



Bonner County Gardeners Association Education ~ Community Service ~ Camaraderie

March 2012

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

Hello again fellow gardeners,

We start our first membership class tomorrow the 20th. We have 8 students taking the course and all will be a great addition to our organization. We have also added Nancy Hastings, owner of "All Seasons" to our membership. If you have not signed up yet to facilitate a class, please email Zoe to do so.

Our Home Hort classes are going great, we had almost 60 sign ups for each vegetable classes 1 & 2. Kit Cooley is doing a terrific job.

Just as a reminder; If you build up the soil with organic material, the plants will do just fine.

Mikey

March Gardening To Do List

From Backyard Gardeners located at:
http://www.backyardgardener.com/Gardening_Month/zonemar01.html



Zone 3

- Order seeds
- Sow seeds for hardy spring-blooming plants
- Remove mulch from early bulbs
- Cut back on feeding houseplants (do not feed dormant houseplants)
- Sow seeds for cool-weather vegetables
- Sow frost-tolerant perennials indoors

Zone 4

- Plant bare root trees
- Cut back on feeding houseplants (do not feed dormant houseplants)
- Sow seeds for cool-weather vegetables
- Sow frost-tolerant perennials indoors

Zone 5

- Plant dormant, hardy container and balled and burlapped plants
- Sow seeds of warm-season annuals indoors
- Remove winter mulch, lightly cultivate soil if thawed

- Prune out winter damage
- Apply dormant spray to fruit trees
- Plant or transplant frost-tolerant perennials
- Sow seeds for tender perennials indoors
- Plant bare-root roses
- Plant bare-root perennial vegetables (asparagus, rhubarb etc.)
- Plant seedlings of cool-season vegetables
- Sow seeds for cool- and warm-season vegetables
- Protect tender plants from frost
- Prune winter-blooming shrubs and vines just after bloom
- Plant bare-root trees, shrubs and vines

POTLUCK GARDEN VISITS

There are signs of spring—did anyone see the pussywillows that Dr. Tripepi brought from Moscow for the Basic Botany class? And with spring come plans for BCGA social events. Who would like to invite us all for a walk-about in your garden? We'll all bring the food and our own beverages and even chairs for a nice visiting session.

You don't have to come up with a specific date right now, though that would be helpful. Just let Becky Reynolds or Ann Warwick know that you would like to host one of our garden visits, and try to let us know what month would work for you.

Ann Warwick: w.redguy@frontier.com. 263-2844.

Becky Reynolds: Rplace130@yahoo.com 264-3214

Your place does not have to be perfect. We just think it is fun to see each other's gardens, socialize in different settings, and we always come away with some new ideas to try at home. Just say "yes!"

BASIC BOTANY CLASS A GREAT SUCCESS

One of the benefits of belonging to BCGA is our continuing education program, which enables members to attend pertinent classes on gardening at no charge. We try to offer at least one class per month on a variety of topics.

On February 27, Dr. Bob Tripepi, professor at U of I, conducted a Basic Botany refresher course for BCGA. Sixteen members attended, and all agreed it was a very worthwhile experience. Dr Tripepi brought armloads of plant material with him to illustrate the points of the class, such as leaf arrangement (opposite vs. alternate), plant parts, and the like. Nicole French of Petal Talk generously provided, at a greatly reduced price, lovely blossoms—lilies and tulips—to illustrate flower parts for the class. The three hour class provided a much needed brush up for members, and proved quite entertaining and interesting, as well.

Future classes include onsite pruning classes, entomology refreshers, and other topics of interest to gardeners.

BCGA MEMBERSHIP MEETING, MARCH 7, 2012

Present: Howard Fennimore, Butterfly Burke, Bob Blair, Becky Reynolds, Ellie Lizotte, Penny Goodman, Mikey Haven, Linda Gjording, Jan Wilfert, Ann Warwick, Janae Dale, Jenna Bertus, Jon Bair, Nancy Hastings, Gail Swan & Zoe Bolton (via phone)

Meeting was called to order @ 9AM by President, Mikey Haven
 Minutes from last meeting were approved as written
 Treasurer's report: \$318.47
 Continuing Ed: pruning class scheduled for March 10 in an orchard 2 blocks west of Library on Cedar; Jon Bair will teach; address will be sent out to membership by e-mail
 Home Hort: 1st class to be held on 3/7; 15 people signed up, but expect walk-ins
 Pot Lucks-none scheduled at this time

Michelle (school gardens) may have info for us on less expensive insurance for non profit organizations

More of the book "Planning your veggie Garden" have been purchased (\$307 spent)

Dr Chaulker-Scott will be presenting a class "Horticultural CSI" on Thursday, May 24th from 6-8PM at the "Ponderay Event Center"; public will be invited for a fee of \$10; Dr Chaulker-Scott has a new book available titled "Sustainable Landscapes and Gardens"

Membership committee: the change in the By-Laws will be finalized by the next meeting in April; We have 8 students signed up for our 1st Membership Education Course, to begin on March 20; Penny Goodman handled getting the manual printed and it looks wonderful; printing & notebooks cost > \$100/ student

Facilitator copies of the manual will be available in the office for each class

There is a meeting scheduled on Wed, March 14th @ 2:30 in the conference room for all the facilitators; we will be shown how to use the DVD; if no more students sign up for the class, we may be able to have some members audit the classes; notification will be sent after all students have signed up; Nancy Hastings will post the class @ the store

Nancy Hastings, owner of "All Seasons" has become a member of our organization; we welcome her as a great addition to our membership

Printing: if anyone has copies printed in the Business Center (not our office) they must obtain a code #; Zoe will change her code; we are trying to keep better track of printing costs

Michelle would like volunteers to help with the Charter school & Elementary schools gardens; She suggested possible topics for brief classes: spring gardens, fall gardens, berries, container gardening, composting & soil preparation & worms

Farmers Market: a suggestion was made to take info on insects & non-invasive plants; have people give name & address to send copies if interested @ cost

Mikey & Janae have been organizing the office; we now have hanging files to hold info

We have a desk top computer in the office now & will have a lap top in the conference room for the classes (thanks to Mikey)

Home & Garden Show: Sat April 14, 9:30 to 5:30 & Sun April 15, 10 to 4; set up on Friday April 13 after 5pm (we have to wait till all other participants are set up because we are in front of a door); we have

5 presenters; contact Ann Warwick or Ellie Lizotte for info

Fair Booth: Lynn Pietz will chair; theme for this year is "**All Roads Lead to the Fair**"

Our spot is already reserved

Community Gardens: Lynn Pietz is looking for volunteers to teach small classes; more info needed on when the meetings are held

CAL is accepting grant applications from Non-Profit organizations; the criteria are "making an impact on the community"; Mikey will apply

Zoe stated that the state tax has been filed; the federal tax is yet to be done; we have to collect tax on whatever we sell; the veggie books will be sold for \$4 instead of \$3 (to include tax so we don't have to deal with change) plus our price has gone up as well

Meeting adjourned @ 10:25

BCGA Membership Course Class Curriculum

The BCGA is sponsoring a 7 week course on gardening based on and with the permission of the WSU Master Gardener program. The classes primarily consist of a recorded presentation by a WSU educator, associated videos and class exercises. Preliminary review of the recorded presentations indicates a high quality program and the association is pleased to be able to offer this course to the public. One of the goals of offering this course to the public is to expand our membership. Once the course is completed the student is eligible to become a member of the association.

There MAY be space available for some of our members to attend the individual classes. This is predicated on the number of new students that sign up for the class. If you are interested in attending one of the classes please contact Zoe Bolton at zbolton@gmail.com or 208.264.1210. Member attendance will be very limited so space will be assigned in the order requested. Classes are held from 9am – 12:30pm at our offices at 804 Airport Way.

If you attend, in addition to receiving a refresher course on the designated subject, it will give you an opportunity to interact with the students giving them

an overview of the types of activities the association performs. Combining education with camaraderie...what could be better!

Date	Pro-gram/Course	Facilitator(s)
03/20/2012	Botany & Plant ID	Penny Barton, Gail Swan
03/22/2012	Soils and Plant Nutrition	Mikey Haven, Kim Peterson
03/27/2012	Season Extenders	Bonnie Cavanaugh, Penny Goodman, Chris McIntosh
03/29/2012	Plant Pathology and Plant Problem Diagnoses	Bob Blair, Gail Swan
04/03/2012	Pest Management	Jon Porter
04/05/2012	Weed Management	Bob Blair, Jon Porter
04/10/2012	Woody Landscape Plants	Penny Barton
04/12/2012	Pruning	Gail Locke
04/17/2012	Flower Gardening/Sustainable Gardening	Penny Goodman, Jon Porter
04/19/2012	Home Orchards	Janae Dale, Kim Peterson
04/24/2012	Small Fruits	Janae Dale, Jon Porter
04/26/2012	Vegetables	Mikey Haven, Jan Griffiths, Chris Winslow
05/01/2012	Entomology	Penny Goodman, Jan Wilfert
05/03/2012	Course review	Liz Kunze, Jon Porter



Pictures from the February botany class, taken by Bob Blair



This is a glad from last summer, just because I'm tired of the snow and mud.

“Scents are the souls of flowers: they may even be perceptible in the land of shadows”

Joseph Joubert (1754-1824, French moralist and essayist)

“Plants take away some of the anxiety and tension of NOW by showing us that there are enduring patterns of life.”

Charles Lewis, speech to the American Horticultural Society, 1985

PBCA HOME AND GARDEN SHOW

The annual PBCA Home and Garden show at the fairgrounds is coming up on April 14 and 15. Thanks to all of you who have volunteered to help make this event a successful one for our organization. Here's how the schedule for manning the booth has shaped up:

Saturday, April 14: 9:30 to 11:30 Butterfly Burke and Howard Fennimore
 11:30 to 1:30 Brenda Fletcher and Shirley Barksdale
 1:30 to 3:30 Kim Peterson and Lynn Pietz
 3:30 to 5:30 Liz Kunze and Jenna Bertus

Sunday, April 15: 10:00 to 12:00 Penny Barton and Gail Swan
 12:00 to 2:00 Bonnie Cavanaugh and Ellie Lizotte
 2:00 to 4:00 Gail Swan and Regina Mundell

We will have a number of short presentations on gardening subjects, as follows:

Saturday, 10:00 am Ann Warwick, Improving Your Soil
 12:30 Jon Bair, Topic TBA
 1:30, Becky Reynolds, Raised Beds
 2:30 Janae Dale, Worm Composting
 3:30 Mikey Haven, Tomato Pruning

Sunday, 1pm Val Ripley
 2:30 Laurie Brown, Propagating Perennials

As you can see, there are a couple of gaps in the presentations. If anyone would like to give a brief talk on a topic of your choice, please contact Ellie Lizotte or Ann Warwick.

We will set up the booth on Friday, April 13 at 5pm, and will be dismantling the display at 4pm on Sunday. Any help is appreciated. Thanks to everyone for helping. It will be a fun event, with many visitors to the booth.

Event Calendar - 2012			
Event	Date	Chair(s)	Notes
Membership Meeting	Wed 3/7	Mikey Haven	BCGA Offices at 804 Airport Way, Sandpoint; 265-2070; 9am
HH – Starting Plants with Seeds	Wed 3/7	Don Childress, Janae Dale, Gail Swan	Laurie Brown; Ponderay Event Center, 401 Bonner Mall Way, Ste E; 6 – 8 pm
HH – Vegetable Gardening I	Wed 3/14	Don Childress, Janae Dale, Gail Swan	Kit Cooley; Ponderay Event Center, 401 Bonner Mall Way, Ste E; 6 – 8 pm
HH – Vegetable Gardening II	Wed 3/21	Don Childress, Janae Dale, Gail Swan	Kit Cooley; Ponderay Event Center, 401 Bonner Mall Way, Ste E; 6 – 8 pm
HH – Pruning and Care of Tools	Wed 3/28	Don Childress, Janae Dale, Gail Swan	Rich DelCarlo; Ponderay Event Center, 401 Bonner Mall Way, Ste E; 6 – 8 pm
Cont. Ed – Pruning - Ornaments	Sat 3/31	Zoe Bolton	Gail Locke; outdoor class; date may change predicated on weather conditions; noon – 3pm; location to be announced
Membership Meeting	Wed 4/4	Mikey Haven	BCGA Offices at 804 Airport Way, Sandpoint; 265-2070; 9am
HH – Cutting Garden	Wed 4/4	Don Childress, Janae Dale, Gail Swan	Robin Roberts; Ponderay Event Center, 401 Bonner Mall Way, Ste E; 6 – 8 pm
Cont Ed – Good Bugs/Bad Bugs	Tues 4/10	Zoe Bolton	Tom Ekberg; 1pm – 3pm; location to be announced
HH – Landscaping with Native Plants	Wed 4/11	Don Childress, Janae Dale, Gail Swan	Don Childress; Ponderay Event Center, 401 Bonner Mall Way, Ste E; 6 – 8 pm

Home and Garden Show	4/13 - 4/15	Ellie Lizotte and Ann Warwick	Bonner County Fair Grounds
HH – Roses in N. Idaho	Wed 4/18	Don Childress, Janae Dale, Gail Swan	Valle Novak; Ponderay Event Center, 401 Bonner Mall Way, Ste E; 6 – 8 pm
HH – Ergonomic Gardening	Wed 4/25	Don Childress, Janae Dale, Gail Swan	Meredith Evensen-Lynch; Ponderay Event Center, 401 Bonner Mall Way, Ste E; 6 – 8 pm
Membership Meeting	Wed 5/2	Mikey Haven	BCGA Offices at 804 Airport Way, Sandpoint; 265-2070; 9am
Membership Meeting	Wed 6/6	Mikey Haven	BCGA Offices at 804 Airport Way, Sandpoint; 265-2070; 9am

2011 Event Chairs and Contact Info to Volunteer			
Event	Date*	Chair(s)	Contact
Membership Meetings	Ongoing	Mikey Haven	610-4829 or 66haven@gmail.com
Continuing Education Program	Ongoing	Zoe Bolton	264-1210 or zbolton@gmail.com
Membership Committee	Ongoing	Zoe Bolton	264-1210 or zbolton@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	Janae Dale	265-2205 or dalejanae@gmail.com
Farmers Market	Spring/Summer	Kim Peterson	627-8418 or krpeterson1@gmail.com
Mickinnick Trailhead – meet the 1 st and 3 rd Wed of each month at 9am at the 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	Lynn Pietz	lynnpietz@hotmail.com or 265-3563