



The Garden Gate



May 2010

President's Note

Dear Master Gardeners,

A good garden may have some weeds
—Thomas Fuller

As I look out at my garden beds... not quite ready for planting yet many unwanted green things coming up...I have decided to make this my new mantra!

At the May Membership Meeting we spent some time reviewing the criteria required to maintain certification as a University of Idaho Master Gardener in relationship to the Master Gardener Membership criteria per the BCMGA By-Laws. There was some confusion by the attendees so I thought I would restate both policies in an attempt to clarify any misunderstandings.

As a certified University of Idaho Master Gardener you agree to volunteer 18 hours on a fiscal year beginning October 1 and ending September 30. Nine of those hours are performed by working in the Plant Clinic and the remaining nine hours are committed to approved community service activities. You agree to abide by the regulations of the University of Idaho Extension, as defined in the Master Gardener Handbook. Information given out by Master Gardeners must be accurate, current, and research-based. This program is administered by the U of I Bonner County Extension Office. In exchange for your service you are given a name badge stating your status as a Certified Master Garden and you may disclose that status as long as you maintain your certification. If you decide to let your certification lapse then you are no longer permitted to wear your name badge nor are you allowed to reference your status as a Master Gardener. The research performed in the plant clinic in combination with other educational opportunities within the BCMGA

membership assists in keeping you current and familiar with the latest techniques and gardening problems which supports your certified status.

The Bonner County Master Gardener Association (BCMGA) is a separate tax-exempt entity from the U of I Master Gardener Extension. Although we work closely with the extension office in providing services as required per their policy, we also can independently provide other services as stated within our Mission Statement. Per the BCMGA By-Laws there are three categories of membership:

Associate Master Gardener

Associate membership may be granted to Beginning Master Gardeners while in training and Master Gardeners who are not currently certified as such. Master Gardeners who are not currently certified as such will pay an annual membership fee. Associate members have all the BCMGA privileges, except they cannot hold office nor serve on the Board. Full membership can be attained by becoming a certified Master Gardener. *Note: the "certified" above refers to certification by the U of I. If it has lapsed you can still participate in the association activities with the exception of working in the Plant Clinic. If your certification by the U of I has lapsed you can no longer wear the U of I name badge designating you as a Certified Master Gardener nor can you represent yourself as such.*

Continued on page two.



President's Note Cont.

Certified Master Gardener

Upon receipt of annual membership dues, membership may be granted to those persons who are currently certified Bonner County Master Gardeners, and agree to fulfill their community service requirements for the current year. A member has all BCMGA privileges. *Note: this designation adheres to the U of I requirement as discussed in the prior paragraph.*

Master Gardener Emeritus

This honorary title is given to a BCMGA member at the discretion of the membership. Master Gardener Emeritus shall remain on the current membership roster and have all privileges of a BCMGA member. All annual membership fees are waived.

Having said all of that I am pleased to report that there are individuals that have relocated to our community who have attained Master Gardener certification status at some time in the past and possibly from other universities. They have expressed an interest in becoming involved in the BCMGA. As our By-Laws state, "Associate membership may be granted to...Master Gardeners who are not currently certified as such". Per the Associate Member category they can participate in community projects, receive the Garden Gate, be listed in the Directory and be included on email distributions. So if you know of prior Master Gardeners interested in participating in our association please encourage them to join. As their sponsor you will need to vouch for their prior certification.

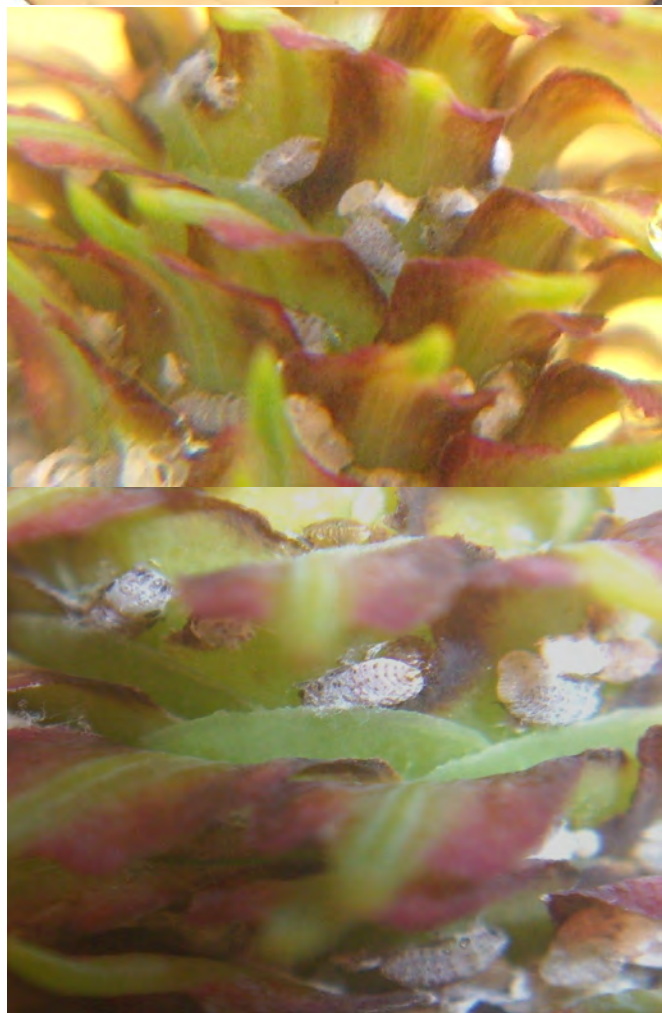
Plant Clinic Reminder – In order to manage the people, the problems and the available space in the plant clinic it is important that we adhere to the posted schedule. We expect you to show per your appointed schedule (or to have made alternate arrangements) and to not "drop-in" when you have the time. Space does not allow for persons outside the scheduled staff. Thanks for your understanding on this and happy plant problem solving!

As always, if you have questions or comments please don't hesitate to contact me.

Zoe M. Bolton, President
zbolton@gmail.com
264-1210

Can you identify these plant parts and the insects on them?

Email or call the editor with your answers!





New Plant Clinic Updates!

Included in the Plant Clinic Library, on the same shelf of the bookcase are four categories of books labeled as mushrooms, poisonous plants, wildflowers, and native plants. Remember that in identifying wild plants and providing information to plant clinic clients, we do not recommend they eat wild plants. We cannot assume that liability as Master Gardeners. Photocopy the appropriate information for the client and advise them to read this information thoroughly before making their decision. If you identify a plant, or parts of a plant as poisonous, alert the client and provide the photocopied information.

It was suggested at the May membership meeting that I post on the Plant Clinic bulletin board information about recurring plant problems, insects, or weeds, that become common during the season. Please check the bulletin board when you work in the plant clinic. For example, in 2007 Spring Whitlow Grass occurred as an annual weed due to abundant rain.

It was also suggested that when working in the Plant Clinic, if you identify something unique, write a brief description and include the sources used. Submit this to the newsletter and I will place a copy of your information on the bulletin board. For example, 2010 trainee Toni North brought to the Plant Clinic *Lethocerus Americanus* which is a giant water bug, AKA "Toe Grabber." This beneficial insect resides in ponds. Thank you Toni.

MARTHA FORTUNATI, Plant Clinic Coordinator

I do not like that plant. I must get to know it better.

With apologies to Abraham Lincoln

AT 3PM WHEN CLOSING THE PLANT CLINIC, PLEASE REMEMBER TO TURN OFF THE COMPUTER AND THE PHOTOCOPY MACHINE. THANKS



Editor Contact Information:

Tina Raiha acoolraiha@gmail.com or
Call 610.1069





Plant Clinic Schedule

May

Tuesday-4**AM 9—noon**

CMG Chris McIntosh

And Bonnie Cavanaugh

TRN Angela Updike

TRN Jon Bair

PM noon—3

CMG Blair

TRN Angela Updike

TRN Penny Goodman

Tuesday-11**AM 9—noon**

CMG Lexie de Fremery

TRN Penny Goodman

TRN Jon Porter

PM noon—3

CMG Natalie Larson

TRN Jan Wilfert

TRN Penny Goodman

Tuesday-18**AM 9—noon**

CMG Chris McIntosh

And Bonnie Cavanaugh

TRN Toni North

TRN Jon Porter

PM noon—3

CMG Brenda Fletcher

TRN Jon Porter

TRN _____

Tuesday-25**AM 9—noon**

CMG Lexie de Fremery

TRN Jon Bair

TRN Stan Miller

PM noon—3

CMG Willie Millard

TRN Lynn Savonen

TRN Jon Bair

Thursday-6**AM 9—noon**

CMG Marlisa Keys

TRN Mary Pandrea

TRN Jan Hansen

PM noon—3

CMG Zoe Bolton

TRN Kim Peterson

TRN Lynn Wilson

Thursday-13**AM 9—noon**

CMG Gail Swan

TRN Janis Clark

TRN Lynn Savonen

PM noon—3

CMG Penny Barton

TRN Jan Hansen

TRN Kim Peterson

Thursday-20**AM 9—noon**

CMG Brianna Staglund

TRN Stan Miller

TRN Lynn Wilson

PM noon—3

CMG Becky Reynolds

TRN Kim Peterson

TRN Stan Miller

Thursday-27**AM 9—noon**

CMG Jan Griffiths

TRN Stan Miller

TRN Jenna Bertus

PM noon—3

CMG Tina Raiha

TRN Janis Clark

TRN Jenna Bertus

Plant Clinic Schedule

June

Tuesday-1**AM 9—noon**

CMG Leona Fox

TRN Penny Goodman

TRN Lynda Schiffrin

PM noon—3

CMG Zoe Bolton

TRN Jon Bair

TRN Penny Goodman

Tuesday-8**AM 9—noon**

CMG Dick Bower

TRN Angela Updike

TRN Kim Peterson

PM noon—3

CMG Brenda Fletcher

TRN Angela Updike

TRN Lynda Schiffrin

Tuesday-15**AM 9—noon**

CMG Julie Woods

TRN Lynda Schiffrin

TRN Jon Porter

PM noon—3

CMG Tina Raiha

TRN Jon Porter

TRN Lynda Schiffrin

Tuesday-22**AM 9—noon**

CMG Judith Pagliasotti

TRN Nellie Gilbertson

TRN Jane Roach

PM noon—3

CMG Lexie de Fremery

TRN Jon Porter

TRN Kim Peterson

Tuesday-29**AM 9—noon**

CMG Judith Pagliasotti

TRN Jon Bair

TRN Lynn Savonen

PM noon—3

CMG Elissa Wadds

TRN Lynn Wilson

TRN Jan Hansen

Thursday-3**AM 9—noon**

CMG Lynn Pietz

TRN Mary Pandrea

TRN Lynda Schiffrin

PM noon—3

CMG Marlisa Keyes

TRN Lynda Schiffrin

TRN Lynn Savonen

Thursday-10**AM 9—noon**

CMG Jan Griffiths

TRN Lynda Schiffrin

TRN Kathleen Huntley

PM noon—3

CMG Zoe Bolton

TRN Linda Schiffrin

TRN Kathleen Huntley

Thursday-17**AM 9—noon**

CMG Kit Cooley

TRN Janice Clark

TRN Lynn Savonen

PM noon—3

CMG Becky Reynolds

TRN Jan Wilfert

TRN Jan Hansen

Thursday-24**AM 9—noon**

CMG Briana Staglund

TRN Toni North

TRN Jenna Bertus

PM noon—3

CMG Elissa Wadds

TRN Kim Peterson

TRN Jenna Bertus



REMINDER: Please tell all your garden friends about this event! You DO NOT need to be MG's to attend - the public is welcome and encouraged to come.

Dr. Linda Chalker-Scott "The Informed Gardener:

Digging up landscape myths and planting seeds of thought."

Tuesday, May 18

6 PM – 8PM

Auditorium @ Panhandle State Bank

231 N 3rd Ave – Sandpoint, ID

Tickets \$10 available at UI Extension Office, 4205 N. Boyer, Sandpoint, ID 83864,
or at the door (if they have not sold out). 208-263-8511



SPRING FOR THE GARDEN FAIRE

Lots of great landscaping coups will be realized in the upcoming month and into June as the garden season comes into focus. The much anticipated annual Bonner General Hospital Hospice Garden will present a new twist, on Saturday June 5, with a "Spring for the Garden Faire"—a delightful combination of plant sale, craft and information booths, garden tours and more.

The day will begin at 9 am with a fabulous plant sale spotlighting an array of choice landscape accents that include ornamental, xeric, native, hard to find, and Healing Garden plants, as well as offerings from friends of the garden's own flower beds. Head Gardener Barbara Pressler has gathered a plethora of must have items for everyone's gardens. Valle Novak will have "superfluous" Columbine, Bleeding Hearts and Sweet Autumn Clematis from the Rose Garden for sale, as well as herbs, herb baskets and recipes. The plant sale and accompanying activities/events will continue until 2 pm.

After making their purchases, attendees may visit the various booths, which will include the following: creating dried flower items, wreath making from rock cress by Garden Chairman Linda Plaster, information on endangered pollinators, including the much maligned bat, flower pot painting by local artists for purchase, and much more. Garden tours and plant information will be provided by various volunteers.

A fabulous raffle basket will be on display with contents that include a bottle of German Maywine, a bottle of white wine, three pots of plantable Sweet Woodruff (the traditional Maywine flavoring), gloves, planting tools, a recipe for Maywine, two beautiful wine glasses, coasters, nibblies to go with the wine as well as chocolate and a pretty candy dish. All proceeds go to maintenance of the Healing Garden.

Since it is a "Faire" everyone will be dressed appropriately in flowered dresses and hats and everyone is invited to join in the theme of the day.

There will be events for the kids and an on site ice cream truck. Complimentary cookies, lavender lemonade and mint tea will be served in the Tea House.

Reprinted with permission from Author Valle Novak



HYBRID VEGETABLE VARIETIES

Mike Bauer

Hybrid plant varieties have been around since the mid 1800s when the father of plant breeding, a monk named Gregor Mendel bred peas and recognized unique traits of the offspring. Hybrids are created by crossing specific parent plants with desirable traits through controlled pollination to create offspring called F1 hybrids. The characteristics of the resulting hybrids are very specific and consistent from plant to plant. The fact that parents must be hand-pollinated results in higher cost of hybrid seeds and plants.

Are they really worth the price?

To decide, check out these advantages and disadvantages:

Advantages of hybrid varieties:

- Hybrids possess wider adaptability to environmental stress
- Hybrid plants are more consistent from plant-to-plant
- Hybrids possess characteristics such as higher yields, earlier flowers and improved disease resistance

Hybrids possess *hybrid vigor* meaning more plants survive the seedling stage, grow larger and stronger and have higher yields than open-pollinated plants.

Disadvantages of hybrid varieties:

- Seeds cannot be saved from year-to-year because they will not produce the same plant the following year
- Some feel the taste of hybrids may not be as desirable as with open pollinated varieties.

When selecting hybrid varieties for disease resistance, take note of the following indicators located after the name of the variety on seed packets that indicate resistance to these diseases.

V – Verticillium wilt is a fungus sometimes found in saturated soils which develops at an optimal soil temperature of 75 °F. This disease is normally found in greenhouses in north Idaho.

F – Fusarium wilt – Fusarium is caused by several fungi that are sometimes found in cool season areas, especially in northern Idaho.

N- root knot nematodes are generally found in warm soils. These microscopic worms cause root stunting and damage from their feeding promotes infection by other soil-borne diseases.

T – Tobacco mosaic virus (TMV) – TMV persists in soil for a long time and affects a wide range of plants. This virus can be transferred from tobacco to plants.





Magic Pencil Use a pencil as a triple duty tool. End the frustration of trying to perfectly space and plant tiny seeds. Sharpen a lead pencil to a fine point and dib it (make a hole) into moistened planting mix or dirt to the correct depth. It must be moist mix or dirt to work. Lightly touch the tip of the lead to a seed and it will adhere like magic. Gently poke the seed into the hole. Use the eraser end to cover the seed with the mix or soil. (From: "Trowel and Error" by Sharon Lovejoy)

Plant Labels Cut up old mini blinds or venetian blind slats into shorter lengths. Label them with acrylic paint or waterproof markers on one end and stick the other end in the ground where needed. You can also laminate your seed packets and then glue or staple them to tongue depressors, popsicle sticks or shish kabob skewers. (From: "Trowel and Error" by Sharon Lovejoy)

FYI I've tried using just popsicle sticks and labeling them with a ballpoint pen. When stuck in the ground or a planting pot they soaked up water or got rained on and then the ink bled and I could not read them after awhile. (BR)

Wormless Radishes To keep your radishes worm free use wood ashes from a wood stove when planting. Make a trench the recommended depth according to the radish seed packet. Sprinkle the wood ashes in the trench to sort of line it on the bottom and the sides, but don't fill the trench. Then plant the seeds and cover as usual. Your radishes will come out wormless when ready to pull. (From: Becky Reynolds)

Information recycled by Becky Reynolds. If anyone has a hint or tip they would like to share in the Garden Gate please contact me at: 264-3214 or rplace@directv.net

Information recycled by Becky Reynolds

WOW!

THANK YOU TO
BOB BLAIR FOR
BEAUTIFULLY
CRAFTED WOODEN
BOXES FOR THE
LOBBY SELF HELP
STATION.



Have I Got A Deal
For You

For Sale-On Sale-Barter-Swap

Canby raspberry plants. \$2 each.
Tina 610.1069

One appr. 5 gal. ceramic, glazed, tan colored, round pot.
\$5 Tina 610.1069

Pastured Poultry for sale. You must order in advance.
Contact McKerracher Family Farm for an ordering
Brochure.

JJMckManna@gmail.com 208.683.3513

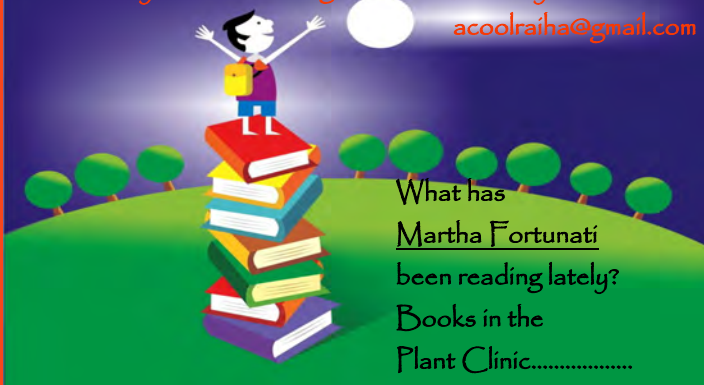
Price is \$3.25 per pound Chickens average 3 - 5 lb each.
Deposit \$3.50 per chicken non-refundable after chicks are
ordered.

Native Plant Sale at the Panhandle Special Needs building
on Boyer Ave. May 15, 9am until noon. 400 different
plants to choose from.



What have you been reading?

Submit your review to:
acoolraiha@gmail.com



Included in **ORGANIC GARDENING IN COLD CLIMATES** by Sandra Perrin are all aspects of organic vegetable gardening for short season climates as well as a list of vegetables and planting dates.

Included in **ENCYCLOPEDIA OF ORGANIC GARDENING** is a multiple page section titled "Green Manure" which lists cover crops, their individual benefits to soil, when to sow, and the application rates.

Included in the "Diseases" section of the Plant Clinic Library are compendiums of diseases specific to individual vegetables, berries, and roses.

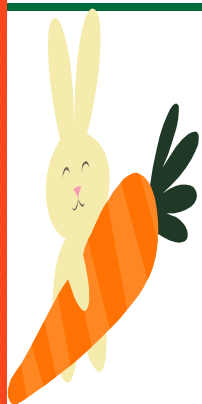


Without a doubt the tool I use the most in my garden is what I call my hard rake, as opposed to a leaf or soft rake. I have had it as long as I can remember. I don't remember where it came from. The handle is in terrible shape as I am one of those goofs who do not take good care of their tools. But I do love it and last fall I realized it was aging. Now, I always at least put it under the overhang of the house. What I love about this rake is its versatility. In the spring I use it to rake and level the walking paths in my garden (I am still experimenting with what I want in my paths). Any extra soil I rake right up into my free form raised beds. I shape and level my beds with it. I use both sides of the rake, the tooth side to loosen up soil and the flat side to level and move soil. As planting time comes along I can use the very edge to make narrow planting rows for seeds or the tooth side to make wider rows for transplants. I use it to loosen the shallow, small weeds and separate them from the dirt into a pile. As spring becomes summer and I am watering more, invariably a bit of dirt slides down the sides of my beds. I grab my trusty hard rake, rake it all back up and all is good again in my garden world. My hard rake is my best buddy throughout the summer as these tasks are repeated over and over again and on into the fall. Maybe my best buddy should have a name. All of my other best buddies have names and this hard rake is one of my best, most reliable buddies. How about Danny after my husband Dan? He is without a doubt my best buddy....I wonder how he will feel about a rake being named after him?

Tina Raiha



Each year, CMGs must complete nine hours of volunteer work and trainees sixteen (excluding plant clinic hours). There are many great opportunities with each event and ongoing program. Be sure to look at the event calendar on a regular basis and call the Chair(s) to become involved with the event or program you are interested in. Refer to the Membership Directory for their contact information. *Happy Volunteering!*



Northside School

Garden Club

Chair: Gail Burkett

WHAT IS THE BEST PART ABOUT VOLUNTEERING WITH OUR GARDEN CLUB (BESIDES HELPING KIDS)? IN ONE HOUR YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

We meet every Monday for one hour.

Through June 14th we meet from 2:40 until 3:40pm. Beginning June 21st we will meet from 1 until 2pm. Exciting things are happening in our community as a direct result of our garden club. Among other things, Kootenai school is in the planning stages of their own garden. For information on this garden, contact Teresa Kemink at 255.4076 or teresa.kemink@yahoo.com. These are awesome volunteer opportunities and your expertise is needed. Right now some volunteers and parents are very devoted to these projects, but you can be a breath of fresh air, a new and diverse voice to inspire and teach children who have a passion that is shared by you! Please sign up to volunteer. The sign-up sheet and contact information is on the bulletin board in the conference room at the Extension Office, or call Gail. We've now finished the beds and have some planting completed. For the next week and beyond we will be filling in spaces and succession planting lettuces and carrots. We will also begin planting 21 big pots. So the kids will be learning container gardening (with strawberries), companion planting (with tomatoes and marigolds), as well as history (with 3 Sisters, corn, beans and squash which is one of the ways Native Americans did companion planting).

Directions: from Hwy 200, between Hicky Rd. and Sunnyside Cutoff Rd. Find Culburn-Culver Rd. and head north about three miles. The school is on the right side.



Mickinnick Trail

Chair: Jan Griffitts

Thanks to all of you who came to the Mickinnick on April 14. I could not believe some of you worked four hours! We all had fun and hopefully learned more about native plants and each other. Eileen Atkisson, Richard Bower, Ken Haag, Angela Updike, Jan Wilfert, Jon Bair, Penny Goodman, Stan Miller, Toni North, Nancy Fontaine, Howard Fennimore, Stewart and Sue Helander did a great job. The native plants look so much happier now that we started cleaning them up. We are going to do some trailhead maintenance Wed, May 12 at 9 am. Come on out and join us. With the good weather the weeds will really be partying and we can ambush them with ease. Otherwise, we meet the first and third Wednesday May through October and work from 9 am until noon. We often meet earlier in the warmer months. You may put in as little or as many hours as you want.

If you like solitary work, you can go any day once you have learned what to do. Please call me and I will go through it with you anytime.

The trailhead is on Woodland Drive off Schweitzer Rd.



Learning Garden

Chairs: Mikey Haven, Gail Swan

Be on the lookout for an email that will set a date for a work day at this garden during May. We will plant those frost tolerant crops and set up some hoop houses.

The rotary has volunteered to install the stepping stones for the path through the garden. Isn't that great! What a wonderful group.



Home Horticulture

Chairs: Gail Swan,

Don Childress, Janae Dale

5/26: Nicole French-Hands on Spring Flower Arranging

Nicole will bring vases and flowers for each of us to make our own spring bouquet. You may bring flowers from your own garden to add to your bouquet if you wish. This "Hands On" class is a follow up to her popular holiday arrangement class held last fall. Cost of this class is \$20.00, which will cover the materials Nicole will be bringing for us to make these wonderful arrangements.

The course fee must be paid no later than 5/19 to reserve your space in this class. This class is limited to 20 people. Class will be at the Extension Office from 6pm - 8pm.



Master Gardener Garden Tour

Chair: Penny Barton

I still have spots for a couple more gardens to put on tour this year. If you have any gardens that you would like to recommend, please get in touch with me. I am NOT looking for perfect gardens, but ones that will inspire the on looker to go home and be creative themselves. The Tour will be on Sunday June 27.



Healing Garden

Chair: Valle Novak

The next garden clean up dates are May 22, and May 28. Meet at the Garden between 9 and 10 am. Rain will cancel.

Valle Novak takes care of the roses at the Garden and would like some volunteers for that. Call Valle at 265.4688.

Jay Baker also knows his way around the garden and can get you started volunteering there as well. Call Jay at 263.3026.



Native Plant Arboretum

Chair: Linda Kirchman

This year's NATIVE PLANT SALE will be May 15 from 9 am until noon at the Panhandle Special Needs Building, 1424 N. Boyer Ave, Sandpoint. 25 varieties of native plants! 400 plants to choose from. All proceeds benefit the Kinnikinnick Native Plant Society and Panhandle Special Needs.

Volunteer gardening at the Arboretum begins the first week of May. If you have ever wanted to learn more about native plants, this is the volunteer place for you!



Advanced MG

Chair: Janae Dale

Well-known Spokane Master Gardener and author Pat Munts writes frequently for the Spokesman Review and also wrote for the Washington Master Gardener magazine. Pat has agreed to come to Sandpoint and teach an Advanced Master Gardener class on Good Bugs and Bad Bugs on Friday, September 24, 1-3 pm. There is no charge for this class, but you must be a Certified Master Gardener to sign up for it. Please call or email Janae if you want to be on the list for her class.

There is still time to create at least one more Advanced Master Gardener class this year. What advanced level subject would you like covered? Please come up with an idea for a topic, and suggest an instructor if you know of one.



Priest River Community Garden

Beginning Saturday April 24, 10 am, we will meet weekly at this garden to lay it all out: Any time you can give us is greatly appreciated. Real wet conditions will cancel. Call me to confirm.



Sandpoint Farmer's Market

Chair: Janae Dale

May 8th at the market was wet and cold so there were not to many shoppers, but five dedicated and spunky Master Gardeners spent a soggy day armed with information for any takers. Good job Becky Reynolds, Robin Beams, Jan Griffiths, Kim Peterson, and Janae Dale. Thank goodness for the pop-up canopy that Mikey bought last fall! We couldn't have been there without it! This was the first time it has been used, and it works very well! It's easy to put up, and it kept our table dry. The people at the market were very excited to have us there, and gave us a good spot right on the middle of the sidewalk that cuts through the west end of the park.

Remember to sign up with Janae to work the information table: June 12, July 10, or August 14, 9am to 1pm.

We need two gardeners to staff the table. One must be a CMG. This really is a fun and enjoyable way to spend a Saturday. Hours count towards the general volunteer hour requirement.



Nursery Tour

Chair: Penny Barton

We had a beautiful day for our Nursery Tour. The following people started off at the Extension Office with much enthusiasm for the day, Penny Goodman, Stan Miller, Jenna Bertus, Toni North, Jan Griffiths, Lynn Savonen, Kim Peterson, Elizabeth Maxwell, Jon Bair and Penny Barton. We met up with Tina Raiha and Leona Fox at Priest Gardens.

Every nursery was bustling with activity and swarming with anxious customers. Priest Garden's famous fence baskets were starting to show signs of the lovely colors to come. Bench after bench at every nursery was filled to the brim with annuals in a riot of colors. This is such a delight for the gardener's eye so hungry for color by this time of year.

The world is bathed in spring green, which made the drive to Priest Gardens a joy. We took the back way down Dufurt Road to Florascape Nursery, very much enjoying the south side of the river. Manuela Eiring gave us details about her

nursery, explaining that she starts most of her annuals and perennials herself with the exception of the plants that are patented.

We then visited Ponderay Gardens and were given a full tour by Kevin the manager. He took us to the back of the property to give us the details required to make sound decisions on the type of soil needed for various projects. We ended our tour there by each of us receiving two boxes of a variety of fertilizers and soil amendments. I was so excited to pick up a box of "Bat Guano". Kevin is generously offering all Master Gardeners (including the new class) a 20% discount on any purchases. Certified mgs will show their name badges. The new class's names will be on a list kept at the nursery.

We were scheduled to tour just the three nurseries but this group was game for more so we headed to Naples to visit Moose Valley Farms. Mary the owner was ill that morning so one of her employees gave us a talk about the nursery. Although Mary was not well, once she heard we were there for a visit she just had to come and greet us with offerings of free booklets and free pansies. Moose Valley Farms is the nursery that plants the city baskets for Bonners Ferry.

We made a side trip at my home to see the gardens. I had many offers to help divide plants with the understanding that some go home with the dividers. Not a problem for me as I usually have more plants than I have a place to plant them. It was a nice little break and my husband Steve joined us in our walk about.

Not completely worn out yet we were off to visit the Flower Farm. We took a quick side trip down and around Ann Warwick's driveway to say hello and possibly take a quick look at her garden but we did not find her at home. Dennis and Cindy the owners of the Flower Farm were taking a much needed lunch break when we arrived so we did not see them. So everyone scattered to visit all the many colorful greenhouses and none were disappointed by what they saw. Cindy has a special talent for putting baskets together and they were lovely.

On our way back to the Extension Office we stopped at All Seasons Nursery. Nancy Hastings the owner was out on a delivery, sorry we missed you Nancy. This nursery is known for stocking some of the more unusual trees and plants found in the area. All in all it was a great day nursery touring. The new class saw for themselves how very different one nursery can be from the next and how each one is so special in their own way.

Thank you all so much for taking our 2010 Nursery Tour

Penny Barton



Event	Date*	Chair(s)	Notes
Home Horticulture Classes	Mar-May	Don Childress, Gail Swan, Janae Dale	Ext Office 6pm
Advanced MG Program – Plant ID Series	May 14, June 4 and 18	Janae Dale	Speaker = Jennifer Costich-Thompson Ext Office 9am Reg-istr. Closed
Healing Garden – Spring Kickoff/Clean-up Days	5/22	Valle Novak	9:00am
Northside School Garden Club's Edible School Yard	May thru September every Monday	Gail Burkett –	Northside School For times and more information see page 9 of this newsletter.
Plant Clinic Opens	4/22— 10/07	Martha Fortunati	Extension Office,
Arbor Day Event	4/30	Linda Kirchman	10:30am—Arboretum
Learning Garden – Spring Kickoff	May 21	Mikey Haven, Gail Swan	Extension Office 9am
Native Plant Society – Plant Sale	5/15	NPS Event	9-noon Panhandle Special needs building on Boyer
Advanced MG Program – Dr. Linda Chalker-Scott, author of "The Informed Gardener"	5/18	Janae Dale Tickets on Sale Now	Panhandle State Bank, downtown Sandpoint 6-8pm
Membership Meeting	6/2	Zoe Bolton	Ext Office 9am
Spring for the Garden Faire	6/5	Community Event	Healing Garden 9am to 2pm
Sandpoint Farmers Market	6/12	Janae Dale	Information Booth
BCMG Home Visit	6/12	Becky Reynolds, Ann Warwick	Jan Wilfort
Sandpoint Garden Tour	6/27	Penny Barton	
BCMG Home Visit	6/30	Becky Reynolds, Ann Warwick	Penny Barton



4 th of July Parade	7/4		
Membership Meeting	7/7	Zoe Bolton	Ext Office 9am
Sandpoint Farmers Market	7/10	Janae Dale	Information Booth
BCMG Home Visit	7/14	Becky Reynolds, Ann Warwick	Val Ripley, Lynn Pietz
Membership Meeting	8/4	Zoe Bolton	Ext Office 9am
Sandpoint Farmers Market	8/14	Janae Dale	Information Booth
BCMG Home Visit	8/14	Becky Reynolds, Ann Warwick	Ellie Lizotte, Becky Reynolds
Hope Farmers Market	8/20		BCMG Theme; 2-5:30pm
BCMG Home Visit	8/21	Becky Reynolds, Ann Warwick	Kit Cooley - Host
Bonner County Fair	August	Gail Locke	BC Fairgrounds
Yard Sale	Summer	Janae Dale	
Membership Meeting	9/1	Zoe Bolton	Ext Office 9am
BCMG Home Visit	9/18	Becky Reynolds, Ann Warwick	Barbara Moore
Home Hort Classes	Fall	Don Childress, Gail Swan, Janae Dale	Extension Office
Membership Meeting	10/6	Zoe Bolton	Ext Office 9am
Graduation/Recognition Reception	October		
Membership Meeting	11/3	Zoe Bolton	Ext Office 9am
Membership Meeting	12/1	Zoe Bolton	Ext Office 9am
Holiday Reception	December		

*Actual date(s) to be inserted

** Note date change