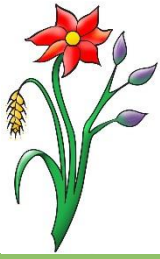


The Garden Gate



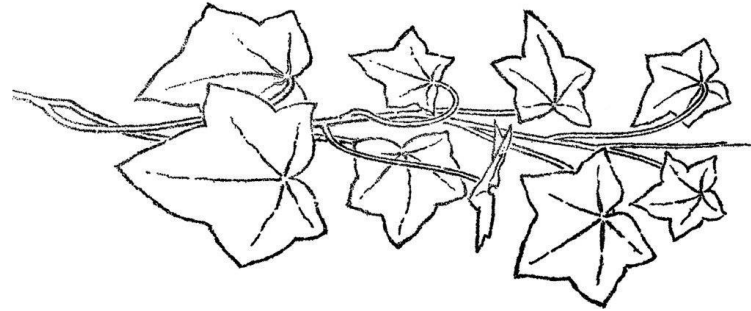
Bonner County Gardeners Association **Education ~ Community Service ~ Camaraderie**

August 2015

Please contribute to The Garden Gate. Informational articles, garden tips, announcements, and digital photos are welcome. For questions or comments please email lauriebrown54@gmail.com When emailing, please put "MG" in the subject line.

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President's Message

Our dear past president Jan Wilfert has passed away. This is a difficult message to write but I've put it off as long as I can. I feel great sadness as Jan Wilfert was the first person I had contact with from the BCGA. She is the one with whom I spoke when I was debating taking the membership course in 2013, and her friendship continued after that initial meeting. Needless to say my life has been enriched by that contact and I miss her.

On a business note, there was a lot of discussion at the recent membership meeting about what we could/should/want to do as an organization. Do we need to make changes in how we operate and what we do? This discussion has already started with the Home Horticulture series. It will continue with other aspects of our programs and membership. If you are interested in contributing to this discussion please contact me as I will be forming a committee to facilitate the dialogue.

That's all for now.

This is a heads up. At the Fair, Howie Fenimore, Martha Troutman and I talked with Kyle Nagy who is the manager of Sandpoint Orchard just north of the fairgrounds. He leads periodic tours of their operation and has agreed to a special tour for BCGA members. The tour is scheduled for October 10th at 10 AM. I will be sending out an email requesting those who are interested in going on the tour respond to me so that Kyle will know how many to anticipate.

August Gardening To Do List



Zone 3

- Divide peonies and other spring and summer-blooming perennials
- Plant perennials
- Plant bare-root and containerized trees and shrubs
- Sow wildflower seed for spring bloom
- Plant spring-blooming bulbs
- Dethatch and aerate lawns
- If September rainfall is scarce, water trees and shrubs to keep them supple and prevent winter damage
- Clean and restock birdfeeders
- Plant garlic for harvest next summer
- Set out bareroot peonies

Zone 4

- Harvest apples and store in a cool place
- Plant garlic
- Dethatch and aerate the lawn
- Clean out rose beds and apply fungicide one last time to susceptible varieties
- Plant perennials
- Move tender houseplants, etc. indoors after rinsing and repotting, and set up a grow light to supplement natural light
- Clean and restock birdfeeders
- Begin to move tropical water lilies and other tender aquatics indoors
- Plant spring-blooming bulbs; refrigerate those you intend to force
- Set out bareroot peonies

Zone 5

- Set out transplants of cool-weather vegetables
- Plant winter-hardy pansies and fall annuals (calendula, dianthus, ornamental cabbage and kale)
- Plant tag teams of perennials and spring-blooming bulbs that will complement each other or bloom in sequence next season
- Water trees and shrubs when rainfall is scarce to "winterize" them
- Dethatch and aerate the lawn
- Dehead chrysanthemum plants to keep flower buds forming through the fall
- Clean out rose beds; apply fungicide; leave hips for winter color and bird food
- Prune summer-bearing raspberries

- Mow back strawberry plants; remove weeds and remulch
- Move tender houseplants, etc. indoors after rinsing and repotting, and set up a grow light to supplement natural light



August Meeting Minutes

Following are the minutes for the BCGA meeting on August 5, 2015:

Members Present: Patti Pietron, Deb Steffen, Gray Henderson, Gail Swan, Barb Pressler, Marjory Clements, Ann Warwick, Butterfly Burke, Cindy Hayes, Janae Dale, Howie Fennimore, Penny Barton, Penny Goodman, Sandra Gevurtz

At 9:05am August 5, 2015 President Gray Henderson brought the meeting to order.

July Meeting Minutes: Gray Henderson moved to accept the minutes and Butterfly Burke seconded the motion.

Treasures Report: Penny Barton reports that all bills have been paid and we have a remaining balance of \$1,612.71 in our checking account. This figure is in agreement with what the bank has for our account. Penny stepped up to take this position after the previous treasurer had to resign. Presently she is unable to locate the BCGA check register and still needs the March bank statement. She also discovered that the bank still had our old Airport Way address. Cindy Hayes presented her with some receipts from the fair booth. Gray Henderson moved to accept the report and Penny Goodman seconded the motion.

Home Horticulture: Janae Dale reported that the feedback from the survey that went out to the public was very positive and that they want us to continue

with the classes. Wednesday night is fine, the cost is acceptable, the subject matter is good, and a reminder email a day or two before each class would be of great help. We will not offer our fall series this year.

The feedback on the survey from the membership was not as positive. From the response Janae says it appears that what members want are advanced classes. Janae sent out an email to the membership asking for volunteers to help work on improving this program. She received no response.

Farmers Market: Sandra Gevurtz reported that we've been present at 3 Farmers Markets and that we have the booth covered for September and October. The upcoming Farmers Market on Saturday, August 8 will be "Kids Day" and our booth will offer flower pounding and possibly making lavender sachets as activities for the kids. Janae Dale said our booth attracts a broad audience, including visitors from other states with questions regarding their gardens.

Yard and Plant Sale: Janae Dale will send another email requesting articles for us to sell. Cindy Hayes and Bob Blair are storing the articles we are selling and she says there is nowhere near the amount of things we had last year. Pricing and sorting of the items will occur on Wednesday, August 12 and Thursday August 13 beginning at 9:00am at Cindy and Bob's home. Bring a brown bag lunch and join the fun!

Potlucks: Deborah Steffen reported that a lovely potluck was held at Loie De La Vergne's home on Sunday, August 2. Loie's garden was just amazing and an inspiration to all who visited. Such a variety of plants and all in their glory. Thanks Loie, for working so hard in your garden and sharing it with all of us! Sandra and Steve Gevurtz will be hosting a potluck on September 13th. Join in the fun and bring a favorite dish!

Fair: Cindy Hayes is chairman. Cindy thanked Butterfly Burke, Janae Dale, and Gail Swan for all of their hard work on this year's booth. All is coming along well and she still needs members to volunteer time in the booth.

Old Business:

BCGA Library Project: Gray Henderson mentioned that the labels for the BCGA library books have been printed. Gail Swan and Penny Barton have volun-

teered to help Jenna Bertus with this project. Gray will send an email to Jenna asking her to schedule a time to work on this project.

Resource Guide: Janae Dale noted that the BCGA was left out of the Resource Guide the Bee puts out. This publication lists events and clubs in Bonner County. Janae went to the Bee's office and asked why we weren't listed. It was suggested that perhaps we were mixed up with the Master Gardeners and the person compiling the list didn't realize we were two separate groups. Carolyn at the Bee assured Janae she would make sure we were in next year's edition. Gray will update our information and send it to her.

Looking to the future: There has been much discussion around the goals of BCGA, what we should offer as an organization, and how we should function in the upcoming years. Penny Barton feels strongly about the membership course and the value it brings to students. She will call each student from the last two membership classes to get their feedback on the classes and our organization in general. Gray Henderson will assemble an ad hoc committee address how BCGA will evolve.

Meeting adjourned at 10:10.

BCGA Goings-On



Booth at the Bonner County fair: Cindy Hayes, Janae Dale, Butterfly Burke, Ann Warwick and Gail Swan. Not pictured but there for the setup were Bob Blair, Howie Fennimore and Tracy.



Wednesday pricing crew spent 6 hours tagging items for the Aug. 14th BCGA yard sale. Pictured are Penny Barton, Gail Swan, Ann Warwick, Janae Dale, Martha Troughton, and Barb Pressler. Not pictured are Cindy Hayes, Jenna Bertus, Bob Blair, Howie Fennimore, Gray Henderson,



In Memorium

Jan Wilfert loved flowers. She often came to meetings with a bouquet to reward a member who had been especially active during the month. Her garden was one flamboyant bouquet all spring and summer long. Jan grew flowers expressive of drama and panache, large plants exhibiting brilliant hues: Oriental poppies, lilies, tall phlox dancing in the breeze, Joe Pye weed, multi-hued lupines and giant rhubarb grown for the ornamental blossoms. Clematis climbed up the walls of the house and garage, blossoming lavishly. Her garden spoke of exuberance, joy, and a free spirit. She let her plants reseed and mingle freely, always excited by new color combina-

tions or textures that resulted. A walk through her flowers along the curving path was reminiscent of English gardens in paintings. She shared seeds and plants freely. Many members have a plant of two from Jan, given with love and generosity.

Jan joined BCGA in 2010, and was soon volunteering for many projects. She served as president in 2013 and 2014, giving generously of her time and skills to participate in nearly every activity, project, or committee meeting. Her positive energy helped the organization when we had to move from Airport Way, and needed a new home. She presided over the smooth move and settling into our shared arrangement with the bridge club. Jan was a cheerful volunteer, a beautiful person, a dedicated BCGA president and a good friend.



You will be missed.