



Bonner County Gardeners Association

Education ~ Community Service ~ Camaraderie

August 2011

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 Note

Dear Master Gardeners,

I am so very proud!

Good things have been accomplished by good people and you should be proud too. The Bonner County Fairgrounds staff wanted to upgrade the landscaping in front of their Main Exhibit Building and they wanted it done before the start of the fair. This is an important venue for the County with lots of events and lots of visitors.

Penny Barton, Janae Dale and I met with the Rhonda Livingston on a few occasions attempting to determine the scope of the project and the resources that would be available to us. Bottom line, it didn't seem possible to accomplish what needed

to be done in the time we had...but never underestimate the determination of the BCGA.

Mikey Haven went to work on seeking donations while Gail Locke developed a high-level design. We called the first work party and tore everything out. That was thanks to all the folks that were able to assist. We called the next work party and put things in. Again thanks to all the folks that were able to assist. The third work party put the finishing touches on the project.

The result:

- A portion of the building is newly painted barn red to match the concession building
- Sloping mounds to add depth
- Tall trees to add height
- Rounded and pebbled border to add motion
- Large rock placements to bring in interest
- New plants to add density
- Re-planted plants to make use of available resources

All in all, a job well done...I am so proud!

There are so many people who contributed to this effort. Top soil, paint, painter's labor, bark, choke cherry trees, gift certificates, and granite boulders were all donated to the project. We just can't thank the local businesses enough. In addition many of our members showed up to do the hard work and sure enough, hard work was done by all; Mikey Haven, Gail Swan, Bob Blair, Howie Fennimore, Ann Warwick, Jan Wilfert, Rick Wilfert, Jon Bair, Penny Goodman, Janae Dale and Joe Bolton.

A special recognition goes to Toni and JR North. Not only did they show up to work alongside the

rest of us but they brought in plant material, provided a truck to get the bark, brought some of their staff to help in the process, donated their time to install the sprinkler system and gave sound advise all along the way.

Finally I have to mention Ms. “can do”, Penny Barton. If there is a will...there is a way, and Penny epitomizes the determination and passion we all so strongly feel around delivering value to the community. She led this project from beginning to end and she too should be proud of all she accomplished.

Thanks to all and job well done!
Before:



Teamwork:



No rest for the weary:



Almost done:



As always, if you have any questions, ideas or concerns please don't hesitate to contact me.

Zoe M. Bolton, President
zbolton@gmail.com 264-1210

Bonner County Fair is almost here!

The County Fair... what a great tradition! It gives the community an opportunity to share successes in so many areas. This year's Bonner County theme is "Sew It, Grow It, Show it!" As usual we take the theme and put our own twist on it. Our tagline for the fair this year, based on its theme, is "We Love to Sow, We Love to Grow, We Love to Show".

Gail Locke has developed the conceptual design by creating a narrative that takes the attendee from sowing seeds, to emerging plants, to enjoying the harvest. The committee contributed additional ideas by incorporating bees and fall vegetables to promote education around the importance of bees to the process and the fact that growing is not just a summer sport. It looks to be another great year at the show for the BCGA.

As you know this event requires the highest level of commitment from the membership every year. The booth is open for 50 hours over five days. We like to staff it with two members at all times. So that is a total of 100 hours. **Please sign up as soon as possible so that we can determine where we have empty shifts.** The shifts are as follows:

8/23	10am	1pm	4pm	6pm
Tues	to	to	To	To
	1pm	4pm	6pm	8pm

8/24 Wed	10am to 1pm	1pm to 4pm	4pm To 6pm	6pm To 8pm
8/25 Thur	10am to 1pm	1pm to 4pm	4pm To 6pm	6pm To 8pm
8/26 Fri	10am to 1pm	1pm to 4pm	4pm To 6pm	6pm To 9pm
8/27 Sat	10am to 1pm	1pm to 4pm	4pm To 7pm	

Please email Zoe Bolton at zbolton@gmail.com with your preferred date and time.



Plant and Yard Sale

By Janae Dale



Are you digging up and repotting those seedlings? If you need 4"-5" containers, let me know! We will need all the good plants and good junk that you can find for the Big Sale this year. Setting up a new organization with new banners, signs, pins, telephone, office rent, etc., has been expensive, so we are counting on a successful Plant and Yard Sale on Friday, August 26. Healthy looking plants of almost any kind, except that pretty orange hawkweed, are welcome. Please label them. And any good quality used items are needed. And don't for-

get to create something really special for the Silent Auction.

Garden Art

By Janae Dale

We have so many creative, artistic people in our association. Let's showcase their talents and make some extra money for the association with a Silent Auction. Create something special for art in the garden or garden art in the home. Build it, draw it, photograph it, sew it, paint it, create it - and we will sell it at a Silent Auction at the Plant and Yard sale.

Call or email Janae at 265-2205 or dalejanae@gmail.com to let her know about your artistic contribution.



Continuing Education

By Janae Dale

What do you want to know about gardening?

What do you want to learn?

The education made available for members of the association should be important and valuable. The committee is always on the lookout for ideas for classes. We have a couple good ones coming up, including one on Ergonomic (Physically safe) Gardening and one on GMOs. Other possibilities include Gardening Latin, Pruning, Garden Insects, and Plant Problem Diagnosis. Any other suggestions? These classes are for you, so let us know your interests.

Call or email Janae at 265-2205 or dalejanae@gmail.com.

Note from Zoe – Janae has done a wonderful job of kicking off the Continuing Education committee. However, she would very much like to see someone else take the baton and run with the committee moving forward. Please contact Janae or myself if you are interested in chairing this committee. Membership education is an important component of our mission statement and we want to continue to provide it to our membership. Not to mention it is fun to get a smaller group together to brainstorm on ideas for the classes.

Food Bank Donations



As you begin to harvest food from your gardens if you find you have more than you can eat or preserve, please don't forget about donating to the Food Bank. The Sandpoint Food Bank gave away 40,000 lbs of food in the month of June alone. The need continues to be strong in Bonner County and every little bit we can contribute helps.

September Potluck

We've enjoyed so many member potlucks this year we just hate to see them end. There is one more coming on August 20th. See the Event Calendar at the end of the newsletter. We would really like to have one more in September before the weather starts to turn so we are looking for a member's home to visit. The association provides paper products and the members bring food so all you have to do is say "Yes...let's do it at my place". Please contact Ann Warwick or Becky Reynolds with your Yes response.

Added Resources



New books have been purchased to deepen our resources. These books are taken to public events and are used to research questions from the public.

They are used at both the Farmer's Market and the Bonner County Fair.

Furthermore you can check them out for personal use. There is a sign-out sheet in the office. Be sure to record what you took. Please make sure all books are returned in time for any scheduled public events.

New Home Welcoming

Just in case you missed it in the Bonner County Daily Bee, the Sandpoint Chamber of Commerce welcomed us to our new home and the Daily Bee ran an article on who we are and what we do. What a nice event to have happen to us!



November Meeting Change

Please make a note that the November 2011 monthly membership meeting, usually held the first Wednesday of the month, has been changed to Wednesday November 16th. The meeting will still begin at 9am and will take place at our offices. The meeting change is only applicable to the November 2011 meeting.

Fall Kick-off of Home Hort Series

Our Home Horticulture Workshop Chairs (Don Childress, Janae Dale and Gail Swan) have done another outstanding job of putting together an excellent series of fall classes. Note the change in venue. The classes will now be held at the Ponderay Event Center which is much larger and will allow us to expand the attendance. It is important to note that the only exception to venue is the Mushroom class which is a field trip to Priest Lake.

The chairs are seeking facilitators for the classes. Due to the expanded size of the attendance they would like two facilitators per class. One to register the attendees and another to be available for general questions before the class begins. If you are interested in facilitating please contact Gail Swan.

Gail has taken over the coordination of the registrations and general class administration for which we are very thankful!

BCGA Membership Meeting, August 3, 2011

Present: Zoe Bolton, Mikey Haven, Ann Warwick, Penny Barton, Lynn Wilson, Jon Bair, Howard Fennimore, Jay Baker, Toni North, Gail Swan, Janae Dale, Lynn Pietz

The meeting was called to order at 9:08 am by President Zoe Bolton.

The July minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: There was not a formal report of money on hand. Treasurer Penny Barton did discuss that there had been donations of money and things for our Bonner County Fairgrounds Beautification Project.

Committee Reports:

Bonner County Fairgrounds Beautification

Project, Penny Barton, chair: Penny thanked the many people and businesses in town, for donations of time, money, and heavy work in the hot weather. Rhonda Livingston, Fairgrounds manager, appears to be very happy with the way the building front is looking. There will be a work party tomorrow, Thursday, August 4, at 8:00 a.m.

Home Hort Series: Gail Swan reported that the schedule has been set for this year's classes: September 7, Rob McCracken: -Small Orchards"; September 27, Carol Hampton: -Food Preservation"; September 28, Mikey Havens: -Soils"; October 8, Tim Gurlich: -Mushrooms, a field trip"; October 12 & 19, Jon Bair: classes on berries and grapes; October 26, J.R. and Toni North: -Landscape Design and Hardscapes"; November 2, Rob McCracken: -Diagnosis of Problems in the Small Orchard"; November 9, Gina and Blaine Harvey: -Bees".

There was a discussion about printing the 150+ flyers that will be needed, and it was decided that we would do the printing in the office building. The

brochures will be online as well. We will need someone new to help with bookkeeping for the series—gathering the money and keeping records. It was decided that people should send their checks to the BCGA office address, or use Pay Pal.

The Ponderay Events Center has been reserved for all classes; Zoe will ask for facilitators. Classes will start at 6:00, and people will be encouraged to arrive no later than 5:45. The fee will be \$5 for members, and \$10 for the public.

Continuing Education, Janae Dale, chair: Tuesday, August 16, from 6-8 p.m., will be a class on Ergonomic Gardening, taught by an occupational therapist. The event will be at The Brown House, by Bonner General Hospital. Gail Swan is working on obtaining a class about insects for sometime in the future. Janae would like for someone to take over the chairmanship of this committee. Classes from Continuing Education are limited to members of the BCGA.

Farmers Markets, Janae Dale, chair: BCGA will be at the Farmers Market on the 20th of this month, due to a conflict with the Fair on the 27th. Janae has purchased some gardening books with \$150 of BCGA money, to add to those used at the Farmers Market booth, as well as by group members in the office, for their own gardening purposes. It was suggested that we develop a system for checking out these books. Jon Bair has purchased some books from Mountain Press – Missoula website, under the category of -Hurt Books". Because of flaws, these books are 50% off the original price. He has found this to be a good source.

A side note: The Food Bank needs fresh produce. 40,000 lb. of food was distributed in June.

BCGA Potlucks, Ann Warwick and Becky Reynolds: Each potluck has had attendance of about 12 – 14 people. The next one will be at Zoe's on July 20. Ann asked for more gardens to schedule in September.

Yard Sale, Janae Dale, chair: Because of a grandchild to be born in August, Janae will not be able to chair this event, scheduled for Friday, August 26. Lynn Wilson will work with Ann Warwick and Jan Wilfert to coordinate it. Thursday, August 25, we will be preparing items for the sale. There will be art items sold in a silent auction during the day of the sale. After a discussion, it was agreed that those winning items in the auction must pick them up by the end of the sale on that Friday. Ann Warwick has agreed to make signs for it.

Bonner County Fair: There is not a chairperson for this, so we will have to plan it as a group. A planning meeting will be Monday, August 8, at the BCGA office conference room at 10:00 a.m.

Old Business:

Event Calendar: The only additions to this are the dates for the Home Hort series, mentioned earlier.

New Business:

Newport Gardening Tour: Some members are going and will plan to carpool.

Christmas Party: Zoe has contacted Robin, an employee of Coldwater Creek, and has asked her to again reserve the large dining room for our Christmas party, the night of December 3.

August Gardening To Do List

From Backyard Gardeners located at:

http://www.backyardgardener.com/Gardening_Month/zoneaug01.html

Zone 3

- Sow seeds of wildflowers, spring-blooming annuals and fall veggies
- Lift, divide and transplant perennials
- Plant hardy Oriental and Asiatic lilies
- Aerate, dethatch and fertilize the lawn
- Start moving houseplants and other tender plants indoors to acclimatize
- Pick herbs to dry for winter soups, stews and baking
- Order trees and shrubs now for fall planting
- Plan ahead for an extended harvest by building or buying a cold frame
- Blanch tomatoes for freezing and canning by boiling them for just a few minutes and slipping off the skins
- Order spring bulbs to force indoors

Zone 4

- Lift, divide and transplant perennials
- Order peonies for fall planting
- Divide and transplant bearded iris
- Start moving houseplants and other tender plants indoors to acclimatize

- Enjoy a case of the late summer "blues" with a palette of aconitum, caryopteris, fall asters and reblooming iris in your planting schemes
- Blanch tomatoes for freezing and canning by boiling them for just a few minutes and slipping off the skins
- Plant fall-blooming crocus and colchicum for late-season flowering
- Prepare beds for planting bulbs and divide any existing bulbs that might be overcrowded
- Build up weather resistance of trees and shrubs with deep waterings now throughout the fall
- Look forward to something different next spring: try alliums in your bulb garden

Zone 5

- Sow seeds of fall vegetables
- Order peonies for fall planting
- Divide and transplant bearded iris
- Plan perennial beds for fall and winter color with ornamental grasses, fall-blooming bulbs and hardy heaths and heathers
- Harvest vegetables continuously to stretch their season
- Sprinkle compost starter to speed up composting for fall soil building
- Prune summer-blooming shrubs (hydrangea, clethra, caryopteris) after flowers finish
- Plant garlic now for spring harvests
- Look forward to something different next spring: try alliums in your bulb garden
- Enjoy a case of the late summer "blues" with a palette of hardy ageratum, caryopteris, fall asters and reblooming iris in your planting schemes

BCGA – 2011 Event Calendar

Calendar			
Event	Date	Chair(s)	Notes
BCGA Continuing Education – Ergonomic Gardening	Tues 8/16	Janae Dale	Brown House by Bonner Hospital; 6 – 8 pm
BCGA Potluck	Sat 8/20	Becky Reynolds, Ann Warwick,	Zoe Bolton's home at 2908 West Spring Creek Road, Hope, ID; starts at 3:30pm
Bonner County Fair	8/23-8/27		Bonner County Fair Grounds
BCGA Yard Sale	Fri 8/26	Janae Dale	Alternative High School; 9am – 3pm
Membership Meeting	Wed 9/7	Zoe Bolton	BCGA Offices at 804 Airport Way, Sandpoint; 265-2070; 9am
HH – Planning Your Home Orchard	Wed 9/7	Don Childress, Janae Dale, Gail Swan	Rob McCracken; Ponderay Event Center, 401 Bonner Mall Way, Ste E; 6 – 8 pm
HH – Food Preservation 101	Wed 9/21	Don Childress, Janae Dale, Gail Swan	Carol Hampton; Ponderay Event Center, 401 Bonner Mall Way, Ste E; 6 – 8 pm
HH – Soils for Dummies	Wed 9/28	Don Childress, Janae Dale, Gail Swan	Mikey Haven; Ponderay Event Center, 401 Bonner Mall Way, Ste E; 6 – 8 pm
Membership Meeting	Wed 10/5	Zoe Bolton	BCGA Offices at 804 Airport Way, Sandpoint; 265-2070; 9am
HH – Mushroom Field Trip	Sat 10/8	Don Childress, Janae Dale, Gail Swan	Tim Gerlitz; Lion Head Campground, Priest Lake 10am
HH – Berries #1	Wed 10/12	Don Childress, Janae Dale, Gail Swan	Jon Bair; Ponderay Event Center, 401 Bonner Mall Way, Ste E; 6 – 8 pm
BCGA Continuing Education - GMO	Thur 10/13	Janae Dale	6 – 8pm
HH – Berries #2	Wed 10/19	Don Childress, Janae Dale, Gail Swan	Jon Bair; Ponderay Event Center, 401 Bonner Mall Way, Ste E; 6 – 8 pm
HH – Garden Design and Hardscape	Wed 10/26	Don Childress, Janae Dale, Gail Swan	Toni & JR North; Ponderay Event Center, 401 Bonner Mall Way, Ste E; 6 – 8 pm
HH – Home Orchards continued	Wed 11/2	Don Childress, Janae Dale, Gail Swan	Rob McCracken; Ponderay Event Center, 401 Bonner Mall Way, Ste E; 6 – 8 pm
HH – All About Beekeeping	Wed 11/9	Don Childress, Janae Dale, Gail Swan	Blaine and Gina Harvey; Ponderay Event Center, 401 Bonner Mall Way, Ste E; 6 – 8 pm
Membership Meeting • Note date change	Wed 11/16*	Zoe Bolton	BCGA Offices at 804 Airport Way, Sandpoint; 265-2070; 9am

BCGA – Event Chairs

2011 Event Chairs and Contact Info to Volunteer			
Event	Date*	Chair(s)	Contact
Membership Meetings	Ongoing	Zoe Bolton	264-1210 or zbolton@gmail.com
Continuing Education Program	Ongoing	Janae Dale	265-2205 or dalejanae@gmail.com
Home Horticulture Series	Spring & Fall	Don Childress, Janae Dale and Gail Swan	Don – 255-7928 or dwc1rsc@televar.com ; Janae – 265-2205 or dalejanae@gmail.com , or Gail H 263-0180 C 290-4126 or gswan8274@hotmail.com
Home and Garden Show	April	Ellie Lizotte and Ann Warwick	Ellie – 264-5462 or hopeellie@aol.com ; Ann – H 263-2844 C 691-1900 or w.redguy@frontier.com
School Gardens	Spring/Summer	Mikey Haven	610-4829 or 66haven@gmail.com
Farmers Market	Spring/Summer	Janae Dale	265-2205 or dalejanae@gmail.com

Mickinnick Trailhead	Spring/Summer	Jan Griffiths	jan@looptravel.com , 290-1973
Healing Garden	Spring/Summer	Valle Novak	
Potlucks	Summer	Becky Reynolds, Ann Warwick	Becky - rplace@directv.net or 264-3214; Ann - H 263-2844 C 691-1900 or w.redguy@frontier.com
Garden Tour	July	Penny Barton	H 265-9733; C 610-1493 or one-cent@gotsky.com
Bonner County Fair	Aug		(650)-867-6625 or gardenersdaughter@yahoo.com

**2011 Fall Home Horticulture Workshop Series
Registration Form**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

- September 7 "Planning your Home Orchard"
Presented by Robb McCracken
- 21 "Food Preservation 101"
Presented by Carol Hampton, MS, Boundary
County Extension Educator
- 28 "Soils for Dummies"
Presented by Master Gardener Mikey Haven
- October 8 "Mushroom Field Trip"
Presented by Tim Gerlitz, N. Idaho Mycological As-
soc (SAT CLASS)
- 12 "Berries #1"
Presented by Master Gardener Jon Bair
- 19 "Berries #2"
Presented by Master Gardener Jon Bair
- 26 "Garden Design and Hardscape"
Presented by Toni and JR North, co-owners of
"Groundskeeper Landscaping"
- November 2 "Home Orchards" continued
Presented by Robb McCracken
- 9 "All About Beekeeping"
Presented by Blaine and Gina Harvey

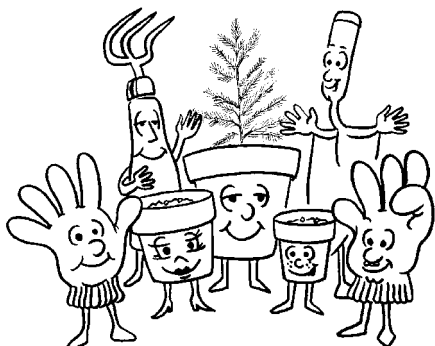
All Classes \$10

Please make checks payable & return to:
Bonner County Gardeners Association
804 Airport Way
Sandpoint, Idaho 83864
Or pay on-line at www.bcgardeners.org



2011 Fall Home Horti- culture

Workshop Series



Presented and Coordinated
by
Bonner County Gardeners Association

Programs will be held from 6pm - 8pm
at the Ponderay Event Center
401 Bonner Mall Way, Ste E, Ponderay, Idaho

Email inquiries to bcgardeners@gmail.org
Or call 208-265-2070

Dates and Topics

September 7 "Planning your Home Orchard"
Presented by Robb McCracken-owner of
"Northern Rockies"

Extra Hardy Trees Nursery"

Robb will cover site selection and preparation, and tree
selection for North Idaho; a second class will follow later
on problem diagnosis and treatment

September 21 "Food Preservation 101"
Presented by Carol Hampton, MS, Boun-
dary County Extension
Educator

Preserve the bounty of your garden with freezing, canning
and drying, using new home food preservation techniques

September 28 "Soils for Dummies"
Presented by Master Gardener Mikey Ha-
ven
Soils basics, including types of soils, types of organic and
inorganic amendments, with the goal of improvement in your
garden's production

October 8 "Mushroom Field Trip to Priest Lake"
Presented by Tim Gerlitz, North Idaho
Mycological Association

NOTE: THIS IS A SAT FIELD TRIP; Meet at Lion Head
Campground @ the NE end of Priest Lake @ 10AM;
bring a basket or Paper sack for your collection, a
small knife, field guide if you have one, and your
lunch

October 12 "Berries #1"
Presented by Master Gardener Jon Bair
Strawberries, raspberries, blackberries and other tradi-
tional garden berries, including their culture and uses

October 19 "Berries #2"
Presented by Master Gardener Jon Bair
What's left to talk about? Grapes and other unusual ber-
ries, including landscape and habitat varieties

October 26 "Garden Design and Hardscape"
Presented by Toni and JR North, co-
owners of "Groundskeeper" Landscaping
Service

This class will include landscape planning, plant selection,
plant placement and touch briefly on pathway construction

November 2 "Home Orchards, Continued"
Presented by Robb McCracken
Class will cover maintenance of your orchard, problem diag-
nosis and recommended treatments and a brief introduction
to nut trees for this area

November 9 "All About Beekeeping"
Presented by Blaine and Gina Harvey, co-
owners of Harvey
Honey Farm in Clark Fork

Learn how to set up and maintain hives, with an emphasis on
keeping the hives healthy. They will include collection and
uses of the honey and the comb and will bring samples of
what they harvest and make

Fees cover the cost of venue, publications, materials, and the support of non-profit activities of the Bonner County Gardeners Association.



Bonner County Gardeners Association

**All programs will be held from 6 pm - 8 pm at the
Ponderay Event Center
401 Bonner Mall Way, Suite E, Ponderay, Idaho**

**ALL CLASSES WILL START PROMPLY @
6pm; CHECK-IN
STARTS @ 5:30; PLEASE BE ON
TIME**

Please check the classes you wish to attend and send
with check to Bonner County Gardeners Association

804 Airport Way
Sandpoint, Id., 83864

You may also bring your registration form & check to
this address

Or

You can pay on-line with a credit card via Paypal at
www.bcgardeners.org