



Garden Gate

Bonner County Master Gardeners Newsletter

May 2004

Upcoming Fund Raising Events

- **Spring Plant Sale - Saturday, May 22, 2004, Lake Pend Oreille High School grounds**
We need our gardeners to bring houseplants and transplants for us to sell. We will also need volunteers to work the sale booth. Please contact Michelle Reichelt or Rita Janisse to sign up.
- **First Annual Garden Raffle - Drawing June 1, 2004, Extension Office at 1pm**
We still have tickets available for sale and would love to have you purchase one or more for a gift for a loved one.
- **First Annual Garden Tour - Sunday July 18, 10am - 4pm**
We need volunteers to help with set up, act as greeters and collect tickets. We also need garden guides and help with tear down. We will have six homes in Sandpoint on the tour, including our own Master Gardener, Penny Barton.

Please contact Michelle Reichelt or Rae Charlton to sign up.

I am hopeful that several of you will join us in making our annual events special in their inaugural year. Your enthusiasm and teamwork with events so far this year has been incredible and I look forward to working with you on the upcoming events.

— Michelle

Contacts:

Michelle	265-1159	mcdreich@earthlink.net
Rita	263-7758	mrlobo@icce.com
Rae	255-7666	Raecharton@earthlink.net

Master Gardeners on Parade!

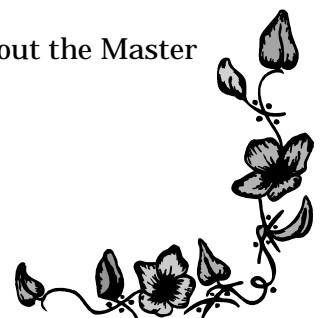
by Sue Lopez

Master gardeners are on parade — the 4th of July parade that is! Won't you come join in the fun?!

The Master Gardener class of 2004 would like to invite all MGs to come help us parade through town, spreading the word of the joys of the Master Gardener program! Happily marching the streets, there will be tossing of seed packets, and pulling garden carts brimming with veggies and flowers. We will even have a couple of horse poo scoopers to demonstrate our love of composting!

When you realize you just can't pass up this much fun, please email Sue Lopez at seniorl@coldreams.com or call Sue Lopez at 263-1949 by June 15!

Let's get the town buzzing about the Master Gardener program!





Salutations

by Jan Rumore

What if you threw a party and everyone came and they brought their children.

And what if gardeners turned bakers and they came in great numbers to the party with cookies and cakes and breads and so many other dozens and dozens of delightful goodies.

And what if the sun shone brightly and the band played and the children danced with crowns of greens and bright ribbons and painted faces.

And what if everyone smiled and visited and laughed.

Thank you Irene and Wes Crain and the classy 2004s and all the MGs who brought armloads of fresh baked treats.

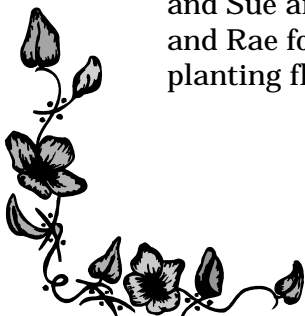
We had so much fun!

And... what if we could do it all over again! I'll bake. But we need a chair person for the July 10th Farmers Market Bake Sale. Can you do it? Please call me at 255-1827.

And... what if we could plant downtown in flowers and hang them (flowers that is) from the light poles.

And plant buckets of marigolds, and petunias, and bright neon geraniums, and put them around the fountain, and by the Long Bridge.

Thank you Penny and Don and Sue and Bill and Rae for spending an afternoon planting flowers for the DSBA.



And what if we could all get our fingers in the flower pots!

Well, we can!

Don Childress and I have pledged \$30.00 each to the downtown hanging basket project. This means the DSBA will hang two large flowers baskets sponsored by the BCMGs. We can do more if you would like to donate money to the MGs for this project. Remember your contributions are tax deductible.

Speaking of spending, our all-new 2004 phone books are out. Thank you Patti Speelmon for all your creativitiy and hard work. I think these are the best ever.

And so many thanks to all the phone tree volunteers..... Barb, Penny Pat, Jennifer and Nikki. What a marathon that turned out to be!

Thank you, thank you to Rita for taking on the calender/activities project. Check out our new activities organizational calendar included in this news letter!

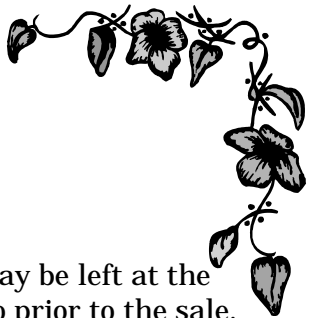
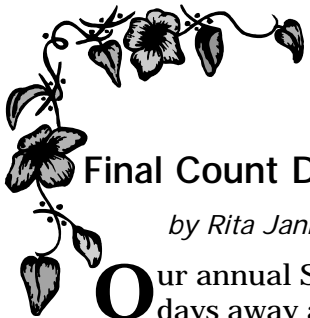
And if you receiving the Garden Gate Newsletter, AND if you have received your new phone book, AND we haven't received your annual dues (\$10.00)..... please pony up ASAP!

Finally — A Silent Auction

The MG conference in Coeur'd Alene next month will feature a silent auction. We are looking for some good stuff — some really good stuff — to contribute to this event. Please bring these gems to the Extension Office before June 10th.

And plan to come and see us at the Conference.





Final Count Down: Spring Plant Sale - May 22nd, 9am to 4pm

by Rita Janisse

Our annual Spring Plant Sale is just days away and things are shaping up nicely. Do you have your plant donations ready? Are you considering donating a couple of hours to the Sale, working off some of those community hours? We're looking for sales staff, perennials, divided bulbs, herbs, annuals, veggie starts, houseplants, or whatever you have to donate. The Plant Sale is a great place to pick up some wonderful new plants; I always return home with more plants than I've donated! We hope that if you can't donate anything, you'll at least stop by to take a look at what other members have brought. You might find something that you've been looking for.

Donations should be delivered to our tent at Lake Pend Oreille High School on Boyer Ave., prior to the sale, Saturday morning. If that is

not convenient, donations may be left at the Extension office a day or two prior to the sale. Plants should go outside the back door of the Plant Clinic. Please let Patti know that you have left something. Also, please label your plants with plant names and varieties (if possible) so that they will be easy to identify.

Lake Pend Oreille High School is hosting our Spring Plant Sale again this year, as they hold their spring festival, Bloomin' Affair. Their festival is a two-day event, Friday and Saturday, and features arts and crafts produced by students.

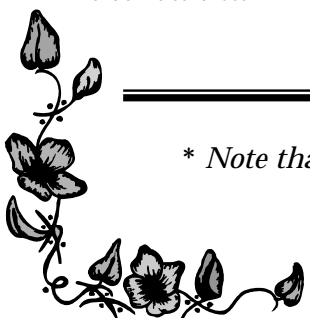
This will be the final request for contributions. Please show your support for one of Bonner County Master Gardener's biggest annual fund-raisers. Contact Rita Janisse if you'd like to get involved or have any questions regarding donations.

Master Gardener Events

This table shows MG events throughout the year for planning purposes.* BCMG board meetings also are held every month on the first Monday of the month at 9 am at Creekside Medical Center.

January	February	March	April
Winter Parade Chair Home/Garden Show	Master Gardener classes begin: Facilitators Orientation Chair Plant Sale	Bonner Mall Home/Garden Show: 3-4 presentations: Announce Fair Theme	Sign up for Plant clinic. Plant Clinic Orientation Chair Membership committee: Phone book/Phone tree Activities List Chair Fair Committee and 4th of July Parade
May	June	July	August
Bake Sale Plant Clinic starts, 4th. Home Hort. series starts Plant Sale	Raffle Drawing, 7th Home Hort. continues: 2nd-16th. MG Regional Conference, 17-19th Plant Clinic continues	4th of July Parade Bake Sale, 10th Garden Tour, 18th. Plant Clinic continues	Bonner County Fair Chair MG Graduation Committee. Plant Clinic continues.
September	October	November	December
Plant clinic continues.	MG Graduation Party Chair Winter Parade Committee Plant clinic closes	Chair Home/Garden Show. Plan presentations.	MG Christmas Party

* Note that where available dates are included for 2004 upcoming scheduled events.





Master Gardener Class of 2004

by Bob Wilson, Extension Educator/Horticulture

Training has just been completed for the 2004 class of Master Gardeners. I hope everyone will join me in welcoming this new and enthusiastic group. This class has the distinction of being the first class I have worked with that did not have any dropouts. Twenty started and twenty finished!

Not only did they endure the lengthy training session, but several already are active within our organization. Several already have attended board meetings. The bake sale held at the Sandpoint Farmer's Market earlier this month was organized by Irene Crain. This event raised over \$200 for the BCMGA. Thanks also to all those who did the baking. This class also has decided to make the 4th of July parade entry their class project. Sue Lopez is heading this effort.

Here are our new Master Gardeners –

- Mary Brujell
- Rae Charlton
- Debbie Crain
- Irene Crain
- Linda Delay
- Michelle Goode
- Laura Gold
- Denise Gulman
- Dustin Hayes
- Sylvia Hirning
- Ann Kieser
- Joyce Lane
- Sue Lopez
- Debi Prater
- Sherry Reuter
- Lee Stevens
- Gail Swan
- Randy Wilhelm
- Ann Wimberley
- Robert Zweifel

Plant Clinic

We are scheduling Plant Clinic hours. There are a lot of new and recertifying MGs this year, so Plant Clinic time will be in limited supply. Please call Patti (263-8511) to schedule your time. There are a few slots open in May and several in June. Here are the times we need to fill quickly.

Thurs. May 19 pm – Advanced MG

Tues. May 24 pm – New MG

Thurs. May 26 pm – 1 New, 1 Advanced MG

Tues. June 1 pm – Advanced MG

Tues. June 13 pm – 2 New, 1 Advanced MG

Thurs. June 17 pm – Advanced MG

Tues. June 22 am – Advanced MG

June 22 pm – Advanced MG

Thurs. June 24 pm – New MG

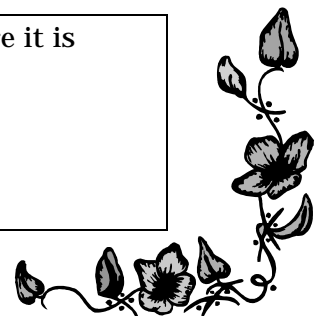
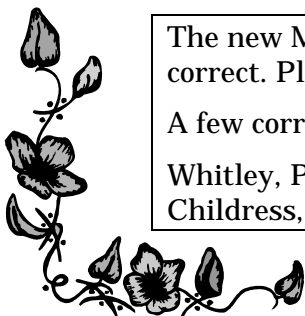
Tues. June 29 am – 1 New, 1 Advanced MG

June 29 pm – 1 New, 1 Advanced MG

The new MG phone books are out. Please check your listing and make sure it is correct. Please give your corrections to Patti at the Extension Office.

A few corrections to e-mail addresses, we already know about are:

Whitley, Parise should be parise@earthtones.com, and
Childress, Donald should be dwclrsc@televar.com.





May BCMGA Board Meeting Highlights

The May board meeting was held on May 3, 2004 at 9 am at the Creekside Medical Center.

- Don Childress went over the finances. There is \$624 in the bank and the bake sale earned \$270.
- Bob Wilson discussed the MG conference that will be held June 17-19. Brochures were mailed two weeks ago. The registration deadline was extended to May 15. People can sign up to attend the conference for \$40 until May 15. After that, the price goes up to \$50. The fee covers all three days of the conference. Flyers, have been placed in businesses; 25 posters need to be placed around town.

For the conference, each Master Gardener group needs to supply a basket or other item for the silent auction. Michelle suggested that we place a "reserve" amount for larger items, so we can be sure to make enough money to cover costs.

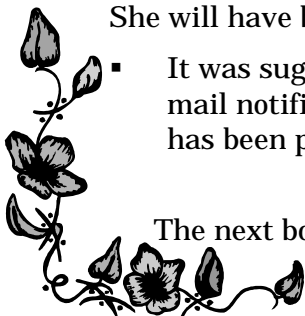
Any Master Gardener who has items for the auction should leave it at the Extension office.

- Bob also talked about the plant clinic. Returning MGs need 9 plant clinic hours to recertify. People need to sign up. There was some discussion about having MGs on hand at the Farmer's Market to take questions. This time could be counted toward plant clinic hours.
- Michelle Reichelt talked about the garden raffle on June 1 and the garden tour, which will be on July 18. Michelle will order 6 18x24 posters with a hummingbird design. The year will be included using vinyl letters so the signs can be reused. She will have brochures by the 15th.
- It was suggested that sending an e-mail notification that the Garden Gate has been posted online would save on

postage. However, not all MGs have or like to use e-mail.

- Rita Janisse discussed the plant sale. She needs plants and help. The sale is on May 22nd and she needs people to fill 2 hour shifts. Those who want to donate plants should bring them to the Extension Office Wednesday-Friday before the sale. Rita also prepared a list of MG activities throughout the year (which appears in this issue of the Garden Gate).
- Irene Crain reported on the successful bake sale at the Farmer's Market. The sale made \$271.18, which included \$8 in donations. She talked to the director of the market who invited BCMGs back monthly. July 10th is the next bake sale and it needs a volunteer to chair the event. Irene will help explain the process.
- The class of 2004 is doing production for the 4th of July parade and is looking for volunteers. They are looking for wagons and wheelbarrows to roll. They also plan to give out seed packets. Michelle will order wildflower mix.
- Nikki talked about the Lake Pend Oreille classes. They are looking for skills training on using the greenhouse. MGs need to teach two classes. The classes can be Monday and Friday or Tuesday and Thursday.
- Jan talked about the plantings and baskets for the Downtown Sandpoint Business Association. People can sponsor a basket for \$30. MGs will sponsor two baskets. The baskets should be up by Lost in the '50s.
- Don said that the Community Garden project is still looking for a space. Bill said that the Habitat project is on hold.

The next board meeting is on Monday June 7 at 9 am at the Creekside Medical Center.





University of Idaho
Extension

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