

The Garden Gate

March 6, 2007



Edited by Gail Swan (gswan8274@hotmail.com)

The next Membership meeting will be held April 3rd @ 9am @ the extension office. All Master Gardeners are welcome & encouraged to attend all meetings. Input from everyone is greatly needed & appreciated. Also, please feel free to contact any of the officers or board members if you wish to share an idea & are unable to attend the meetings. Phone #'s & e-mail addresses are available in the membership directory.

Board Officers for 2007:

*President: Penny Barton
Vice Pres: Joyce Lane
Sec: Gail Swan
Tres: Janae Dale*

Board Members:

*Ann Warwick
Shirley Barksdale
Ann Keiser
Linda Kirchmann
Chris McIntosh*

Home Horticulture Classes

The committee has the spring series arranged and the brochures have been printed. Advertising will go into several area publications. Classes are open to anyone with an interest in the subject. There is a \$10 fee per class to cover printing & advertising. The classes are as follows:

*April 4: Gardening Pests & Diseases by Bob Wilson
April 18: Deer Proofing Your Yard by Janae Dale
May 2: Roses & Miniature Roses for N Idaho by Valle Novak & Laurie Brown
May 16: Growing Berries in N Idaho by Joe Runk
May 30: Batty About Bats by Bonnie & Jay Price
June 13: Perennial Gardens by Loie de la Vergne*

*All Classes are held @ the extension office from 6-8pm **EXCEPT** June 13. Loie's classes will be from 5-7pm @ her house so we can experience her wonderful perennial garden first hand.*

Brochures & registration forms are available @ the extension office. You can get directions to Loie's house when you register for her class.

The committee will be working on the fall series soon; if you have an interest in a particular subject please contact Don Childress (committee chair) @ dwc1rsc@televar.com or call the extension office @ 263-8511. Any input will be greatly appreciated.

Home & Garden Show:

The annual Home & Garden Show was held March 10 & 11 @ the Bonner Mall. A big "Thank You!" goes out to Shirley Barksdale, the committee chair along with Ann Warwick, Willie Millard, Linda Kirchmann, Jane Roach, Penny Barton and Jan Rumore. They did a great job on the booth & there were many really informative demonstrations held both days. Thanks again to all for a job well done.

Master Gardeners Helping Each Other

Know anyone who needs a hand with something? We are about helping in the community, but we are also about helping each other. If you know of any master gardener needing any assistance with chores, let us

know. Contact Bob Wilson @ the extension office & he will send out e-mails to the membership. Let's show each other that we care.

Help Needed

Linda Kirchmann has had someone contact her regarding yard clean-up. This person can pay minimum wage & is happy to hire teens. The property is in the Sagle area, off of Lakeshore Drive. If you know of anyone who could use a job, please call Linda @ 263-5727 for more information.

Yard Exchanges

Are you interested in seeing other M.G. gardens? We are all so different & each of us has great ideas for our gardens. We can share our ideas & learn tricks from each other. Linda Kirchmann (bkpkrilinda@aol.com) & Jane Roach (jane@roach.net) will organize a "yard exchange" visit; they want to know who is interested & what time of year is best for your garden. Please contact these one of ladies to get your garden on the list!

New Directory

Debbie Crain & Ann Warwick have called all members in the 2006 directory to verify recertification status. We now have 41 members (including associates) + 4 emeritus. Associates pay \$10 to be included in the directory and the mailing list for the newsletter, but have no obligation to work in the plant clinic or participate in any other activities or projects unless they so desire. The new directory is now available @ the extension office.

By-Law Changes:

Janae Dale & Joyce Lane have finished the changes in the by-laws; they were attached to the Feb Garden Gate for all members to review & vote on this month. Voting results will be available in April. Joyce Lane is working on information sheets for all activities and projects. These will be filled out by a chairperson for a record of information to be passed on to the next chair. Hopefully these sheets will make it much easier for the chair to do the job volunteered for. They will be kept in a notebook in the plant clinic.

Garden Tour:

Penny Barton will have a meeting in April to organize the summer garden tour. If you have any interest or input to share please contact Penny.

Advanced Master Gardener Classes:

This class will be on "Plant Identification". Classes will be held @ the extension office, beginning May 16/17 for 3 hours. Sign up for either Wed 1:30 to 4:30 or Thursday 9 to 12. Classes will run for 7 weeks and are open to anyone interested with a limit of 15 students per class. A hand lens will be required. The fee (which includes the text) will be \$60 or \$45 if you don't need to purchase a lens.

Notes:

The Plant Clinic is scheduled to begin May 1st unless Bob starts getting calls before that time. Remember to check out the monthly schedules @ the extension office for sign-up.

A new method of "phone tree" was discussed; the chair of any project will delegate the responsibility of calling for additional help to any & all members of the committee working on the project. This way the committee will know exactly what the level of involvement will be without having to contact another committee.

Janae Dale, Treasurer did a breakdown of the budget for 2006. Master Gardeners took in a total of \$4369.07 from all the projects throughout the year. Expenditures totaled \$2864.61 for expenses throughout the year with copies and postage being the most. A complete list can be reviewed by anyone upon request.

Spokane Garden Expo

Much more info can accessed by logging on to <http://www.tiegardeners.org>



**GARDEN
EXPO**

May 12, 2007
9am-5pm

FLOWER POWER
Gardening is Groovy!

1810 N. Greene St.
Spokane Community College

Over 200 garden-related
vendors! Plants for sale!

Seminars, Demos, Door Prizes

FREE ADMISSION!
FREE PARKING!

Cultivated by The Inland
Empire Gardeners
509-535-8434

Garden Crusaders Awards:

www.gardeners.com click on community tab for nomination forms

The Garden Crusader Awards were created by Gardener's Supply in 2001 to honor individuals who are improving the world through gardening. These enthusiastic men and women are planting trees and flowers, growing food, creating new green spaces, and teaching their friends and neighbors about the rewards of gardening.

If you would like to nominate someone for a 2007 Garden Crusader Award, we will be accepting nominations until June 1, 2007. Winners will be announced in November of 2007. Please [click here](#) for the nomination form. For more information, please contact us by e-mail (crusader@gardeners.com) or phone (1-888-239-1553)

City Baskets:

All Seasons Garden and Floral will be responsible for planting the baskets for the downtown beautification project again this year. Nancy Hastings (owner) says planting will be on Friday, March 30th @ the Panhandle alliance Greenhouse on Boyer starting @ 9am. Anyone interested in helping with this project will be more than welcome. Lets get together to make the baskets as great as they were last year.

Healing Garden:

Valle Novak is requesting help from any interested master gardener for spring work in the "Healing Garden" starting the beginning of April. Valle will be there in the am on Thursdays & Fridays. She will be happy to go over what needs to be done with you if you need to work another day of the week. This is a big job and Valle shoulders most of the responsibility for it. It would be really great to have a group of us to show up and help her out. The Garden is such a wonderful addition to the hospital grounds; let's help Valle keep it that way.

Cat Sanctuary:

Valle is also requesting help with a project @ the "Cat Sanctuary" on Blacktail Road. There will be a planting project of trees & shrubs-to be done sometime in May (when the weather is warmer & the snow is gone). Contact Valle Novak @ 265-4688.

A little quiz from Jan Griffitts

Master Gardeners put your thinking caps on.

1. Of all vegetables, only two can live to produce on their own for several growing seasons. All other vegetables must be replanted every year. What are the only two perennial vegetables?
2. What fruit has its seeds on the outside?
3. In many liquor stores, you can buy pear brandy, with a real pear inside the bottle. The pear is whole and ripe, and the bottle is genuine; it hasn't been cut in any way. How did the pear get inside the bottle?
4. Name the only vegetable or fruit that is never sold frozen, canned, processed, cooked, or in any other form except fresh.

Answers on the next page (no peeking!)

Answers To Quiz:

1. Only two vegetables that can live to produce on their own for several growing seasons ... Asparagus and rhubarb.
2. The fruit with its seeds on the outside. Strawberry.
3. How did the pear get inside the brandy bottle? It grew inside the bottle. (The bottles are placed over pear buds when they are small, and are wired in place on the tree. The bottle is left in place for the entire growing season. When the pears are ripe, they are snipped off at the stems.) Fun project for young gardeners.
4. The only vegetable or fruit never sold frozen, canned, processed, cooked, or in any other form but fresh is Lettuce.

Janae Dale, 2007 Board Treasurer

By Chris McIntosh

Janae writes, "I was interested in gardening as a youngster when I helped family members with their garden harvests and stole flowers from the neighbors' yards. Living in the Puget Sound area where it originated, I became familiar with the Master Gardener program. After I retired I finally had the time to take the class, so when we moved to Sandpoint, I signed up. I wanted help for landscaping our new home here. I had lived in North Idaho before, but needed to know more about what to grow and how to grow it.

In addition to gardening catalogs, I enjoy the "Fine Gardening" and "The Garden Gate" magazines and read each one from cover to cover at least three times. They have given me lots of ideas for dealing with the problems of "blue" clay soil, heavy winds, steep slopes, and munching deer. I have found plants that grow in clay, grasses and flowers that are beautiful in the wind, and my husband is building a stairway to make our slope more accessible. I have tried so many methods to discourage the deer that I'll be leading a Home Hort class on Deerproofing the Garden, not that you can really do that!

I do lots of sewing and reading, and my husband and I are up at Schweitzer almost every day in the winter for skiing. We both enjoy entertaining guests. Working with the local Habitat for Humanity is another interest. My pets include a worm farm and goldfish for an outdoor container (pond?) in the summer. Ask me about my younger sister, Lora Lea Misterly, who lives near Kettle Falls, WA. She is certainly my inspiration in so many ways."

GAIL SWAN, 2007 Board Secretary

By Ann Warwick

Gail Swan, Master Gardener class of 2004, is currently the organization secretary. Here is her gardening history, in her own words:

I grew up on a farm in the Midwest and gardening was an everyday occurrence in the summer time. We had a huge garden and orchard and as children it was our job (my sisters & me) to tend the garden. I learned very early on all about the joys of weeding! When I moved to Washington as an adult, I decided I had had enough of veggie gardens and concentrated on flowers. I not only had lots of flowers outside, I grew many houseplants as well. To this day I prefer growing ornamentals although I do grow tomatoes, lettuce, leeks, shallots & lots of herbs.

I had lived in the Everett, Wash. area for about 30 years so had become familiar with the growing season and all the wonderful plants that thrived there. I didn't really have a lot of time for gardening-I was limited to weekends to get a lot of work done, but I managed to plant lots of rhodies and azaleas and they just sort of took care of themselves.

I moved to Sandpoint about 4½ years ago and quickly realized that Sandpoint is several zones colder. I wanted to be able to find out what would grow here and what wouldn't. Upon doing some research, I found an ad in the paper regarding Master Gardener classes to be offered in the spring of 2004 and thought that would be a great way for me not only to learn about the area but to also meet some new gardening friends that I could learn from. I got so much out of the classes and wanted to continue to be involved with the Master Gardeners so I started attending meetings and then was elected to the board.

I love all gardening books and get ideas from lots of different books and magazines. It's a good thing I can only garden in the summer because my other passion-skiing-takes up most of my time in the winter-although I do manage to squeeze in hiking and kayaking in the summer when my garden chores are done.

Another item from Spokane

Please join the American Community Gardening Association & Healthy Communities: Spokane City Council District I, a program of Spokane Regional Health District with support from WSU Spokane County Extension for the...

GROWING COMMUNITIES WORKSHOP

Who:	Leaders, educators, volunteers, and supporters of community & greening		
What:	Two-day leadership workshop on community building, leadership, and organizational development through community gardening.		
When:	Friday, March 30, 2007 Saturday, March 31, 2007	8:30am - 5:00pm 8:00am - 4:00pm	MUST ATTEND BOTH FRIDAY & SATURDAY!
Where:	Northeast Community Center 4001 N. Cook St. Spokane, WA		
Cost:	\$35 per individual, sliding scale based on ability to pay. Includes ACGA membership, <i>Growing Communities Curriculum</i> (\$35 value), 2 days of workshop and lunches!		ADVANCED REGISTRATION & ATTENDANCE ON BOTH DAYS IS REQUIRED!
RSVP:	Register online at www.communitygarden.org/trainings.php or use the registration form attached.		

This is an in-depth and hands-on workshop based on the ACGA's curriculum for leadership development. "Growing Communities: Community Building and Organizational Development through Community Gardening." Learn proven strategies that community organizers use to develop dynamic leaders and create strong communities through a participatory approach to community building. You will learn the principles and practices of community building, and how to pass these techniques on to others in your community by conducting your own workshops.

This two-day workshop will cover these topics: **Community Organizing, Leadership Development, Grassroots Fundraising Basics, Asset-Based Community Development, Communications Planning, Coalition Building.**

Participants receive the "Growing Communities Curriculum," a 352 page resource workbook, which includes curriculum materials that walk the reader through the process of conducting training workshops. The Curriculum also addresses Diversity, Meeting Facilitation and Group Decision-Making, Developing a Board of Directors, and Grassroots Fundraising - Specific Strategies.

LOCAL CONTACT:
Pat Munts | 509.447.2173
pmunts@spokanecounty.org

WORKSHOP CONTACT:
Sarah Alexander | 877.275.2242
salexander@communitygarden.org


