



## Bonner County Gardeners Association Education ~ Community Service ~ Camaraderie

August 2013

*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](mailto:lauriebrown54@gmail.com) When emailing, please put "MG" in the subject line.*

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### President's Message

Gladioli are August's birth flower. Named for the shape of their leaves, gladioli symbolize strength of character, moral integrity, honesty, generosity, warm-heartedness and enthusiasm. The Latin word "gladius" means sword. Sometimes gladioli are called Sword lilies.

Gladioli are related to the Iris family and encompass approximately 260 species. 250 of the species are native to sub-Saharan Africa. The wild unmodified species of Gladioli are modest in size and number of blooms. The spectacular and beautiful flower spikes we enjoy in our gardens and in bouquets are the products of centuries of hybridization.

Kingdom: Plantae  
Order: Asparagales  
Family: Iridaceae  
Genus: Gladiolus  
Species: Approximately 260 species

Gladioli are half-hardy in temperate climates. They grow from rounded, symmetrical corms, which are enveloped in several layers of brownish, fibrous tunics. They are easy to grow in full sun and wow onlookers with their spectacular long-lasting stalks of large showy flowers.

Gladioli play a prominent role in a Roman story. Two young hale Thracian slaves, Theresus and Sevtus, were chosen to attend the gladiator school in Rome by the Roman Commander Barbagalo. They trained hard to bring honor to their enslaved people.

One evening, after training for the day was over, they encountered two beautiful Roman maidens. These maidens were Barbagalo's daughters Octavia and Leocardia. Theresus and Octavia fell in love as did Sevtus and Leocardia. For a long time the two couples were able to secretly meet without Commander Barbagalo finding out.

When Barbagalo found out he proclaimed that at the next gladiator contest Theresus and Sevtus would confront each other and the victor would gain his freedom. Barbagalo secretly hoped the two highly trained youth would fight to the death, thus solving his problem concerning his daughters.

At first it seemed as though he had calculated well. Octavia urged her Theresus to train hard so he should gain the upper hand, while Leocardia spurred on Sevtus. The two sisters were enemies now; each fought for her own happiness, and the happiness of the one was the sorrow of the other. As to the young men – day after day their swords clanged ominously.

The day of combat arrived. The amphitheater was filled to capacity and in the front row sat Barbagalo and his two daughters. The two gladiators stepped into the arena in their Thracian attire; swords held high. Octavia threw encouraging looks at Theresus, Leocardia waved to Sevtus and, pointing at Theresus, she turned her wrist, thumb downwards. The gladiators struck the initial attitude, swords

raised. Then to the surprise of the crowd the two friends refused to fight each other. "Death to them!" the mob shrieked. Octavia rose to her feet, crying, "Theresus, you must fight for our love!" Leocardia was calling to Sevtus with the same message.

Theresus flourished his sword, and silence fell. Head proudly raised he "Your fighting forces are superior to ours, and you made us your slaves, but never will you make villains of us! You can kill us, but you cannot defeat our spirits!" With these words he thrust his sword into the ground, and Sevtus did the same.

The merciless mob chanted, "Death! Death! We demand death!" Barbagalo signaled to his men, and the two friends were struck down by Roman soldiers. As their bodies were being carried from the arena, their two swords that were stuck in the ground filled with green sap and formed flower buds that burst into full bloom. These amazing plants were named Gladioli.

Enjoy this last full month of summer, possibly with a bouquet of gladioli. Jan



## August Gardening To Do List

From Backyard Gardeners located at:  
[http://www.backyardgardener.com/Gardening\\_Montzonesep01.html](http://www.backyardgardener.com/Gardening_Montzonesep01.html)



### **Zone 3**

- Sow seeds of wildflowers, spring-blooming annuals and fall veggies
- Lift, divide and transplant perennials
- Plant hardy Oriental and Asiatic lilies
- Aerate, dethatch and fertilize the lawn
- Start moving houseplants and other tender plants indoors to acclimatize
- Pick herbs to dry for winter soups, stews and baking
- Order trees and shrubs now for fall planting
- Plan ahead for an extended harvest by building or buying a cold frame
- Blanch tomatoes for freezing and canning by boiling them for just a few minutes and slipping off the skins
- Order spring bulbs to force indoors

### **Zone 4**

- Lift, divide and transplant perennials
- Order peonies for fall planting
- Divide and transplant bearded iris
- Start moving houseplants and other tender plants indoors to acclimatize
- Enjoy a case of the late summer "blues" with a palette of aconitum, caryopteris, fall asters and reblooming iris in your planting schemes

- Blanch tomatoes for freezing and canning by boiling them for just a few minutes and slipping off the skins
- Plant fall-blooming crocus and colchicum for late-season flowering
- Prepare beds for planting bulbs and divide any existing bulbs that might be overcrowded
- Build up weather resistance of trees and shrubs with deep waterings now throughout the fall
- Look forward to something different next spring: try alliums in your bulb garden

### **Zone 5**

- Sow seeds of fall vegetables
- Order peonies for fall planting
- Divide and transplant bearded iris
- Plan perennial beds for fall and winter color with ornamental grasses, fall-blooming bulbs and hardy heaths and heathers
- Harvest vegetables continuously to stretch their season
- Sprinkle compost starter to speed up composting for fall soil building
- Prune summer-blooming shrubs (hydrangea, clethra, caryopteris) after flowers finish
- Plant garlic now for spring harvests
- Look forward to something different next spring: try alliums in your bulb garden
- Enjoy a case of the late summer "blues" with a palette of hardy ageratum, caryopteris, fall asters and reblooming iris in your planting schemes



## **BCGA Membership Meeting August 7, 2013**

Present: Penny Barton, Jenna Bertus, Jan Wilfert, Ann Warwick, Butterfly Burke, Bob Blair, Janae Dale, Marjory Clements, Kathryn Chase and Gail Swan

Meeting was called to order @ 9:05 am by President, Jan Wilfert

July minutes were amended with a correction in the treasurers report and then approved.

Treasurer's report: \$3263.31 (current balance)

### **New Business**

Gail Swan will order more of BCGA greeting cards from Mt Sky Printing

Janae Dale will order business cards-they have loads of information; they will be available to hand out at the farmers market, the fair, the Home & Garden Show, etc

Ann Warwick will be purchasing 3 new 6 ft folding tables since ours are very old & becoming difficult to use; they are on sale at Home Depot for \$42/each; they are used for the pot lucks, the garden tour, the garage sale & much more

Jan Wilfert led a discussion regarding membership meeting voting guidelines; a motion was made and seconded to keep the guidelines as they are according to the by-laws

The home hort committee met to put a fall series class line up together, with classes to begin in September; more info will follow as progress is made

### **Old Business**

#### **Bonner County Fair:**

The theme is "Dr Seuss is on the Loose"; Set up will start at 9am on Monday, August 19<sup>th</sup>; the fair will be open from Tuesday, Aug 20 to Saturday, Aug 24; tear down will happen on Sat after the fair closes; any unclaimed items will be taken to the BCGA office for retrieval

#### **Yard Sale:**

The yard sale will be held on Friday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> at the old high school on Boyer; pricing of items will take place @ Bob Blairs – 330 E Bronx Rd-- on Wed & Thurs @ 1pm

#### **Library books:**



Jenna Bertus purchased 2 books for our library and they are in:  
“What’s Wrong With My Plant (and how do I fix it)”  
and “Attracting Native Pollinators”

### **Garden Tour**

Penny Barton secured 6 gardens for the tour this year & the tour was a huge success with 214 tickets sold; this year was our most attended tour; many thanks to Penny & all her dedication to the tour!

### **Pot Lucks**

Christine Winslow hosted a pot luck at her garden on June 22 at 11:30. a great time was had by all who attended her lovely place; Sandra Gevurtz hosted one on July 20 with another good time there;  
Friday, August 9<sup>th</sup> at noon-Barb Pressler; Saturday, August 17<sup>th</sup> @ 4:30-Jenna Bertus; bring your tomatoes for a tomato tasting; Thursday, Sept 5<sup>th</sup>-11am-Ann Warwick; and Sat, Sept 14 @ noon at Marion Newsom-Banks; directions will follow

### **Office Lease Update**

Bob Blair has done some investigating regarding our office situation & has come away with lots of confusion; but according to the office manager, we should be OK until next year; in the meantime, we probably need to be searching for a new place to call home since the business center was supposed to be temporary; hopefully we will find a place that is as user friendly as this one

### **T-Shirt Logos**

Bob Blair has met with “Meyers T’s” at the mall; a motion was made and seconded to purchase the minimum order of our logos, 30 large & 30 small, paid for by the association; they will be available at the t-shirt shop to put on most any item you want, such as a t-shirt, button shirt, hat, etc; you just need to pay for the item

### **School Gardens**

Janae Dale & Gray Henderson have been checking on the school gardens periodically throughout the summer to make sure that the beds are getting watered & that all is still good

### **Farmers Market:**

If you would like to have a presence at the farmers market, contact Sandra Gevurtz or Vicky Johnson

to sign up for any available days; a good way to put in volunteer hours. There has been a good amount of interest from the public regarding the booth there. The dates are the 1<sup>st</sup> Sat and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed

Meeting adj @ 11:10



2013 Event Chairs and Contact Info			
Event	Date*	Chair(s)	Contact
Membership Meetings	Ongoing	Jan Wilfert	263-7405 or <a href="mailto:rj.wilfert2@frontier.com">rj.wilfert2@frontier.com</a>
Continuing Education Program	Ongoing		
Membership Committee	Ongoing	Zoe Bolton	264-1210 or <a href="mailto:zbolton@gmail.com">zbolton@gmail.com</a>
Home Horticulture Series	Spring & Fall	Don Childress, Janae Dale and Gail Swan	Don – 255-7928 or <a href="mailto:dwc1rsc@televar.com">dwc1rsc@televar.com</a> ; Janae – 265-2205 or <a href="mailto:dalejanae@gmail.com">dalejanae@gmail.com</a> , or Gail H 263-0180 C 290-4126 or <a href="mailto:gswan8274@hotmail.com">gswan8274@hotmail.com</a>
Home and Garden Show	April	Ellie Lizotte and Ann Warwick	Ellie – 264-5462 or <a href="mailto:hopeellie@aol.com">hopeellie@aol.com</a> ; Ann – H 263-2844 C 691-1900 or <a href="mailto:w.redguy@frontier.com">w.redguy@frontier.com</a>
School Gardens	Spring/Summer	Janae Dale	265-2205 or <a href="mailto:dalejanae@gmail.com">dalejanae@gmail.com</a>
Farmers Market	Spring/Summer	Sandra Gevurtz	(509)922-2359 or <a href="mailto:sangevurtz@gmail.com">sangevurtz@gmail.com</a>
Mickinnick Trailhead – meet the 1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed of each month at 9am at the trailhead	Spring/Summer	Jan Griffiths	<a href="http://jan@looptravel.com">jan@looptravel.com</a> , 290-1973
Healing Garden	Spring/Summer	Valle Novak	
Potlucks	Summer	Becky Reynolds, Ann Warwick	Becky - <a href="mailto:rplace@directv.net">rplace@directv.net</a> or 264-3214; Ann – H 263-2844 C 691-1900 or <a href="mailto:w.redguy@frontier.com">w.redguy@frontier.com</a>
Garden Tour	July	Penny Barton	H 265-9733; C 610-1493 or <a href="mailto:miatamaven@gmail.com">miatamaven@gmail.com</a>
Bonner County Fair	Aug	Lynn Pietz and Jon Bair	<a href="mailto:lynnpietz@hotmail.com">lynnpietz@hotmail.com</a> or 265-3563

