

# *The Garden Gate*

December 2003



## *Events at a Glance:*

*January 17: Winter Carnival Parade*

*June 17-19: Regional Conference, North Idaho College*

## THE PRESIDENT'S BLOOMERS



**T**empus fugit. Yes, time indeed flies!

It's hard for me to believe twelve months have gone by so quickly and this is my last "Bloomers" as your Master Gardener President. It's been a wonderful time for me and I truly hope it's been rewarding for all of you reading this newsletter as well. Instead of writing some sentimental "swan song," I thought it best to recall some of the highlights from the year 2003.

- ♣ Class of 2003 Master Gardeners Graduates:  
What a great group of enthusiastic, energetic and willing volunteers. Welcome and a big thank you for your involvement!
- ♣ The Home Horticulture Series:  
A big debt of gratitude is extended to all the presenters in this well received evening educational program.

- ♣ The Plant Clinic:  
A tremendous service to the community and a tribute to the Master Gardeners, that's how one can best characterize this invaluable component of the Master Gardeners program.
- ♣ The Spring Plant Sale  
To the contributors and volunteers staffing the event, a sincere thank you. You're the ones who made the sale a success.
- ♣ Landscaping at the Extension Center:  
Don Childress and Bill Lamson, you deserve our collective recognition and appreciation for a job well done. Your work really enhanced the Center's surroundings.
- ♣ Master Gardeners' Booth at the County Fair:  
Congratulations and kudos to the Master Gardeners for a prize-winning display at the Bonner County Fair. Now everybody should know who the Master Gardeners are!
- ♣ The Insect and Disease Diagnostics Course:  
Bob Wilson did it again! His informative and most needed class was a big draw and very well received.
- ♣ The Master Gardeners' Website:  
It only gets better with time. The site at [www.sandpoint.org/bcmastergardeners](http://www.sandpoint.org/bcmastergardeners) has become a valuable and frequently visited forum showcasing our organization on the Internet. Rita Janisse, thank you for the work you've put in to make the site possible; and to Susan Daffron, thank you as well for carrying on our "blossoming" presence on the web.

Let me now quickly make a transition to the year ahead. Among the numerous events planned for 2004, standouts will be the Spring Garden Raffle (likely in May), the Inland Northwest Master Gardeners Conference in June, and the Inaugural Sandpoint Garden Tour (probably in late July or early August). As always, many more activities are planned and no one should feel left out from participating in an instructive and enjoyable program.

I can't end this final note without expressing my special gratitude to the hard working officers and members of the Board of Directors: Vice President Rita Janisse; Secretary and Newsletter editor Pat Moss; Treasurer Bill Lamson; Don Childress, Beth Evans, Ann Murphy, Valle Novak and Jan Rumore. Last, but certainly not least, I extend my warmest appreciation and thanks to Bob Wilson, our very own Master Gardeners "guru."

It has been a wonderful year, thanks to all of you!

*Michelle*

Michelle Reichelt



Editors note: On behalf of the Board and all BCMGA members I would like to Thank You Michelle for the superb job you have done as President. Your enthusiasm, commitment, and expertise have been an inspiration and your smiles, graciousness and generosity to take on anything has been our gift. There was never a 'too much' in your vocabulary; in addition to all club projects you headed so well, the Hospice Garden of Life is a true work of art. Fortunately for us, you do not get a swan song – we get to keep you on the Board in 2004.

## Board of Directors 2004:

President: Jan Rumore, Vice President: Beth Evans, Secretary: Pat Moss, Treasurer: Don Childress, Board Members: Niki Donaldson, Rita Janisse, Bill Lamson, Barb Moore, and Michelle Reichelt. Valle Novak will continue as our resident expert and perpetual ray of sunshine.



*Thank You to Ann Murphy and her husband Eric for the generous donation of the poinsettia centerpiece/door prizes at the Christmas party.*

**A**s we enter this season of celebration and giving, please remember Bonner County Master Gardeners on your gift list. We are a non-profit service organization and are tax deductible. Donations help so much in allowing us to better serve our community. You can make your check out to: BCMGA

4205 North Boyer, Sandpoint, Idaho 83864





*Care of Christmas Plants*  
by Valle Novak



# Inland Northwest Master Gardener Conference

The following is a working list of topics for the regional MG conference to be held in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho - June 17 through 19, 2004. Please look it over; I would appreciate your input. We are looking for persons interested in speaking at the conference as well as volunteers to serve on committees. Additional information will be forthcoming.

Thank you, Bob Wilson

## PLANT IDENTIFICATION

- Ethnobotany
- Inland NW Mushrooms
- Forest Trees and Plants
- Native Plants/Flowers
- Plant ID for Master Gardeners

## PLANT SPECIES

- Botanical Names - Understanding/using
- Culinary Herbs
- Edible Flowers
- Everlastings - flowers for drying
- Genetically alter plants
- Growing less common fruits, nuts and berries
- Herbs, Growing and Using
- Houseplants
- Medicinal Herbs
- Native Plants
- Orchid Growing
- Orchard Fruits
- Ornamental Grasses
- Native Plants
- Roses
- Small Fruit and Berries
- Wildflowers

## LANDSCAPING

- Deer resistant Gardening
- Groundcovers/Lawn Alternatives
- Hardscapes - lighting/sculpture/paths/etc
- Landscape Design
- Landscaping with Native Plants
- Lawn Culture
- Xeriscaping

## GARDENING STYLES

- Container Gardening
- Dry Gardening/Xeriscaping
- Gardening in Wet Areas
- Greenhouse

Hydroponics  
Indoor Gardening  
Natural/Native Plantings  
Organic Gardening  
Raised Beds  
Square-Foot Gardening

#### GARDEN TYPES

Alpine/Rock Gardening  
Butterfly Garden  
Hummingbird Garden  
Kitchen Garden  
Salad Garden  
Scented garden  
Theme Gardens - Shakespeare, Moonlight, Medicinal, Tea, ??????

\* Please state your preference/idea Vegetable Garden, Water Garden, Wildflower Garden, Shade Garden

#### GARDENING METHODS

Companion Planting  
Cover Crops  
Ergonomic Gardening  
Four Season Gardening  
Gardening Under Lights  
Gardening with Pets  
Greenhouses, Hotbeds, Cold frames  
Intensive Gardens  
Orchard Management  
Organic Insect and Weed Controls  
Overwintering Tender and Container Plants  
Raised Beds  
Therapeutic Horticulture - for healing  
Watering Strategies/Irrigation Methods

#### SOILS

Composting  
Organic Soil Amendments  
Soil Amendments/Application  
Soil Fertility/Plant Health  
Soils/Soil Testing  
Vermiculture

#### PROPAGATION

Grafting  
Plant Breeding/Pollination  
Plant Propagation  
Seed Saving  
Tissue Culture

## PRUNING

Bonsai  
Pruning Berries (Vines and Shrubs)  
Pruning Evergreens  
Pruning Fruit Trees  
Pruning Methods/Styles - Espalier, Coppicing, Pollarding,  
etc.  
Pruning Ornamental Shrubs and Trees  
Topiary

## INSECT, DISEASE, AND/OR WEED IDENTIFICATION/CONTROL

Beneficial Insects  
Common Insects and Diseases of Inland NW Gardens  
Disease Identification, Control and Prevention  
Honey Bees  
Insect and Disease Diagnosis  
Insect and Diseases of Forest Trees  
Insect Control  
Integrated Pest Management  
Pesticides  
Weed Identification  
Weed Control

## WORKSHOPS

Designing Window boxes - building and planting  
Drying Herbs and Flowers  
Large Hanging Baskets  
Making Troughs (hypertufa)  
Willow Furniture Construction  
Building Trellis'

## December 2003 Board of Directors meeting highlights:

- Christmas Party plans are set; there will be a plant and seed exchange with the extras being put in packets to be distributed at the Winter Carnival Parade.
- Michelle has completed a check list for Facilitators of the Home Hort series
- Bob gave an update of the Regional conference to be held at North Idaho College on June 17-19, 2004.
- Nomination committee finished the 2004 slate for Officers and Board of Directors
- Bob announced there are 13 paid applications for the upcoming MG training course
- Don Childress and Bill Lamson will co-chair our participation in the Winter Carnival Parade