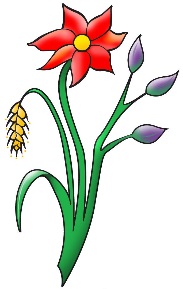
**The Garden Gate** 

**Bonner County Gardeners Association**

**Education ~ Community Service ~ Camaraderie**



**December 2016**

*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](mailto:lauriebrown54@gmail.com) *When emailing, please put “GG” in the subject line.*

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**President’s Message**

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Where has the year gone? We ended on a high note with 60 people attending the **Christmas Party**. Penny Barton and her crew used their magic to transform the room into a cozy, inviting setting. Tim Gift, John Dale and Greg Barksdale helped set up the Pack River caterers trays. Barb Pressler provided comic relief with her sexy elf getup. Shirley Barksdale collected money at the door resplendent in her silver bling hat. Thanks to Bob Blair for his slideshow and picture taking. And a special thank you to Gray Henderson and Penny Barton for being Master of Ceremony and Vanna White of the White Elephant gift exchange. There were plenty of smiles and laughter throughout the evening.

It has been my pleasure to serve as your **President for 2016**. I could count on at least 15 Board and dedicated BCGA members attending each monthly membership meeting. It was definitely a team effort. Each Committee Chairman followed through with their responsibilities to ensure our numerous activities ran smoothly. A heartfelt thank you to you all!

Please continue to support your organization with your dues and time. Gordon will be putting together a new roster in January. If you haven’t already paid your yearly **$20 membership dues** please send them to:

BCGA- Ponderay Event Center

401 Bonner Mall Way, Ste F.

Ponderay, Idaho 83852.

There is an opening for **President and one Board Member** **position**. If you are interested in either of these positions please contact any Board member before the January 4, 2017 membership meeting. A reminder that any BCGA member can attend any monthly Membership meeting to see what goes on behind the scenes.

The **Membership Classes** will begin in February. Penny Barton will be looking for volunteers to help with various tasks from room setup to facilitators. If you are willing to help, please contact Penny. The classes will be held on Monday and Friday mornings (9-1) for 7 weeks. BCGA members are encouraged to sign up to audit any class as a refresher.

See everyone next year!

Cindy Hayes – BCGA President 2016

**January Gardening To Do List**

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**Zone 3**

* Order seeds
* Cut back on feeding houseplants (do not feed dormant houseplants)
* Water cymbidiums weekly until they bloom

**Zone 4**

* Order seeds
* Sow seeds indoors for hardy spring-blooming plants
* Cut back on feeding houseplants (do not feed dormant houseplants)

**Zone 5**

* Order seeds
* Sow seeds for hardy spring-blooming plants
* Cut back on feeding houseplants (do not feed dormant houseplants)
* Sow frost-tolerant perennials indoors



**December Meeting Minutes**

**Following are the minutes for the BCGA meeting on December 7, 2006.**

**Members Present:** Cindy Hayes, Patti Pietron, Ann Warwick, Howie Fennimore, Janae Dale, Penny Barton, Tim Gift, Gail Swan, Barb Pressler, Gray Henderson, Gordon Fish, Butterfly Burke, Marjory Clements, Shirley Barksdale, Penny Goodman

**Meeting Called to Order: 9:05am**

**November Minutes:** No corrections noted. Penny Barton motioned to accept the minutes, seconded by Gail Swan. Minutes approved.

**Treasurer’s Reports:** Penny Barton reports a balance of $4,203.95. Gordon Fish will send out renewal forms and Cindy Hayes will send out an email reminder that dues are due. Patti Pietron motioned to accept the Treasurer’s report and Penny Goodman seconded it.

**Committee Reports**

**Home Horticulture** – No report

**Healing Garden** – No report.

**Publicity –** No report.

**Website** –Gordon Fish and Tim Gift will address this in the New Year.

**Farmer’s Market** –No report.

**Fairgrounds** –No report.

**Membership** –Penny Barton is having a committee meeting Thursday, December 15 at 9:30 in the BCGA office. Cindy Hayes will send out an email to the membership regarding this meeting. Ann Warwick will mention the class in her article for the Co-Op paper. Penny says she’ll keep the class size to 17, as that seems to work best for the space. Penny says she’s possibly stepping down as chair of membership classes in 2018.

**School Gardens** – No report.

**Potlucks** – No report

**Home and Garden show** –Ann Warwick will be filling out the forms for this.

**Old Business**

**Fieldtrip** – Cindy Hayes contacted Young Living and found out that they do tours through mid-April. She will check on booking one for BCGA in mid-March 2017.

**Christmas Party** – Cindy Hayes reports 71 confirmed attendees. Tim Gift will pick up the food from Pack River and Janae Dale will return the serving dishes. Penny Barton in in charge of decorations and will be at the event center Saturday, December 10 at 10:00am in the event center to deck the halls. Shirley Barksdale volunteered to collect the money at the door.

**President nominations** – Cindy Hayes reports no nominees. She passed around the list of presidential duties to the board so they could volunteer to take on pieces of the president’s job.

**New Member Service Hours** – Cindy Hayes suggested new members serve 4 hours of time in a BCGA event. Gray Henderson motioned that we not do this. Howie Fennimore seconded this motion. The motion was passed. Janae Dale suggested we reach out to new members with informal mentors. It was also mentioned that we might have chairman call up new members signed up for their event to personally connect with them and answer any questions. Howie Fennimore suggested we have a dinner for new members. He also suggested that chairmen from our events show up at the membership classes to let new members know about our events and what’s involved.

**New Business**

**Evaluate Committees** – Cindy Hayes suggested we might want to evaluate which cleanup days we are involved with and possibly set up one day in the fall and one day in the spring as scheduled cleanup days. After discussion it was determined that we leave it up to the chairman of these events to set the dates.

**Evaluate Duties** – Shirley Barksdale suggested we revisit the duties of officers. She also suggested that the Vice President automatically become President the following year and then after stepping down as President, automatically fill a seat on the board. This will be revisited in the New Year.

**Thank you Cindy Hayes – Janae Dale thanked Cindy Hayes for all of her wonderful work this past year as President.**

**Meeting Adjourned at 10:00**



**Hot Spot**

Janae Dale

770 Whiskey Jack Circle

Sandpoint ID 83864

265-2205

208-610-0403

[dalejanae@gmail.com](mailto:dalejanae@gmail.com)



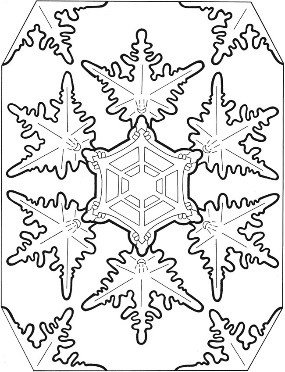
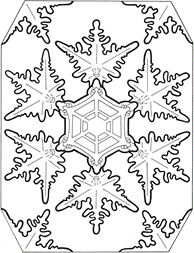
The Pacific Northwest has been my home most of my life. I can’t imagine living anywhere else. As a child in Prosser, WA, my first job was picking raspberries. As a preteen and teenager, living in Leavenworth, WA, I grew and sold my own raspberries. I did some vegetable and flower gardening in various locations, but didn’t start any serious gardening until I retired and my husband, John, and I moved to Sandpoint from Snohomish, WA. As most of you know, the key word is “retired”. Gardening takes lots of time! Trying to garden here resulted in lots of questions. I went to the UI Research Center on Boyer on a regular basis with my gardening questions until Jennifer Costich-Thompson who worked there, told me I should take the Master Gardener class to learn about gardening in this area, I think just to get rid of me! I was familiar with the program, having lived in Washington State where it had begun, and decided to sign up for the classes. In 2003 I completed the program, and became active in the Bonner County Master Gardeners Association. The year we found out things were changing with the UI, I was president. The whole thing was very confusing and I’m afraid I didn’t do a very good job because I didn’t know what was going on! Luckily we came out of that and established an even bigger and better organization, the current BCGA. I have been active in the group and really enjoy the camaraderie, the sharing, and participating in the activities we do.

After I graduated from Leavenworth High School (the one in Washington, not the one in Kansas!), I attended and graduated from WSU in Pullman, with a degree in Business Administration and Accounting. It’s hard to believe today, but I couldn’t get a job as an accountant. I was told to my face, “How fast do you type?”, and “We don’t believe in women in accounting.” Thank goodness times have changed. I substitute taught in Old Town and Priest River, ID, and eventually went back to school at CWU in Ellensburg, obtaining a BA in Education, and later a Masters in Education. I taught in Maple Valley, WA, Colville, WA, and Snohomish, WA, and retired shortly before we moved here. My field was Secondary Reading and Language Arts until I started an Alternative Program for seventh and eighth grade students. I was listed as teaching all the subjects, but it was primarily Attitude Adjustment! And even then I felt my job was planting seeds that I hoped would eventually sprout and grow.

But I enjoy my garden here even more. I can see the consequences and results of my labor. They aren’t always very good, but **next year’s garden is always perfect!** I have that in mind now as I pore over the seed catalogs and draw diagrams of the beds.

Of course, my most favorite thing to watch grow are my grandchildren.



Pictures from the holiday party on the 10th:





