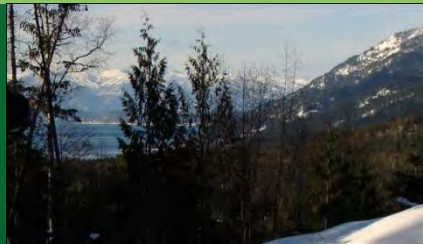


The Garden Gate



Bonner County

Master
Gardeners



May 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 name, new look, new home...

This is an exciting time!

Many members have been working diligently to finalize the updates to the association. There is much to do. The committee overseeing the updates has addressed things such as our name, logo, location, by-laws, signage and website. By this time next month everything should be finalized.

Two things that have been completed as of this date is the name and the proposed changes to the by-laws. The new name and tagline are as follows:

Bonner County Gardeners Association *Education * Community Service * Camaraderie*

The mission statement modifications retain our mission of working in the community by providing educational programs and community service, that we were formed with the purpose of supporting the U of I Master Gardener Program and that we will receive and administer funds to achieve our goals. Two statements were added – the first to promote continuing education for the benefit of its members and the second to enhance friendships and promote a spirit of good fellowship.

For those of you that reflected on suggested name changes last month, it was decided that including the word "education" in our name limits our mission of education, community service AND camaraderie so those elements were added as the tagline.

Important decisions were made much easier with the input and participation of many; Jay Baker, Penny Barton, Bob Blair, Bonnie Cavanaugh, Janae Dale, Jan Griffiths, Mikey Haven, Gail Locke, Chris McIntosh, Toni North, Judith Pagliasotti, Becky Reynolds, Gail Swan, Jan Wilfert and Ann Warwick. Thanks to all!

"Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success." ~Henry Ford



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

Mickinnick Trailhead

By Jan Griffiths

Greetings Gardeners,

Spring is here (we think) so once again it's time to take care of the Mickinnick Trailhead. The Kinnickinnick Native Plant Society and the BCMGA made an agreement to plant native plants and maintain the trailhead in 2004 in perpetuity and you have all done a fantastic job. The entire trail is also maintained by volunteers all year, who take the trash, clean the restroom, mow the grass, keep the trail clear and numerous other things that need to be done for the 7 mile round trip trail. I signed a contract with the USFS and the City to be sure it is kept in mint condition and all of us volunteers have done a wonderful job.

A special thank you to Ken Haag for planting some lupine this spring. We will be at the trailhead this Wed. May 18 at 9 am to get started if it's not pouring rain, but our regular day and more information is below.

Trailhead (by the the parking area, not the trail itself): We are there the 1st Wednesday in the month, this year beginning June 1 at 9 am until it gets hot. It is a fun time to "garden", meet members from the KNPS, exchange ideas and stories and do something worthwhile for our community, the City of Sandpoint's property, the US Forest Service trail, the trail users (they come from all over the world) and be proud of a job well done.

In the past, I have been out there on the 3rd Wed. each month and will continue that if anyone prefers that date or I will meet you out there anytime if you wish to help us. Once it gets hot, we meet at 8 or you can go earlier or any other time or day that you wish, once you know the ropes. We provide bags and some tools.

Please let me know if you are interested even if you only come one time that is appreciated by hundreds of folks. If you haven't been out there, please go out and see how native plants work in a more landscaped area and are so attractive. I am happy to meet you out there anytime. I have attached more information and directions to the Trail.

Directions: From Sandpoint follow Schweitzer Mountain Resort signs on Hwy 95 North, at the light (Conoco) turn left on Schweitzer Cutoff Rd, go ½ mile to "T" at North Boyer Rd. & church, turn right by fairgrounds & go 1 mile, turn left onto Schweitzer Mtn. Rd., pass parking lot and cross RR track, go ½ mile to Woodland Drive, turn left, just ½ mile to trailhead on right. Restroom is open all year.



2011 Regional Master Gardener Convention

Sponsored by the U of I and BYU
Wednesday June 29, 2011
Location: BYU - Idaho
Thomas E. Ricks Gardens
525 South Center St., Rexburg, ID 83440

There is a one day conference being held in Rexburg, Idaho that is open to all Master Gardeners or other interested individuals. There is a long list of educational sessions being offered. Let Zoe know if you are interested in attending and she will send you the full brochure. Zoe can be reached at zbolton@gmail.com or 264-1210.

May Gardening to Do List

From Backyard Gardeners located at:
http://www.backyardgardener.com/Gardening_Month/zonemay01.html



Zone 3

- Set out cool-season annuals
- Set out seedlings of warm-season annuals
- Set out summer-flowering bulbs
- Plant fall-blooming bulbs
- Plant balled-and-burlapped, container, and bare-root fruit trees
- Plant cool-season lawns and permanent ground covers
- Feed and aerate cool-season lawns and loosen thatch
- Plant bare-root perennial vegetables
- Plant seedlings of cool-weather vegetables
- Sow seeds for frost-tolerant perennials
- Divide and replant summer- and fall-blooming perennials
- Divide and replant spring-blooming perennials after bloom
- Plant bare-root and container roses
- Uncover roses for spring and apply dormant spray
- Plant balled-and-burlapped, container, and bare-root trees, shrubs, and vines
- Apply dormant spray to trees, shrubs, and vines before buds swell
- Plant tender shrubs and vines

- Plant summer-blooming shrubs and vines
- Plant frost-tolerant trees
- Plant needle-leaved evergreens

Zone 4

- Set out cool-season annuals
- Set out seedlings of warm-season annuals
- Set out summer-flowering bulbs
- Plant fall-blooming bulbs
- Divide and replant crowded winter- and spring-blooming bulbs after leaves yellow
- Plant balled-and-burlapped, container, and bare-root fruit trees
- Apply dormant spray to fruit trees before buds swell
- Spray apples, peaches, and pears that have been affected with canker problems
- Plant permanent ground covers
- Plant, feed, and aerate cool-season lawns and loosen thatch
- Plant bare-root perennial vegetables
- Plant seedlings of cool-weather vegetables
- Set out herbs
- Sow fast-growing warm-season vegetables
- Sow seeds for frost-tolerant perennials
- Divide and replant spring-blooming perennials after bloom
- Plant container roses
- Plant balled-and-burlapped, container, and bare-root trees, shrubs and vines
- Apply dormant spray to shrubs and vines
- Plant tender shrubs and vines
- Plant summer-blooming shrubs and vines
- Plant frost-tolerant trees

- Plant needle-leafed evergreens

Zone 5

- Set out cool-season annuals
- Set out seedlings of warm-season annuals
- Set out summer-flowering bulbs
- Plant fall-blooming bulbs
- Divide and replant crowded winter- and spring-blooming bulbs after leaves yellow
- Plant balled-and-burlapped, container, and bare-root fruit trees
- Apply dormant spray to fruit trees before buds swell
- Spray apples, peaches, and pears that have been affected with canker problems
- Plant permanent ground covers
- Plant cool- and warm-season lawns
- Plant bare-root perennial vegetables
- Plant seedlings of cool-weather vegetables
- Sow fast-growing warm-season vegetables
- Sow seeds for frost-tolerant perennials
- Sow seeds for tender perennials
- Divide and replant spring-blooming perennials after bloom
- Plant container roses
- Plant balled-and-burlapped, container, and bare-root trees, shrubs, and vines
- Apply dormant spray to shrubs and vines
- Plant tender shrubs and vines
- Plant summer-blooming shrubs and vines
- Plant balled-and-burlapped trees
- Plant trees in containers
- Plant frost-tolerant trees
- Plant needle-leafed evergreens

Emeritus Members

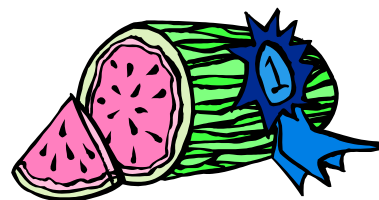
By Zoe Bolton

I wanted to take a moment to recognize our Emeritus Members; Fields Cobb, Loie DeLa Vergne, Valle Novak, Bill Tedesco and Lois Wythe. These are the individuals (along with others) who were instrumental in providing guidance and leadership to the formation of the Association. They saw early on a need to bring cohesiveness to the efforts of a group of individuals who wanted to expand the horticultural educational and community service opportunities. They put structure around the process by developing the organization with its by-laws and then they carried on the oversight to insure success over time. I can't thank them enough for their vision and the work they did to catapult us to where we are today. I have recently enjoyed communications with both Fields Cobb and Bill Tedesco who have given me insight on the founding of the organization.



Bonner County Fair Chair!

Good news, the County Fair is just three short months away and you still have time to sign up as the Chair for this event. If you prefer, you can sign up as Co-chair and another Co-chair will be selected. The theme this year is "Sew It, Grow It, Show It". Lots of fun things can be done with that theme. Contact Zoe at zbolton@gmail.com or 264-1210 to express your desire to run with this!



June in the Healing Garden

In the Bonner County Daily Bee Valle Novak announced a bevy of events happening in June at the Bonner County Hospital Healing Garden located at the Brown House (next door to the hospital):

Sunday June 5th – from 10am – Antique Quilt Show; also hanging baskets, bedding plants (pan-sies), antiques and Rose Seminar

Friday June 10th – from 9am – Annual plant sale

Friday June 17th – Chicken Coop Crawl; a tour to impart information on raising chickens in the city limits

Sunday June 26th, 6-8pm – Moonlight and Roses; music pianist Bill Reid and vocalist Maria Larson, a special sale of roses

Volunteer Opportunities

One of the things we gardeners like to do is get our hands in the dirt. Why not do what we enjoy and at the same time provide a benefit to the local community? There are numerous opportunities to volunteer towards beautification of our surroundings and to bring joy to the people that enjoy them.



Healing Garden at the Bonner County Hospital – work party on Saturday May 21st from 9am to 1pm – bring a rake and gloves – I am sure Valle Novak will be there and will be glad to show you where to begin.

Mickinnick Trailhead – This is a combined project between the Native Plant Society and the Association. It is headed by Jan Griffiths. The kickoff work party is Wednesday May 18th at 9am with a follow-up on Wednesday June 1st. Please see Jan's article in this newsletter for the details.

Lois Wythe Volunteer Day – a work party for one of the founders of the Association and a champion for all things gardening in northern Idaho. Some of your fellow gardeners will be meeting on May 31st from 10am to 1pm to do some spring cleaning in the garden of Lois Wythe, 2901 Lower Pack River Road. Contact Linda Kirchmann if you have questions at 255-5727.

School Garden Gnomes

Some of our members continue to assist in local school gardens. This has been both rewarding and a lot of fun for those who enjoy the excitement expressed by the kids as their gardens grow. Everyone is encouraged to participate. Contact the following individuals to see how you can help:

Northside School – Gail Burkett at grousecreekgardens@gmail.com or 946-9191. Alternately you can show up for the meetings held on Monday's at 2pm at the school yard.

Kootenai Elementary – Janae Dale at dalejanae@gmail.com or 265-2205. Alternately you can show up for the meetings held on Thursday at 2:40pm at the school yard.

Charter School – Jay Baker at Christina.jane.baker@gmail.com or 263-3026.



YARD AND GARDEN SALE

Wait! Don't throw that junk away! Don't compost those flowers and plants! Save it all for our extra big, extra grand Yard and Garden sale on Friday, August 26. We are going to have lots more expenses this year, so we need all the help we can get! Make this a really great, successful sale with wonderful treasures. We will be collecting the items starting mid-August.



BCMGA – 2011 Event Calendar

Event	Date*	Chair(s)	Notes
Healing Garden Clean-up Work Party	Sat 5/21	Valle Novak	Healing Garden next to the Brown House at Bonner County Hospital; 9am to 1pm
Lois Wythe Clean-up Volunteer Day	Tues 5/31	Linda Kirchmann, bkpkr@linda@gotsky.com , 255-5727	Lois Wythe's home; 2901 Lower Pack River Road; 10am – 1pm
Membership Meeting	Wed 6/1	Zoe Bolton, zbolton@gmail.com or 264-1210	Extension Office 9am
Mickinnick Trailhead Clean-up	Wed 6/1	Jan Griffiths; jan@looptravel.com , 290-1973	Mickinnick Trailhead; 9am
Healing Garden Plant Sale	Fri 6/10		Healing Garden next to the Brown House at Bonner County Hospital; 9am
The Friends of Manito Park Plant Sale	Sat 6/11		Just east of Gaiser Conservatory in Manito Park, 10am; www.friendsofmanito.org
Cedar Mountain Perennials Open House	Fri & Sat 6/10 & 6/11		Bob Wilson's nursery; 7875 E. Highway 54, Athol, ID – one mile east of Hwy 95 on Hwy 54; 9am – 3pm; www.cedarmountainperennials.com
BCGA Potluck	Sat 6/18	Becky Reynolds, rplace@directv.net , 264-3214 or Ann Warwick, w.redguy@frontier.com or 691-1900	Potluck at Mikey Haven's home at 230 Southview Lane Sandpoint, ID 83864; 12pm – 2pm
Garden Tour	Sun 7/3	Penny Barton, one-cent@gotsky.com or 265-9733	
Membership Meeting	Wed 7/6	Zoe Bolton, zbolton@gmail.com or 264-1210	Extension Office 9am
BCGA Potluck	Sat 7/30	Becky Reynolds, rplace@directv.net , 264-3214 or Ann Warwick, w.redguy@frontier.com or 691-1900	Potluck at Toni North's; address to be provided; noon
BCGA Yard Sale	Fri 8/26	Janae Dale; dalejanae@gmail.com , 265-2205	



BCMGA Membership Meeting, May 4, 2011

Present: Zoe Bolton, Toni North, Penny Barton, Janae Dale, Gail Swan, Linda Kirchmann, Howie Fennimore, Ellie Lizotte, Becky Reynolds, Ann Warwick, Lynn Pietz.

The meeting was called to order at 9:11 a.m. by President Zoe Bolton.

Treasurer's Report: \$4,617.14

Committee Reports:

Continuing Education class, Janae Dale, chair: Work is being done toward creating a class about GMOs (Genetically Modified Organisms). It is hoped that there can be two presentations, one for the Charter School and one for our organization.

Continued efforts are being given to an ergonomic gardening class and a presentation from someone at the hospital on this topic.

Janae also proposed a field trip to a hydroponic greenhouse for tomatoes in Sagle. This greenhouse sells wholesale to local restaurants.

Home Hort Classes, Don Childress, chair: Gail Swan discussed the success of the recent irrigation class, how it was so well received, and how the participants were asking for further information for continued learning.

Gail asked for ideas for fall classes; they will start again in mid-September. Ann suggested that we attempt again to have a class on lighting for growing plants indoors. Janae commented that once we move to the Events Center for our classes, growing numbers of people will not be a problem; there will be plenty of room.

Gail reported a comment from a participant that "the meetings never start on time." A discussion followed, including that people continue coming in after the 6:00 time, and it is difficult to start something with such movement and noise in the room. Zoe suggested that the meeting begin at 6:00 with updates on classes, giving any information needed to give the group. Then the lecture could begin at 6:10 or so, and people would have the feeling that the meeting had started at 6:00 without getting into the meat of the lecture.

There has been a request by a lecturer, Jennifer Costich-Thompson, that because of the removal of BCMGA materials from the plant clinic, half of the

proceeds from her presentation should be donated to the Extension Service. A discussion followed. The decision of the group was to give her a remuneration of 50% of the net proceeds of the Seed Saving class per her request. The check will be made out to her.

2011 Community Project, School Gardens, Mikey Havens: Every Monday at 2:00 p.m. students at North Side School work in the garden with Gail Burkett; they have planted strawberries so far. At Kootenai School where Linda and Janae volunteer, their work time is on Thursdays at 2:40. There are 25 – 30 students, and a P.E. teacher at that school part of the week works with them. Jay Baker volunteers at the Charter School. It was suggested that we take a field trip to all three schools sometime in the summer.

Home and Garden Show, Ellie Lizotte and Ann Warwick: There was a round of applause for Ellie and Ann for an awesome display booth, as well as for those who gave classes. It was suggested that we purchase a speaker system, because it was difficult to hear with all of the noise in the building. Also, Ellie and Ann should fill out a sheet for the "bible" telling what they did, for future use.

Pot Lucks, Ann Warwick and Becky Reynolds: They are hoping for more people to sign up to host our group this summer at their homes. Also, people are willing to host a potluck, but cannot commit just yet to a particular week. Becky and Ann want to get these onto the calendar as soon as possible.

Garden Tour, Penny Barton: She needs to find one more garden to complete the tour. The jail garden will be on the tour this year.

Field Trip to the SPOKANE GARDEN EXPO May 14, Lynn Pietz, coordinator: We will carpool to this event, meeting at the Extension Office parking lot at 8:00 a.m. The Expo is at the Spokane Community College, 9:00 to 5:00 p.m.

The Sandpoint Garden Club is also planning a carpool to this event. We hope that they will join in the carpool with us. It was also suggested that we try to meet at the Food Court at 10:30 a.m., so we can spend time touring with our group.

Fair Booth: We continue to need a coordinator for this project, occurring in late August.

Old Business:

Name Change Decision: Our new name will be: BONNER COUNTY GARDENERS ASSOCIATION Education, "Community service", Camaraderie

Zoe said that we must bring our status to closure June 1, 2011, and there should be a committee meeting in mid-May to address this.

Physical Address: Zoe has met with the County Commissioners and told them we are looking for a new home, asking them for an idea as to what would be available; she has received no answer from them. The committee for finding office space has reported that one at the Bonner Business Center near the airport looks good. The charge for this space is \$131, but \$142 for one with a window. The group agreed that we should have a window for our office. Gail asked if we should keep our P.O. box even though we will have an address. The group agreed that we should keep the box for now.

By-laws: Zoe has stated that so far, the vote on changing the bylaws is 100% for the proposal. We can email our answers to her within 30 days of the receipt of the bylaws in the mail.

Event Calendar Updates: Ann reported that the annual Native Plant Sale will be at Panhandle Special Needs, 9 – 2 this Saturday, May 7; the Farmers Market will also begin May 7; the Historical Society Plant Sale will be May 7, by the museum.

It was suggested that our group re-establish contact with The Healing Garden.

Lois Wythe, the “mother of our association”, will have a volunteer day May 31, 10 – noon at her place. She will serve lunch.

New Business:

Website Updates: Kit Cooley will handle this.

Press Release: We will be working on a press release as to what has changed in our organization and we should notify any guest speakers as well as The Chamber of Commerce and the Farmers Market.

2011 Projects – Farmers Markets: Janae stated that we will need handouts and bulletins printed again for our booth at the Sandpoint Farmers Market. We can also give out websites and addresses for the public to contact; a printed card would work well with this.

Purchases for discussion:

Signage: Penny suggested that we have new signage made for the Garden Tour. There are places in Sandpoint and Spokane that we could approach to make these. Zoe asked if the group would be interested in “PAY PAL” for tickets to this event. The group agreed that this would be good.

Penny also suggested that we get a new banner with our new logo on it. We already have a vinyl

cloth; discussion followed; it was mentioned that it would be good to have the banner match our name badges.

Office Supplies: Mikey stated that Staples will honor our 501(c)(3). They have no money now, but in June they will, and could offer us a reduced rate for copying, which she said is our biggest expense. Mikey will meet with UPS on Friday to discuss the copying prices they could give us.

She suggested that we have a sponsor or donation board, where we can mount the business's name, and/or logo. Ann suggested that we also list on the board, those with their names on stones in the Learning Garden.

Name Badges: We will be looking for a new design for our name badges. It was suggested that we look at other colors as well.

PA System: Mikey will continue to look for a donation that would include a PA system.

Meetings: There will be a meeting May 16, at 10:00 a.m. at the Bonner Business Center with Kit Cooley, Gail Locke, and Judith Pagliosotti to create a new logo for our group.

There will also be a meeting May 12 with Mike Bauer; Michael Howell, UI Extension Northern District Director; Charlotte Eberlein, Associate Vice President for University Extension; Tonie Fitzgerald, Master Gardener Coordinator with Washington State University Extension; and any interested Master Gardeners. We encourage people to come to this meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

