



Bonner County Gardeners Association Education ~ Community Service ~ Camaraderie

July 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 Members,

New Beautification Project Selected!

At the July Membership Meeting the Board approved a project of sponsoring the Beautification Project at the Bonner County Fairgrounds.

The Bonner County Fairgrounds is a very popular venue to hold community events. Between fundraisers, trade shows, RV camping and annual events such as the Draft Horse Show and the County Fair many people pass through the fairgrounds annually. There are some 50+ events occurring there throughout the year.

In recognition of the multi-use facilities, the Association of Bonner County Employees has spear-

headed a beautification project to upgrade the landscaping in front of the Main Exhibit Hall. They have generously donated \$500 to kick-off the project. Rhonda Livingstone, Fair Manager, has solicited the assistance from the Bonner County Gardeners Association, Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society and local nurseries.

We embraced this as a 2011 landscaping project and donated an additional \$250 but we need your continued assistance. The cost of materials for both the hardscape and plant materials is much greater than the funding currently available. The BCGA is seeking both financial donations and assistance with installation of the hardscape and plant materials. We are attempting to get this information published in the Bonner County Bee to seek assistance from the public as well.

The goal is to have the new landscaping in place prior to the 2011 Bonner County Fair which is held in late August.

Donations are greatly appreciated and can be made at www.bcgardeners.org (as soon as we get the website updated) or mailed to BCGA, 804 Airport Way, Sandpoint, ID 83864. All financial donations are tax deductible.

Please watch for announcements regarding dates and times for work parties. Hope to see you there!

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

Garden Tour Another Success!



Beautiful weather, beautiful gardens! We had approximately 135 individuals attend the Garden Tour on July 3rd. The homeowners were gracious and informative, as usual.

This year we added the sale of CDs with photos of all six gardens. Thanks to Bob Blair for putting it together for us. We will continue to sell the CDs at upcoming events such as the Yard Sale. If you would like a CD of the tour this year they are for sale for \$5 each. Contact Penny Barton (contact info at the end of the newsletter) to purchase one.

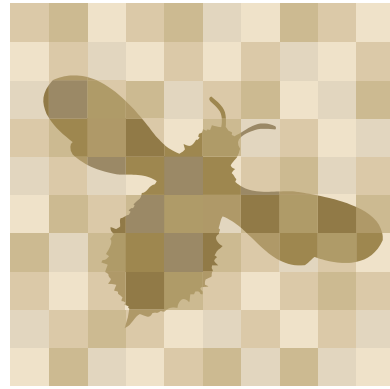
In addition, the homeowner at one of the gardens was selling yard art – railroad spike ants. He agreed to share the profits with the BCGA which brought in an additional \$100.

For those of you that attended you saw on display the 2011 Garden Tour stone that is given to each of the homeowners. There were finished just in the nick of time but were well worth it since they contain the new BCGA logo.

A big round of applause goes to the following individuals who generously donated their time to work the various gardens; Shirley Barksdale, Mikey Haven, Gail Locke, Helen Manson, Chris McIntosh, Toni North, Valle Novak, Becky Reynolds, Martha Troughton, Ann Warwick, Jan Wilfert and Chris Winslow.

Finally, and most importantly, we thank Penny Barton for once again chairing a key fundraising and community service event. The amount of work that goes into this effort is huge. From finding gardens to planning to communicating with both homeowners and volunteers, Penny does a fabulous job! Thank you!

The Great Bee Count Begins



The following notice was sent to us from Rachel Rausch from the Latah County Extension office:

Citizens, Science & Social Media join together to solve an important mystery. YourGardenShow.com is calling all gardeners, new and seasoned, to participate in a fun, easy and important Citizen Science effort to count bees across North America. Whether you're a gardener, a nature walker or a nature watcher, you can help researchers address the global bee crisis and uncover why our nation's most important pollinators appear to be disappearing. Just head over to YourGardenShow.com and sign up with The Great Sunflower Project, joining the more than 100,000 citizens who are helping to shape bee conservation efforts by planting bee-friendly plants and counting the bees 15 minutes each week this summer and beyond. Or choose from several Citizen Science initiatives. From Pollinators to Season Spotting to Allergy Agents, your observations will help scientists track the cycles of nature and more. And if you're a gardener, there's a free online garden log, or GLOG, where you can track your garden progress just in time for the 2011 season. Joining is free and the benefits are far-reaching. So step outside your back door and add to the growing buzz of Citizen Scientists who are acting locally to make a real difference worldwide. Bee curious. Bee aware. Bee a good neighbor. Pass the word. Find out more: <http://www.yourgardenshow.com/citizen-science>

Garden Photo Contest

The following notice was sent to us from Bob Tripepi as delivered to him by the sponsors:

Horticulture and DavesGarden.com are sponsoring a Garden Photo Contest and we thought you might be interested in submitting some of your photos! We know you are dedicated to the creation and maintenance of fine garden spaces. This contest is an opportunity for you to share your botanical interests to a wide audience (and possibly win money!)

The grand prize is \$1,000! The winners and runners-up will be featured in print with Horticulture and online at HortMag.com and DavesGarden.com. They will also win one-year subscriptions to Horticulture and DavesGarden.com



Garden Photo Contest FAQ

Q: What is the contest?

A: It's an opportunity to share your great garden images with the community—and possibly win some money!

Q: Who can enter?

A: Everyone!

Q: Does it cost anything to enter?

A: It's FREE to enter.

Q: How do I enter?

A: Register at the following website and submit your images—it's that simple. Only online submissions will be accepted, aka. no snail mail.

<http://www.hortmag.com/gardenphotos>

Q: How many pictures can I submit?

A: There's no limit. Submit as many pictures as you'd like.

Q: What are the prizes?

A: The Grand Prize is **\$1,000** and 1-year subscriptions to *Horticulture* and DavesGarden.com! All winners and runners-up will be published in the upcoming issue of *Horticul-*

ture and online at Hortmag.com and DavesGarden.com.

Q: What are the photo contest categories?

A: The 5 categories are:

- Wildlife, Animals & Insects in the Garden
- The Edible Garden
- Garden Landscapes
- Seasonal Gardens (Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter)
- People in the Garden



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 forget to create something really special for the Silent Auction.

New Name Badges Available

Thanks to the effort of Mikey Haven the new name badges are in. They look great and were proudly worn by the volunteers at the Garden Tour. You can pick yours up at the office Monday – Friday, 8am – 5pm.

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 .

Shed Gets Moved!

With lots of help and support from members and their spouses and children, our shed has been moved from behind the Extension Office on the fairgrounds to a space behind our new location. A group of twelve showed up on Tuesday morning, July 12, and with the help of Gary from the fairgrounds with his tractor, the shed was loaded on Jenna and David' Bertus's trailer. David hauled it to its new location, where it was unloaded and pushed/pulled into place. It was a great turnout with Jenna and David, their son, Chris, John Dale, his son, Brian, Zoe and Joe Bolton, Jan and Rick Wilfert, Howie Fenimore, Bob Blair, and Jay Baker. What a great organization when so many people turn out to help!

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.

July Gardening To Do List

From Backyard Gardeners located at:
http://www.backyardgardener.com/Gardening_Month/zonejuly01.html



Zone 3

- Now's the time to start seeds of cool-season vegetables for fall growing
- Rogue out (remove) virus-infected plants from the garden and control leaf-hopping insects to prevent virus spread
- By pruning off faded blooms from annuals, you can prevent seed formation and coax additional flowers
- Mulch flowerbeds with dried grass clipping or compost to maintain moisture and reduce weeds
- Save maintenance and water by allowing perennial rye and Kentucky blue grass lawns to go dormant during the summer
- Raspberries are ripe when they pull readily from the central core
- Prune water sprouts (upright, vigorous shoots) from apple trees
- Avoid deep cultivation around shallow rooted trees and shrubs such as evergreens
- Add a water-soluble fertilizer to hanging baskets and patio pots every 2 weeks to keep plants blooming their best
- Cut flowers for drying at their prime or when just opening

Zone 4

- Add one last planting of gladioli bulbs for flowers into fall

- Harvest veggies as soon as they're ripe to encourage further production
- Avoid the sight of a weed-infested garden: weed first before you leave on vacation
- Harvest sweet corn when silks are brown and punctured kernels produce a milky juice
- Prevent blossom-end rot on tomatoes by providing plants with at least an inch of water each week
- Let melons ripen on the vine--this is where they will develop their best flavor
- Start fall garden transplants from seed
- Petunias, coleus and other summer annuals might be leggy by now. Pinch them back just above a leaf to encourage bushy growth and more flowers
- Leave faded flowers on those plants that form ornamental seed heads, pods, or berries
- Provide water in a shallow pan or birdbath for your feathered and fluttering friends

Zone 5

- Remove annuals with stunted or unusual color; these are usually virus infected and the disease can spread to neighboring healthy plants
- To control disease on fruit trees, maintain a summer spray schedule
- Clean hummingbird feeders filled with nectar solution regularly to ward off mold and bacteria
- Consider drip irrigation and/or soaker hoses for watering in the flowerbed and vegetable garden
- Bats help control mosquitoes; attract these friendly mammals with bat houses
- Muskmelons and cantaloupes are ready for picking when the stem "slips" easily from the fruit with gentle pressure
- Harvest veggies as soon as they're ripe to encourage additional production

- Sharp mower blades prevent leaf blade damage and lawn stress
- Prevent diseases on susceptible rose varieties: apply fungicide every 7-10 days
- Lanky annuals need your help! Pinch them back now to encourage bushy growth and more flowers



Welcome Back!

We are pleased to announce that we have returning members to the association. Please welcome back Richard Bower, Sue Lopez, Pat Moss and Mike Williams.



Cooking School

By Janae Dale

I am always so proud of my younger sister, Lora Lea, and her husband, Rick, with their regular Chef school classes and their goat cheese factory. She was promoting sustainability before I knew what the word meant, and is also very involved in the Slow Foods program. Now they are offering a class for the general public. Here is the website:

<http://www.seattlemet.com/eat-and-drink/articles/washington-state-food-getaways-july-2011/7/>



Bonner County Gardeners Association – Membership Meeting July 6, 2011

Present: Howard Fennimore, Jay Baker, Jenna Burtis, Penny Barton, Ann Warwick, Mikey Haven, Zoe Bolton, Janae Dale, Becky Reynolds, Lynn Pietz

President Zoe Bolton called the meeting to order at 9:12 a.m.

The June minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: \$3,945.10

Committee Reports:

Garden Tour: The Garden Tour was a success this year, particularly the tour of the jail garden. CDs of all the gardens were sold. Some people commented that they would buy one if it could be played on a TV as well as a computer; it was suggested that we sell the CDs at the yard sale in August, with it running during the day on a laptop; the CDs from this year could also be sold next year as a set, along with next year's CDs. Another suggestion for next year would be to improve the map, because those coming from the west to the LaClede garden had difficulty finding the place. We could also charge two different amounts, more on the day of the event than those bought earlier. All of these suggestions will be considered for next year.

Continuing Education classes, Janae Dale, chair: There are people signed up for both hydroponic tomato classes scheduled for Thursday and Saturday, July 14 & 16.

Dr. Tripepi has agreed to teach an advanced pruning class, and the idea continues for Jon Bair to teach a class, "Latin for Gardeners". It was suggested that a pest management class be taught, even in a series with pest problems in each season.

Farmer's Market, Janae Dale, chair: Becky and Zoe had a successful farmer's market in Hope this week. Mostly they encountered people new to the area asking questions about what will grow, and how to be successful growing things here. We have a list of websites to give as handouts. Janae asked about purchasing more reference books, and when asked, handed around a list of books she would appreciate being purchased. It was suggested that this year we budget \$150 for the purchase of new books, and in future years we can purchase more and have a reference library for our own use. Janae suggested that we purchase several copies of the book, Planning an Idaho Vegetable Garden, to sell to the public.

Community Garden Project, School Gardens, Mikey Haven, chair: This project is on hold for the summer.

Potlucks, Ann Warwick and Becky Reynolds, co-chairs: Becky has been checking on whether Lois Wyeth will be able to have a potluck at her house. Ann's potluck, July 17, will begin after 3:00 p.m.

Bonner County Fair, Gail Locke, chair: The theme of the 2011 fair is: "Sew it, Grow it, Show it", and it will be held on August 23 – 27. There will be a planning meeting set for during July. Ideas for teaching little mini-classes could include seed saving or making or painting flowerpots.

Old Business:

Administrative information: Zoe handed out general information on how to use the building, access the answering machine, use the copier, reserve the meeting room, and website information.

Because of the resignation of a board member some months ago, we have named Howard Fennimore to fill that position. Howard had been previously elected by the membership and had resigned early in the year; he now wishes to continue with the group, and accepted the position on the board.

Press Release: The press release was sent to various publications and groups in town, describing the new status of our group, but there has been no response as yet.

Membership Outreach: Also sent out were letters to 30 people who had been active before, explaining our new situation, and inviting them to come back.

Signage: We now have generic signs and a new banner.

Name Badges: These have been made for all members; those present at the meeting picked up theirs. A question arose about whether we want to order T-shirts with our new logo. Prices will be researched, and a report made; then we will decide what to do.

Moving the shed: A discussion arose about moving our shed to the new location of our office. We have access to a trailer, but will need some people to help load and unload it.

New Business:

Bonner County Fairgrounds Beautification

Project: We, and the Native Plant Society, have been asked to help upgrade the front of the large fair building with paint and native plants. Members of our group have met with Rhonda Livingston and have come up with some landscaping ideas. The group present decided that this would be a good project for us to undertake.

As far as funding for the project goes, Bonner County employees have donated \$500, and a man named Stan has donated 10 cubic yards of soil. For labor, we could ask the Rotary or Scouts to help. We can ask the community for donations and set it up with “Pay Pal” and/or place cans at businesses for donations. Penny suggested that we give money for this project. The group voted to donate \$250. Zoe will write an article for the newspaper telling about this project.

Bee Aware: This project asks all gardeners to participate in an important effort to count bees across North America and sign up with “The Great Sunflower Project” to count bees 15 minutes each week this summer and beyond. To participate, go to: www.yourgardenshow.com/citizen-science.

Bypass Beautification: We have learned that we are listed to help with beautification of the new bypass. Currently we have no further information.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynn Pietz,
Secretary





BCGA – 2011 Event Calendar

Calendar			
Event	Date*	Chair(s)	Notes
BCGA Continuing Education – Tomatoes Grown Hydroponically	Thur 7/14	Janae Dale	DIRECTIONS: Drive to the Sagle area on Highway 95. Turn EAST on Monarch across from May's Honda.. Travel about 1/4 mile, Turn LEFT on Carol's Lane. Take the next RIGHT on Carol's Court. Stay on this road, past a couple houses, and the road curves to the left and down the hill.. The Farm is on the end of this road. 10am
BCGA Continuing Education – Tomatoes Grown Hydroponically	Sat 7/16	Janae Dale	Directions above; 10am
BCGA Potluck	Sun 7/17	Becky Reynolds, Ann Warwick,	Ann Warwick's home; address to be provided; starts at 3pm
BCGA Potluck	Sun 7/24	Becky Reynolds, Ann Warwick,	Bob Blair's home; address and time to be provided
Hope Farmers Market	Fri 7/22	Becky Reynolds	Hope Community Center, 2:30pm – 5:30pm
Sandpoint Farmers Market	Sat 7/30	Janae Dale	Farmin Park, Sandpoint, 9am – 1pm
BCGA Potluck	Sat 7/30	Becky Reynolds, Ann Warwick,	Toni North's home; address to be provided; starts at 3pm
Membership Meeting	Wed 8/3	Zoe Bolton	BCGA Offices at 804 Airport Way, Sandpoint; 265-2070; 9am
BCGA Continuing Education – Ergonomic Gardening	Tues 8/16	Janae Dale	Brown House by Bonner Hospital; 6 – 8 pm
Hope Farmers Market	Fri 8/19	Becky Reynolds	Hope Community Center, 2:30pm – 5:30pm
Sandpoint Farmers Market	Sat 8/20	Janae Dale	Farmin Park, Sandpoint, 9am – 1pm
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	Gail Locke	Bonner County Fair Grounds
BCGA Yard Sale	Fri 8/26	Janae Dale	Alternative High School; time to be announced
Membership Meeting	Wed 9/7	Zoe Bolton	BCGA Offices at 804 Airport Way, Sandpoint; 265-2070; 9am
Membership Meeting	Wed 10/5		BCGA Offices at 804 Airport Way, Sandpoint; 265-2070; 9am
BCGA Continuing Education - GMO	Thur 10/13	Janae Dale	6 – 8pm
Membership Meeting	Wed 11/2		BCGA Offices at 804 Airport Way, Sandpoint; 265-2070; 9am
Membership Meeting	Wed 12/7		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 Trail-head – meet the 1 st and 3 rd Wed of each month at 9am at the trail-head	Spring/Summer	Jan Griffiths	jan@looptravel.com , 290-1973
Healing Garden – you are welcome to show up and weed at their convenience	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	Gail Locke	(650)-867-6625 or gardenersdaughter@yahoo.com