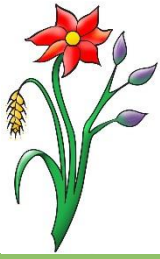


The Garden Gate



Bonner County Gardeners Association Education ~ Community Service ~ Camaraderie

March 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 When emailing, please put "GG" in the subject line.

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President's Message

Happy St. Patrick's Day. Even if you don't find a lucky 4-leaf clover in your yard, your garden holds its own magic. Spring is a reawakening of the earth. It's exciting to see the crocus poking their heads up out of the soil.

The BCGA **Raffle Basket** is slowly filling with awesome gifts. Howie has donated a handmade "hod" wire basket, Ann made a felted figure to give the basket personality, Bob Blair has made a special handcrafted Native American like flute, we also have a hand painted pot, a hori hori knife and an ant (made from a railroad spike). If you have something garden related you'd like to contribute to the basket please contact Becky Freeland. We'd like to have the basket completed by **mid-March** to offer to Home Hort participants. We will display it through Spring and draw the lucky winner at the Garden Tour in July.

We have an outstanding lineup for our **Home Hort** series. Tim Gift, our new Publicity Chairman, is getting the word out via the electronic media. Word of mouth is also a great way to advertise our classes. Janae and Gail Swan have flyers you can hand to

your friends. The classes are also listed on our website and Facebook. Let's fill those chairs!

In April the **Home and Garden Show** will be at the Fairgrounds on the 9th and 10th. BCGA will host a **Sip and Shop** event at the Pend Oreille Winery on April 12 from 4:30-9. We receive 10% of the proceeds for that evening. Tell your friends and circle the date on your calendar.

The **Spring Plant Sale** will be held over Mother's Day weekend. Start thinking about plants you'd like to contribute. Herbs, veggie starts and houseplants are popular. But any plant is welcome.

The 2016 class is enthusiastic and already are volunteering! We have 24 who have expressed an interest in taking the class in 2017.

Hope School has joined the ranks of **school gardens**. Marjory Clement is mentoring that group. Sagle School is also new to the fold and Kristina Orton will be helping out.

Enjoy digging in your gardens!

Cindy Hayes - President



April Gardening To-Do List



Zone 3

- Sow seeds of warm-season annuals indoors
- Water cymbidiums weekly until they bloom
- Plant seedlings of cool-weather vegetables
- Sow frost-tolerant perennials indoors
- Sow seeds for frost-tolerant perennials
- Sow seeds for tender perennials
- Divide and replant summer- and fall-blooming perennials
- Plant bare-root and container roses
- Uncover roses for spring and apply dormant spray
- Plant balled-and-burlapped, container, and bare-root shrubs and vines
- Plant summer-blooming shrubs and vines
- Plant frost-tolerant trees

Zone 4

- Set out cool-season annuals
- Sow seeds of warm-season annuals
- Set out summer-flowering bulbs
- Plant fall-blooming bulbs
- Plant balled-and-burlapped, container, and bare-root fruit trees
- Apply dormant spray to fruit trees before buds swell
- Spray apples, peaches, and pears that have been affected with canker problems
- Plant, feed, and aerate cool-season lawns and loosen thatch
- Plant bare-root perennial vegetables
- Plant seedlings of cool-weather vegetables

- Sow fast-growing warm-season vegetables
- Sow seeds for frost-tolerant perennials
- Plant container and bare-root roses
- Uncover roses for spring and apply dormant spray
- Plant balled-and-burlapped, container, and bare-root trees, shrubs and vines
- Apply dormant spray to trees, shrubs, and vines
- Plant summer-blooming shrubs and vines
- Plant frost-tolerant trees
- Plant needle-leafed evergreens

Zone 5

- Set out cool-season annuals
- Sow seeds of warm-season annuals
- Set out summer-flowering bulbs
- Plant fall-blooming bulbs
- Plant balled-and-burlapped, container, and bare-root fruit trees
- Apply dormant spray to fruit trees before buds swell
- Spray apples, peaches, and pears that have been affected with canker problems
- Plant cool- and warm-season lawns
- Plant bare-root perennial vegetables
- Plant seedlings of cool-weather vegetables
- Sow fast-growing warm-season vegetables
- Sow seeds for frost-tolerant perennials
- Sow seeds for tender perennials
- Plant container and bare-root roses
- Uncover roses for spring and apply dormant spray
- Plant balled-and-burlapped, container, and bare-root trees, shrubs, and vines
- Apply dormant spray to trees, shrubs, and vines
- Plant summer-blooming shrubs and vines
- Plant frost-tolerant trees
- Plant needle-leafed evergreens

March Meeting Minutes

BCGA Meeting Agenda – March 2, 2016

Members Present: Cindy Hayes, Patti Pietron, Ann Warwick, Butterfly Burke, Howie Fennimore, Gray Henderson, Jan Griffiths, Penny Goodman, Marjory Clements, Janae Dale, Penny Barton, Gordon Fish,

Tim Gift, Deborah Gift, Marlisa Keyes, Sandra Gevurtz

Minutes Approval: Penny Barton motioned to accept the February minutes; Gray Henderson seconded this. Minutes approved.

Treasurer's Reports: Penny Barton reported that we have \$2756.42 in our account, this will decrease by \$1,143 when upcoming bills are paid.

Home and Garden Show – Ann Warwick reports she has sent in proof of insurance forms for the booth. She will ask if we can sell raffle tickets from our booth. Ann will contact interested members and form the Home and Garden committee, send around the booth schedule and line up volunteers to work the booth. The booth will be set up the evening of April 8. The booth will be open on April 9 from 9:00-5:00 and manned in 2 hour shifts. The following day, April 10 it will be open from 10:00-4:00 and taken down that evening.

Fair Booth – Barb Pressler. The theme of the fair is Farm Gate to Dinner Plate. Dates are August 9-13 2016. Cindy Hayes has the application and is giving it to Jan Griffiths who will pass it along to Barb Pressler.

Home Horticulture – Janae Dale reported that the Home Hort schedule is in the Bee. She says that members need to be aware that many of the attendees say that they hear about the classes from "Friends" and that we shouldn't overlook the importance of letting our friends and families know about the classes and also remembering to give them flyers. Gail Swan and Janae will also send out the schedule to the extensive email list from attendees of past classes. Janae also mentioned that our supply of the books, Gardening in Idaho, and Composting, are low. She is checking on costs and possible discounts and will order when necessary.

Sip and Shop – The date is April 12, 2016 at the Pend Oreille Winery. Deb Gift says all is in process. She will need help on the day of the Sip and Shop.

Healing Garden - No report

Mickinnick Trail - Jan reports that there is a huge weed problem. She will set up a workday and double check with Cindy Hayes regarding the date. Jan will then email this information to the membership.

Arboretum - No report

Spring Plant- Penny Goodman and Marjory Clements say the location will be at the Bonner Mall. Penny sent in everything needed for the permit to sell plants. She has not heard anything back as of yet. Marjory and Penny are looking for members to contribute plants for this sale. They say more herbs are needed this year and houseplants would be welcome as well. Penny is working on the flyer for this event and should have it ready early next week.

Raffle Basket Fund raiser – Becky Freeland
No report. Cindy Hayes said it would be great to have the basket filled by March 16 so we could sell raffle tickets at the Home Horticulture classes. Howie Fenimore's lovely handmade wood garden basket was center stage at the meeting and 2 donations have already appeared in the basket! Members are asked to contribute garden related items to fill the basket.

Media Outreach

Publicity news releases – Tim Gift has sent out a press release on the Home Horticulture Classes. He asked, after passing around the contact list if there were any additions. Cindy Hayes and Penny Barton will send the Home Horticulture information to other garden clubs.

Website/Directory – Gordon Fish has finished the Directory update and is updating the website. Gordon will add April and May events.

Listserve – Gray Henderson reports 45 members are signed up for the forum. At this point the invitations have expired and anyone interested in joining must contact Shannon or Gray to do so. Gray says the forum is starting to catch on.

Speaker's Bureau – Marrion Newsam-Banks was not present but had prepared an email that she sent to Cindy Hayes regarding her ideas around the Speakers Bureau and how it would function. It also included a form for members interested in being volunteer speakers. Cindy Hayes will email this information to the membership.

Farmer's Market – Sandra Gevurtz reports that the Farmers Market may be looking for a new manager. She is unclear as whom to contact and will attempt to contact the current manager for now. Sandra needs volunteers to work the Farmers Market. Gordon Fish will send her the list of members who expressed an interest in doing so.

Highway Cleanup –Tim Gift says there is nothing to report. He will contact the Highway Dept. when the weather gets better. He would like to do the cleanup in late April or early May. He needs to pick the dates two weeks in advance.

Fairgrounds – Penny Goodman had no report this month but will have one in April.

Membership Class – Penny Barton reports that the cost for the manuals has gone up, but the shipping will be free. She still has \$1,000 in her budget that has not been spent. She reports the classes are going along great. The new extended hours of 9:00am – 1:00pm are working out very well. Penny says that the evaluations of the instructors are very useful. Members auditing classes are asked to let Penny know in advance of their attendance as a shortage of food at lunch occurs if there are unexpected people in attendance. Penny says we have 12 very active members resulting from the last four classes. She said she needed help in rewriting the March review questions and would like to have them done by March 25. Gray Henderson, Janae Dale, Tim Gift and Deb Gift volunteered to assist her.

Garden Tour – Pat Congleton and Gaea Swinford were not at the meeting. Penny Barton said she was meeting with them next Monday to discuss the tour.

School Gardens – Janae Dale, Gray Henderson Marjory Clements met with the school in Hope and she will be working with the 4th and 5th graders. Janae Dale suggested Marjory contact Michele Murphree to keep her in the loop. Gray will be going to the Sagle School at 2:00 on Friday.

Yard and Plant Sale – Janae Dale No report at this time. The date for the sale will be August 12.

Potlucks – Deb Steffen was not at the meeting. The February potluck at Penny Barton's new home was a huge success with 28 members in attendance.

Old Business

Volunteer committees – Gordon Fish will update the committee list in the next two weeks.

BCGA Iron On Logo – Cindy Hayes We have 9 logos left. The cost will be \$250.00 for a minimum of 50 small logos and \$246.00 for a minimum of 30

large logos. The turnaround is 2 weeks. In the meantime Gray Henderson will investigate the cost of embroidering our logo.

Billboard sign for association – Penny Barton contacted the sign company and received a design for our sign. It will cost \$58.00 to produce and %50 - \$100 to install. Patti Pietron motioned to approve going forward and having the sign made and installed. Motion was passed.

Caller ID – Penny Barton reports Caller ID alone would cost \$39.00 per month. For only \$37.00 we can get the Caller ID package. Gray Henderson moved to add the Caller ID package and Patti Pietron seconded. Motion approved.

Other insurance carrier quotes - Gail Swan, Cindy Hayes The quote process has started and Cindy says that it looks like there may be costs we could cut out of our insurance policy. This will be addressed when Gail Swan returns.

Jan Wilfert Memorial – Cindy Hayes Butterfly Burke suggested planting a tree on Arbor Day at the Arboretum. Cindy will investigate. We will address this at the next meeting.

New Business

Field Trips

Native Plants walking tour with Derek Antonelli. Cindy Hayes says Derek is willing to lead a field trip.

Penny Goodman will look into having a Nursery tour. Penny Barton will check into a Cedar Mountain Perennials field trip.

Gray Henderson will move forward with another fun trip to Sandpoint Orchard.

Publicity Tasks- Tim Gift will do news releases for our events. Chairmen are asked to inform the following members about their events: Cindy Hayes (to be sure there are no conflicting dates), Tim Gift (to send out press releases), Gordon Fish (to list on our website), Sandra Gevurtz (to distribute flyers at the Farmers Market) and Laurie Brown (to place on our Facebook page).

Use professionally designed flyers to promote Fund Raiser events?

This was discussed briefly at this meeting and at present it is still being left to chairman to create their flyers.

Sandpoint Magazine The next issue comes out on Lost in the 50s Weekend, May 18, for summer issue; deadline to submit may have passed; Look to do Fall issue?

It appears we may still have time to submit an article to Sandpoint Magazine summer issue.

Reader Article

The possibility of writing an article for the Reader was discussed. The article would spotlight the different school gardens we work with.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45.

Hot Spot

Gordon Fish
185 Crooked Lane
Sandpoint



I was born in Texas, and lived there on a farm and ranch for most of my early life. Our farm was very rural (18 miles from the nearest town) and we farmed wheat and cotton and had cattle and horses. We had milk cows and raised steers for the butcher. We had a one-acre garden adjacent to our home that was well irrigated, and gave us a source of most common vegetables. So I had an early introduction to farming and gardening, but I moved away from it when I left home. My mother still resides in an assisted living facility in Texas at age 99.

After High School (1960), I attended one year of college, and then joined the Navy to see the world. My enlistment in the Navy took me to San Diego, where I resided for over 15 years. While in the Navy, I made three separate Vietnam era trips to the Western Pacific. The first trip was aboard the USS Mahan, a guided missile frigate. The next two trips were aboard the USS Sabalo, a submarine.

While in San Diego, I became a dedicated San Diego Charger fan and I held season tickets for many years before moving away from the area. I still follow the team every year through thick and thin.

I was in the Navy for a little over 10 years. After separation from the Navy (1971), I was offered a job by Litton Industries in Van Nuys, CA, and I relocated to Thousand Oaks, CA. I returned to school and graduated from Pepperdine University with a degree in Business Management. I would end up living in Thousand Oaks for 25 years.

I have always been fascinated with airplanes and flying. In 1980 I earned my private pilot's license. I spent the next 15 years flying all over the western U.S. I ventured as far as Michigan and Texas on several occasions. It took that long to realize that the cost of flying as a hobby was too expensive, and I gave up flying to make sure I could have a comfortable retirement.

While living in Thousand Oaks, I attended California Lutheran University (CLU) in pursuit of a Master's in Business Administration. It was there at CLU that I met and later married Joan. Joan had just completed her PHD work, and was a new professor at CLU. I graduated with my MBA in 1984. Joan and I were married in 1985.

Joan was a widow with three adult children, so I married into a readymade family. We bought a home in Thousand Oaks, where we resided for over 15 years. All three children ended up relocating. Two are now in Sacramento with two of our grandchildren. The other daughter is in the Denver area with two more grandchildren. The grandchildren are all now young adults perusing their own educations and careers. Joan and I have now been married for over 30 years. My entire career after the Navy was in the Aerospace world. I worked for Litton Industries (11 years), Rockwell International (2 years) and Northrop Grumman (15 years). My job in all three companies was as a Logistics Project Manager. At Rockwell, we were building the B-1 Bomber, and later at Northrop

we were building the B-2 Stealth Bomber. My physical working location changed many times over the years from Van Nuys, El Segundo, Thousand Oaks, Pico Rivera and finally to Palmdale. It was at Palmdale that I had to commute 80 miles one-way to work, and that sent me very quickly into early retirement. I retired from Northrop Grumman in 2001. Joan and I first traveled to the North Idaho area in the early 90's, and it easily caught our interest as a great place to retire. When we finally retired, we initially moved to Reno, NV to be closer to two of the children and grandchildren. We quickly found out that Reno was not the place for us, and we relocated after 18 months to Sandpoint. We have now been in Sandpoint for over 14 years. Joan is very involved as a Hospice Volunteer, and as the Vice-Chair of the Lake Pend Oreille School Board.

My interests have always revolved around the electronics world, most recently with computer activity. I gained my experience as a webmaster while a Northrop Grumman by building an internal intranet for my organization.

In 2012, I enrolled in the BCGA Gardening class to re-ignite my past on the farm in Texas and to get into gardening in North Idaho. Most of our 1.5 acre property is a wetland, and I leave it in its natural state except for summer mowing. I started a 20 X 20 fenced garden in the backyard. Since our home has a raised deck in the back, I have also been experimenting with growing raised garden beds on the deck. I have put together irrigation systems for all of the areas. I grow mostly vegetables. I have grown several varieties of tomatoes, squash, cucumbers, radish, strawberries, peppers and lettuce. We are usually overrun with abundance every year that I end up giving away to friends and neighbors.

Hot Spot

Peggy Lovenbury
815 Janish Dr
Sandpoint ID 83863

My husband Scott and I live on Janish Drive, just off Baldy Mt. Road. We moved to Sandpoint in 1992 from Tampa, Florida. Scott and I grew up in Tampa and after we married we lived in Mississippi, Amman, Jordan, Burnsville, Minnesota and then back to

Tampa. Scott was in the Air Force. He took a job with the airlines and was based in Seattle; thus our move in this direction.

I always wanted to live on a farm but living on land fill in Tampa didn't warrant a garden. I tried but if things grew they didn't taste great. I hadn't discovered raised beds at the time. I majored in Zoology in college. I was required to take a botany class my senior year and then I discovered that I really liked plants!

After College I joined the Peace Corps and went to Kenya for two years. I was a math and science teacher at a village school. Kenya would have been a great place for gardening. I found if I threw things with seeds out the door they would grow! That is... until the village cows would eat them. (They also ate a few of my clothes that I hung out to dry!)

After Scott and I married, we moved to Mississippi. I tried again to garden. Not having the internet in 1982, I just read the seed packets. I planted in a shady spot and grew corn that looked like the mini corn you serve at cocktail parties.

In 1983 Scott was sent to Jordan to be an instructor pilot for the Jordanian air force. We spent two years in Jordan. Our first child, James was born in Amman.

In 1985 Scott got a job with Northwest Airlines and we moved to Minnesota. We had our second child, Julie in 1987. Shortly after she was born we moved back to Florida to be closer to family. In 1988 Robert was born in Tampa.

In 1992 we headed west. We rented a place on Lower Syringa Road in Sandpoint while we built our house on Janish Drive. We have not moved since!

I took a class several years ago in Sandpoint called, "The Victory Garden." That and working with Dr. Dan Barney on the University of Idaho farm in summers got me passionate about starting a garden. We learned from our previous mistakes and now have twelve raised beds. We also have electrical conduit hoops over most so we can have mini green houses. I need all the help I can get because we live at about 3100'. Every year presents a new challenge. I tried every deer spray and home remedy for the deer and moose and finally gave up two years ago and put up a fence. Then I discovered rabbits came in under the fence so I had to add to the fence. Last year I had robins in my strawberries! (Netting works great.)

Also I had to use shade cloth for the first time last year. (I learned about that from the Membership Class.)

I took the Membership class from BCGA two years ago. The instruction I received made a huge difference in my gardening. Also Sandpoint is a great and friendly place and everyone loves to help you learn. I got some carrot seeds from a woman in town last year. She only grows carrots. I had my best harvest ever and they were the tastiest carrots I have ever grown! I do something different every year! I have also learned about preserving my harvest and my family truly benefits! Gardening is my new passion! I visit my garden several times a day. I can't go anywhere in the summer because it will interfere with my gardening.

I am grateful for the Home Horticultural Series because I feel there are always new things to learn. I also like the fact that we can sit in on the Membership Classes and keep our knowledge up to date. It's also a great way to meet new people.

I do love to hike and bike. I have been a camper since I was two weeks old. I obviously inherited my love of the outdoors from family. Sandpoint is the best place ever to do things outdoors year round. And the people are the greatest!



Musings of a Gardener- March 2016



The word gnome is possibly a derivative from the Latin *gēnomos* literally meaning "earth-dweller." As a figure of 19th century fairy tales, the term gnome became largely synonymous with other terms for "little people" and by the 20th century, gnomes were associated with "domestic spirit" types similar to leprechauns. Gnomes are considered harmless but mischievous, and often are cast in the role of cunning inventors. In 1895 Gnomes were still clearly subterranean creatures, guarding treasures of gold within the mountain. Generally speaking, now they enjoy the fresh air and woods but may still live in caves. They help in the gardens at night. After World War II the diminutive figurines introduced as lawn ornaments during the 19th century came to be known as garden gnomes.

The leprechaun is said to be a solitary creature, whose principal occupation is making and mending shoes, but who enjoys practical jokes. According to William Butler Yeats the great wealth of these fairies came from the "treasure-crocks buried of old in war-time", which they have uncovered and appropriated. According to David Russell McAnally the leprechaun is the son of an "evil spirit" and a "degenerate fairy" and is "not wholly good nor wholly evil". The modern image of the leprechaun sitting on a toadstool with a red beard and green hat, is a modern invention borrowed from other European folklore.

The picture of the trio of gnomes comes from Butterfly Burke's garden. Send pictures of mystical figurines found in your garden. We will print those sent to Garden Gate (lauriebrown54@gmail.com) in future issues.

February Birthdays!



Sandy Anderson Jenna Bertus

Announcements:

The main topic for the **March Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society** (KNPS) Program will be on “**Identification and Uses of Grasses of North Idaho.**” Ken Thacker will be the speaker. The meeting will be held at the Community Hall on 204 First Ave. from 10-11 AM on Saturday March 26, 2016. Grasses aren't in the spotlight very often. It should be an informative program.

Also slated to appear on the March program is Regan Plumb from the **Kaniksu Land Trust**. She will talk about an upcoming event called a “**Bio Blitz.**” On May 20 and 21 they will host a 24 hour period when all life forms will be inventoried on the U of I property on North Boyer Ave. The total area of the parcel is 76 acres. Besides the area along Boyer there is a large area of trees and riparian along Sand Creek. There will be teams to identify each taxonomic group of organisms led by well-known experts. There will also be live music, food and “celebration of life.” The Land Trust is looking for volunteers to assist with the event.

KNPS Fund raiser will be held in tandem with Friends of Scotchman's Peak on Wednesday March 30, 2016. KNPS will receive 10% of sale proceeds from both the lunch and dinner (11AM to 8 PM) trade at Baxter's on Cedar. Scotchman's Peak fund raiser is down the road from Baxter's at Port Authority from 4-9.

Friends of the Library will have **Rick DelCarlo** at their April 7, 2016 Program. Rick is a well-known **expert on birds of Idaho**. Here's a chance to get better acquainted with our feathered friends. The meeting is in the Rude Girls room at the East Bonner County Library on Division St.. The hour long program starts at noon.

Lois Wythe Book Sale

Don't forget about the upcoming April book sale at the East Bonner County Library on Saturday April 2, 2016? Literature from the book collection of Lois Wythe will be available to purchase to help support the Friends of the Library. Lois was instrumental in starting the local Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society and the Arboretum, located next to the Bonner County Historical Museum. Many of you may have joined Lois in her garden during her Wednesdays at the Farm. During the month of March, some of Lois's books will be displayed in the Library showcase



A picture I took of Lois's wonderful garden a couple of years ago in autumn. This is only a tiny fragment of all the area she gardened.

Annual Spring Plant Sale



Mother's Day Weekend 2016

Friday May 6 10:00 am-6:00 pm

and

Saturday May 7 10:00 am-2:00 pm

*Annuals, perennials, tomatoes, vegetables, berries, herbs
and even a house plant or two*

Bonner Mall parking lot at the theater end

300 Bonner Mall Way

www.bcgardeners.org

Facebook: bcgardeners

