utah State University Extension offers a selection of online gardening classes for about \$25 each. YouTube gardening videos offered by Universities are plentiful. One example is **Uof Maryland Extension** but there are many more.

Oregon State University Master Gardener Short Course 9 sessions \$45 each so not inexpensive but you can just watch the lesson you choose.

Learn How to Knit a Tree Sweater

Do you want to learn how to knit a tree sweater? Well I do. I have tried knitting and can't seem to progress beyond a square. A tree sweater looks like a bunch of squares so I should be able to complete a project. My goal is to annoy my neighbor who is not happy that I leave the dead flowers for the birds through the winter! It looks messy! Maybe I could learn to knit a secret message in the sweater like "please move." **Details will be coming soon!**



Horticulture related song by

The Move

I Can Hear the Grass Grow
FLY RECORDS.

Social Media

You may want to sign up for an Instagram account just so you can follow one of these -

@Annemorshage's Norwegian kitchen garden and greenhouse is a simple account of the daily things that delight her, which include a lot of peppers.

@farmersroots belongs to Joneve Murphy, a young American grower who journeyed across the globe to meet other small-scale growers.

@charles_dowding. You will learn a lot about vegetables from the king of salads and no-dig gardening.

Master Gardener Winter Book Club

Sunday, February 18 - 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
Kemper Center Classroom

Read just one or both (around 200 pages each)
"Thousand Cranes" by Yasunari Kawabata, Edward G. Seidensticker (Translator)

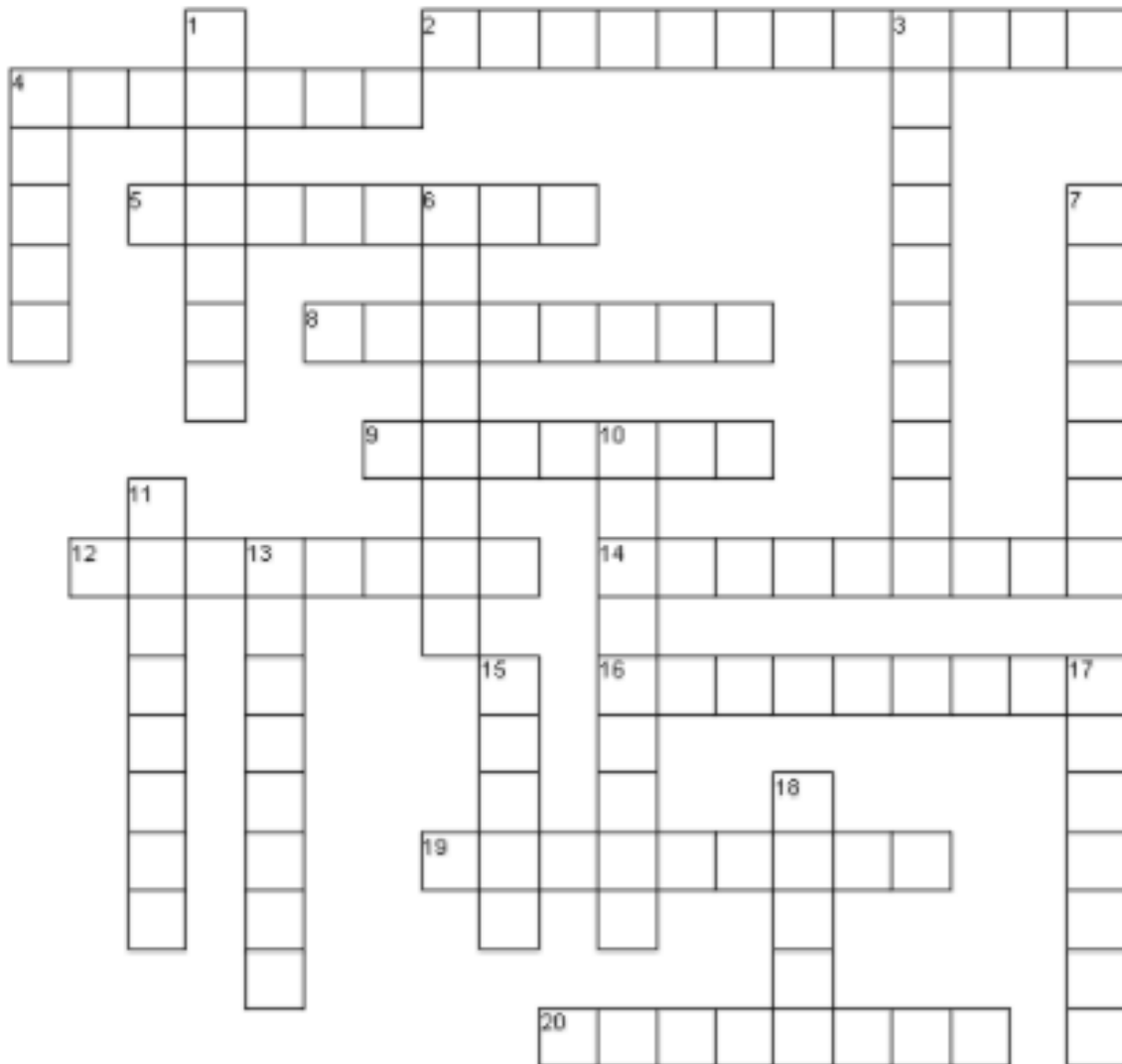
"The Book of Tea" by Kakuzo Okakura

MG Nancy Miner has arranged for a speaker to talk with the bookclub about the Japanese Tea Ceremony. Her name is Heather Bass. She is a student and member of the Chado Society of St. Louis. Chado is the Way of Tea. Heather told me that "The Book of Tea" is required reading for every student of the Way of Tea. Please contact me with any questions—Nancy Miner nwm04@yahoo.com

Perennials for Clay Soil Crossword

Designed by Dr. Leonard Perry, University of Vermont

Choosing the right plants for the right place is becoming increasingly popular, as it results in better success with less work. This is often called ecological landscaping, or sustainable landscaping. The following are some of the best genera for this



www.CrosswordWizard.com

Clues

Across

- 2 daylily
- 4 blue stars
- 5 plume poppy
- 8 globeflower
- 9 blazing star
- 12 helen's flower
- 14 foxglove
- 16 coneflower
- 19 perennial sunflower
- 20 lady fern

Down

- 1 bee balm
- 3 loosestrife
- 4 bugleweed
- 6 monkshood
- 7 goat's beard
- 10 black-eyed susan
- 11 pigsqueak
- 13 globe thistle
- 15 hollyhocks
- 17 windflower
- 18 michaelmas daisy

Speakers Bureau

Each year St. Louis Master Gardeners make over 100 presentations to garden clubs, schools, businesses, churches, neighborhood and civic organizations. These Master Gardeners spend a lot of time researching and creating talks on a variety of subjects. I have included only 6 of the 50 talks currently available. Take a few minutes to see what the Speakers Bureau is offering on www.stlmg.com. Think you might like to be a part of the Speakers Bureau? Contact Betsy Alexander at betsyace@earthlink.net.

ABC's of Honeybees

An introductory frolic through the intriguing world of all things honeybee. The principle focus of the presentation is honeybee behavior. Of course, it covers stings and honey. It discusses curious honeybee behaviors, including swarming, 'waggle dance', pollination and colony collapse, as well as an outline of specific resources to help forestall the impending demise of the region's bee population.

Speaker—Marc Hartstein



Plants that Changed the Course of History

This talk is on a subset of plants taken from Bill Laws' book, *Fifty Plants that Changed the Course of the History*. focuses her talk on a subset of the 50 plants that are detailed in Bill Laws' book, *Fifty Plants that Changed the Course of History*.

Speaker—Carol Gravens



Designing with Nature in Mind

This presentation will show how to design with native plants, creating a habitat appealing to nature's critters as well as to you and your neighbors. It demonstrates how a native landscape can reflect your tastes while still supporting our ecosystem.

Speaker—Betty Struckhoff



Right-sizing Your Garden

Learn such things as doing more with shrubs and less with annuals. Find out ideas for plants that give color but don't have to be deadheaded. How do you subtract some plants that don't perform? Get permission to ditch (pitch??) those fussy plants that need too much work. Less is more when you make the right choices and subtract the problem choices.

Instructor—Terry Milne



Winter Damage

Winter can be a devastating season for your garden. There are several types of damage that the frigid weather can cause. Learn what these problems are, how to identify them and how to prevent or fix them.

Instructor—Betsy Alexander



The Art of Container Gardening

Follow Kim's step-by-step guide to learn the design concepts to put together your own striking containers. The program covers plant selection, container design and maintenance.

Instructor—Kim Gamel



St. Louis Master Gardeners

VOLUNTEER SITE OPEN HOUSE



The Following MG Volunteer Sites Will be Open Saturday, February, 24 - 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Looking for a new volunteer site or just curious what Master Gardener volunteers do at other sites. Stop by and visit some of the Master Gardener sites that will be participating in the Open House.

For every site you visit your name will be entered for a chance to win a prize. Prizes include a Wilderness Wagon Tour of Shaw Nature Reserve, a Missouri Botanical Garden membership & more.

A list of the open sites will be emailed to you on February 19th. Bring a friend and join in the fun!

Gardening Apps

Free & fabulous, **Leafsnap** is a series of electronic field guides being developed by researchers from [Columbia University](#), the [University of Maryland](#), and the [Smithsonian Institution](#). The free mobile apps use visual recognition software to help identify tree species from photographs of their leaves. It also offers a tree ID game.

Garden Compass With a personalized care calendar, Garden Compass should keep you on top of things, even if you're a novice gardener. It offers plant identification services, expert advice and monthly reminders that are relevant to your garden.

GKH Gardening Companion Take your garden to the next level! The Gardening Companion is more than a gardening app. It is your friend and assistant in the garden. Read information about the plants that interest you, set reminders to help you care for your garden and track and share information about your garden. It's the app from Gardening-Know-How that makes gardening even easier!

iScape: Before spending real money, visualize your project on your property. So simple. So powerful. iScape It!

Moon & Garden makes the best of your organic garden by using biodynamic. Based on moon influence, this app will tell you what to do. If you are an organic addict, whether you are a very good gardener or an amateur, Moon & Garden is for you. You will be able to see what is best to do following the day.

Virginia Tech Tree Identification app **VTech** brings the award winning Virginia Tech digital dendrology material to your Android smart phone. It contains fact sheets for 969 woody plants from all over North America with an in-depth description, range map and thousands of color images of leaves, flowers, fruit, twigs, bark and form.

BeeSmart Pollinator Gardener—The BeeSmart™ Pollinator Gardener is your comprehensive guide to selecting plants for pollinators specific to your area. Never get caught wondering what plants to buy again... Free

Botanical Terms - A Comprehensive Glossary— Botanical Terms is the leading professional level Botanical glossary for iPhone and iTouch. With a database of hundreds of Plant Structure, Growth, Reproduction and Metabolism Terms along with Algae, Fungi and other Botanical Terms, it maintains the most comprehensive collection available right at your fingertips. No internet connection required... \$1.99

Master Gardener News—READ Please

- The Missouri Botanical Garden will no longer issue honorary Garden memberships to Master Gardeners who do not volunteer at the Garden or one of its locations. If you have any questions please email Scott Bahan at scott.bahan@mobot.org.
- Master Gardeners must have their MBG photo badge or their MG green badge to enter the Missouri Botanical Garden.
- All Master Gardeners volunteering at the Missouri Botanical Garden or one of its locations will have to log their volunteer hours with their Garden supervisor in addition to logging their hours on the MG website www.stlmg.com.
- I am forming a committee to work on new initiatives for the St. Louis Master Gardeners. Please contact me if you are interested recordsh@missouri.edu
- If you are interested in posting to the [St. Louis Master Gardener Facebook](#) page please contact Betty Struckhoff etstruckhoff@att.net .

Margaret Grant's Beet & Quinoa Beetballs

4 medium red beets roasted,	½ t. salt
2 T. finely chopped red onion	1 egg beaten
½ cup cooked quinoa	½ cup bread crumbs separated
½ cup mashed garbanzo beans	2 T parmesan cheese grated
2 T finely chopped parsley	4T. Olive oil

- Using the large holes of a box grater, grate the roasted beets
- Combine grated beets, onion, quinoa, beans, parsley, salt, egg, 2 T. bread crumbs.
- Mix ingredients to combine. Shape into 2 inch balls
- Combine remaining bread crumbs and cheese
- Roll each ball in mixture to coat
- In a large sauté pan, heat oil, and brown meatballs
- Remove to a baking sheet and bake for 20 minutes at 350°F



Glenn Kopp's Chocolate Truffles 'Ganache'

These are to die for and I am not exaggerating. Eat slowly/mindfully and savor the taste. Okay, that's not likely to happen so just do what I do and pop the entire truffle in your mouth. Unbelievable! Of course after 3 or 4 you might feel a little light headed.

Ingredients

1 pound bittersweet chocolate. I like Vairhona, Callebaut or Lindt but Ghiradelli also has a good reputation
 1 C. heavy cream
 4 Tbsp. (1/2) stick butter, cut into small pieces to melt quickly
 1/4 C. Grand Marnier
 Powdered sugar or cocoa

Directions:

- Chop the chocolate into small pea size pieces and place in a bowl. In a sauce pan, bring the heavy cream and butter just to a boil and then pour over the chocolate. Wait about 5 minutes and then begin stirring until the ganache is dark and shiny and all the chocolate is melted. If all the chocolate is not melted, pop the bowl into the microwave (if using a glass bowl) for 10 seconds and stir again. Repeat if needed. Do not overheat the chocolate.
- You can now let the chocolate firm up in the refrigerator before you scoop out teaspoon size portions and roll into balls or, as I prefer, pour mixture into a 9" x 13" pan lined with plastic wrap before placing in the refrigerator to cool for at least an hour or longer if desired.
- Remove the chocolate ganache from the refrigerator, slide it out of the pan and cut into bite-size pieces. I like 1/2 x 1 inch pieces. If you didn't remove the plastic wrap from the bottom of the ganache before cutting, be sure you remove any pieces after cutting. Place the cut pieces in a covered container in the refrigerator. About 30 minutes before serving, remove the chocolate squares from the refrigerator and roll in powdered sugar or cocoa. The recipe can be cut in half.





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**St. Louis Master Gardeners
 Missouri Botanical Garden**
 P. O. Box 299
 St. Louis, MO 63166

LOG YOUR HOURS!



www.stlmg.com

I want one of these!

Does anyone have a trailer that they would like to turn into a Master Gardener rolling garden? Think about it! Show'N Tell on wheels. MGs would be the hit of every Farmer's Market & event. If you are interested in helping create the rolling garden or maybe just keeping it alive please email me at recordsh@missouri.edu. I have instructions—detailed instructions!



MG Merchandise

Is your Master Gardener tee shirt a little ragged? Would you love a fleece or sweatshirt to wear in the ever changing St. Louis weather? Maybe you need a moisture wicking shirt so you are comfortable and looking good when it is 95 degrees.



Whatever your reasons visit [MG Merchandise](http://www.stlmg.com) on www.stlmg.com and begin shopping for new MG apparel. After all you should look as good as your garden. Contact Margaret Lahrmann with any questions at mlahrmann@sbcglobal.net

Interesting Reading/Listening/Watching

BLOGS

Master Gardener, Charlotte Schneider, the Female Forrester Forever writes an interesting and informative blog. Check it out at <https://urbanarboretumdiary.wordpress.com/>. Charlotte is a fountain of knowledge when it comes to forestry and tree care.

[Adam Woodruff](#) recognized as one of Horticulture magazine's Top 20 Favorite Garden Blogs.

BOOKS

[The Bark Book](#) by **Michael Wojtec (9781584658528)** is my new favorite book. There is a bark dichotomous key that will help you ID every tree in the forest—maybe.



[The Virago Book of Women Gardeners](#) edited by **Deborah Kellaway (9780349008653)** Writings from the likes of Germaine Greer to Edith Wharton are included in this book. Here is a review by Arminta Wallace of the *Irish Times* that I thought was pretty funny but don't let it keep you from picking up the book if you have a chance. "Here are writers who wax lyrical about whether it's OK to have moss in your lawn, whether an all white garden is chic or just plain dull, why it's unwise to start pruning too early in the year. The perfect gift, I've no doubt, for a keen plantswoman, or plantsman for that matter; those of us who infinitely prefer sitting in gardens to working in them will find it all, frankly, a bit of a hellobore."



[The World of Laura Ingalls Wilder: The Frontier Landscapes that Inspired the Little House](#) by **Marta McDowell (9781604697278)**. This book comes highly recommended by Master Gardener, Sharon Upchurch.

[Weeds - Control Without Poisons](#) by **Charles Walters. (9780911311587)** Charles Walters provides specifics on a host of weeds — why they grow, what soil conditions spur them on or stop them, what they say about your soil, and how to control them without the obscene presence of poisons.