

The Garden Gate



September 2004

Events at a Glance:

October 4: BCMGA Board of Directors Meeting (all welcome)

9:00 am at Creekside Medical Center

October 7: Planting for Wildlife discovery Center

October 15: 2004 Graduation and all member potluck

Salutations



by Jan Rumore

Greetings gardeners!

And did you get out to the Bonner County Fair?

Penny Barton and Adrienne Nelson masterminded our booth this year, and what a beauty it was! Our thank-yous and congratulations to these booth artist as they brought us a blue ribbon, a Reserve Champion award, and a plaque for top Agriculture Booth. Wow!!

Following a brief late summer lull in the action, the Board is gearing up for our graduation celebration on Friday, Oct. 15th at 6:00 pm. Please mark your calendar and join us for a potluck party at the Brown House.

As we welcome our new M.G.s, we will begin the process of gathering volunteers for the 2005 M.G. board. Will you serve? Please call Bob at the Extension Office --- 263-8511 or Barb Moore at 263-7236 --- and let us know if you're interested. We'd love to have you come aboard.



Plant Clinic

September is the last month of the Plant Clinic for 2004. Plant clinic time is necessary for re-certification: 9 hours for continuing members and 24 hours for the 2004 class to attain certification. There are many shifts needing volunteers - please call Patti at (263-8511) to schedule.

Calling All Members (past present and future)

2004 is too quickly waning and it is time to think of 2005 - arrrrgh! But think ahead we must. The Board of Directors wishes to Thank all of you for contributing to the success this season in our public outreach, community service and Association activities. Now it is time to look to the new year and we need YOU. Please be thinking of new Board members and officers - we need your input, talent and ideas. If you, or someone you know, would like to serve in this capacity, please let Bob (263-8511) or Barb Moore (263-7236) know. Elections will be held in the fall so let us hear from you.



From our Garden Fairy: Penny Barton

The Moo Luau

Adrienne Nelson and I (Penny Barton) decorated the fair booth this year. We had a couple of planning meetings prior too that made the booth come together easily. The fair theme, odd as it was, did make for a colorful and fun booth to decorate. Jan Rumore supplied the finishing touches with tiki torches, pineapples, coconuts and the now famous Holstein pink flamingo's which included pink utters on the girls and yes indeed a male Holstein pink flamingo was represented as well. I leave that to your imagination if you did not have the pleasure of seeing the booth in person.

We were awarded the first place ribbon of a Blue rosette, followed by the Reserve Champion rosette for the second place booth overall. We were also awarded a plaque for the Top Agriculture Booth for 2004 and given a check for \$10.00. To say the least we were a happy bunch.

I would like to thank all of the MG's who came through for me and worked the three hour shifts in our fun booth. Hope you enjoyed yourselves. Thank you so much.



Kudos to June Young and Barb Moore for helping me weed prior to the Garden Tour. Every weed you pulled were weeds I did not have to do myself. You provided the edge I so needed to prepare for the tour. You are my garden fairy people and you are appreciated.

Kudos to Pat Moss and Barb Moore for helping to divide and replant iris's. What a fun day I had with the two of you. It's the best way to get to know a person, digging in the soil and getting dirty (Pat you were a dirty smurf for sure). I love adding to my list of garden fairy people, you are both highly prized. *Penny*



Waterlife Discovery Center Update

by Ann Wimberely

Master Gardeners are working with the Landscape Committee of the Native Plant Society on the landscape plan for the Waterlife Discovery Center. Planting will be on October 7. Please come and help us. Contact me at (264-5397 or afwim@yahoo.com) for information.

The list of needed plants has been formulated:

Dwarf mountain ash, Native Sumac, Snowberry, Ocean spray (one inch or less diameter), Woods rose, Ninebark, Kinnikinnick, Oregon grape, Red ozier dogwood, Camas, Pink nodding onion, Indian paintbrush, Native violets, Pearly everlasting, Native coneflower, Native columbine, Native penstemon, Native yarrow, Native flax, Native lupine, Native blanket flower, Showy fleabane daisy,

Please call Parise Whitley (683-6048) before you dig. Be sure to water well and dig an adequate root ball. Seeds of the above listed plants can also be used. Donations of soil amendments would be appreciated also.

Hello to all Master Gardeners!



I want to say a big "Thank You" for the garden raffle- I was the unexpected winner. It was really a surprise when Michelle called to let me know that my name had been drawn. She told me I had three choices: vegetable, herb or perennial, and the perennial was my choice.

Since I was leaving to go to the Midwest a few days later, Michelle said to just let her know when I would like to have the garden done and she would "baby-sit" the plants until I was ready. When I got back in town, and caught my breath, she called to make an appointment to do the garden.

She brought out lots of soil amendments and 27 wonderful plants. Its a nice variety, including 3 colors of day lilies, 2 different kinds of coral bells, some delphiniums, lupine, daisies, scotch moss, a beautiful grass that changes from green to red at the end of the season and many more I can't remember at the moment. I didn't have a 50 foot soaker hose for the garden, so Michelle insisted on bringing me one.

The garden looks wonderful and is doing very well. I'm thrilled!

Thank You to all of you and especially to Michelle; she put the garden in- wouldn't even let me help- and did a great job! Thanks So Much!

Gail Swan-MG 2004



Housekeeping with Herbs

Michelle Reichelt (source: Susan Witting Albert)

- ✦ Renew and polish your wood furniture with a soft cloth moistened with a mixture of 3 tablespoons linseed oil, 3 tablespoons malt vinegar, and ½ teaspoon lavender oil
- ✦ Chase moths away by hanging herbal sachets in your closet. Fill sachets (or muslin bags) with equal parts dried rosemary or southernwood leaves and ground pyrethrum flowers. A fragrant alternative: 1 cup lavender flowers, 1 cup Artemisia, ½ cup rosemary, ½ cup pennyroyal, 1 ½ tablespoons powdered cloves.
- ✦ To freshen the house, place a few drops of bee balm orange oil in a pot of simmering water.
- ✦ Mice don't like mint, so stems of the herb (or drops of mint oil on a cotton ball) will send them packing. Bay leaves banish weevils from flour, cornmeal and stored grains.
- ✦ Full-strength white vinegar, mixed with a few drops of lemon essential oil, removes mildew from bathroom fixtures and shower curtains.
- ✦ I have tried the herbal polish, mice deterrent in our garbage cans and the mildew remover and have had great success. If you haven't read Susan's books, you are missing a wonderful series of mysteries. *M*