

The Garden Gate

May, 2007



Edited by Gail Swan (gswan8274@hotmail.com)

The next Membership Meeting will be held June 5th @ 9am @ the extension office. All Master Gardeners are welcome & encouraged to attend all meetings. Input from everyone is greatly needed & appreciated by the Membership Board. Also, please feel free to contact any of the officers and/or board members if you wish to share an idea & are unable to attend the meetings. Phone #'s & e-mail addresses are available in the membership roster.

Board Officers for 2007:

President: Penny Barton
Vice Pres: Joyce Lane
Sec: Gail Swan
Treas: Janae Dale

Board Members:

Ann Warwick
Ann Keiser
Shirley Barksdale
Linda Kirchmann
Chris McIntosh

2007 Directory

The new directory is now available for pick-up @ the extension office. It can be mailed upon request for anyone unable to get to the office.

There are some changes/corrections/additions to be made as follows:

Chris McIntosh (06)
861 Johnny Long Road
Sandpoint, Idaho, 83864

dcradish@povn.com
255-2793

Our sincerest apologies to Chris for leaving her out of the directory.

Brenda Fletcher
Pat Moss

bfletcher@norlight.org
moss@gotsky.com

Penny Barton
Mary Bruhjell
Ann Keiser

one-cent@gotsky.com
mary.b@wildblue.net
cell phone: 610-4224

Linda Kirchmann

phone # correction: 255-5727

Deanna Renova is now Deanna Vick---Congratulations!

If there are any other additions or corrections to be made, please let Patti Speelmon know @ the office & they will be included in the next issue of the "Garden Gate".

Home Horticulture Classes:

Chris McIntosh has done loads of work getting advertising lined up for all MG projects, not the least being the Home Hort series for spring & fall. She has contacted many publications in the area & made info flyers to post in stores & garden centers for 6th spring classes. Kristin-at the extension office-will also put the list of classes on the U.I. website. The class evaluation form now has the added question "How did you hear about this class?" We are hoping for a great turnout for all the classes-just give the office a call if you haven't signed up yet.



2007 Home Horticulture Workshop Series

Presented and coordinated by
Bonner County Master Gardeners

OPEN TO ANYONE INTERESTED IN GARDENING!

UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, ALL PROGRAMS WILL BE HELD FROM 6PM—8PM
AT THE BONNER COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE
4205 N. Boyer Sandpoint, Idaho

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| April 4 | <i>"Gardening Pests and Diseases"</i>
Presented by Bob Wilson, University of Idaho/Horticulture
*Common landscape insect pests and diseases will be covered along with an integrated management strategy for each. |
| April 18 | <i>"Deer Proofing Your Garden"</i>
Presented by Master Gardener Janae Dale
* Practical ideas you can use to give your garden some protection from our local deer. |
| May 2 | <i>"Roses and Miniature Roses for North Idaho"</i>
Presented by Master Gardener Emeritus Valle Novak & Master Gardener Laurie Brown
*You won't want to miss this class - learn from the experts about growing roses! |
| May 16 | <i>"Growing Berries in North Idaho"</i>
Presented by retired raspberry grower Joe Runk
*Learn about growing berries like raspberries, blueberries, strawberries and some of the blackberry varieties. |
| May 30 | <i>"Batty about Bats"</i>
Presented by bat experts Bonnie and Jay Price
*Learn the beneficial facts plus how to build a bat house and how to attract these creatures to your yard. |
| June 13 | <i>"Perennial Gardens"</i>
Presented by Master Gardener Loie de la Vergne at her home, 5pm—7pm. You will get directions to her garden upon registration.
*Spend a couple of hours with one of Sandpoint's best authorities on perennials. |

A \$10.00 fee per class is required & pre-registration is mandatory
by calling the Bonner County Extension office

263-8511

The committee will be working on the fall series soon; if you have an interest in a particular subject please contact Don Childress (committee chair) @ dwc1rsc@televar.com or call the extension office @ 263-8511. Any input will be greatly appreciated.

Master Gardeners Helping Each Other:

Know anyone who needs a hand with something? We are about helping in the community, but we are also about helping each other. If you know of any master gardener needing any assistance with chores, let us know. Contact Bob Wilson @ the extension office & he will send out e-mails to the membership. Let's show each other that we care.

Along this line - Linda Kirchmann has had someone contact her regarding yard clean-up. This person can pay minimum wage & is happy to hire teens. The property is in the Sagle area, off of Lakeshore Drive. If you know of anyone who could use a job, please call Linda @ 263-5727 for more information.

Yard Exchanges:

Are you interested in seeing other M.G. gardens? We are all so different & each of us has great ideas for our gardens. We can share our ideas & learn tricks from each other. Linda Kirchmann (bkpkr linda@aol.com) & Jane Roach (jane@roach.net) will organize a "yard exchange" visit; they want to know who is interested & what time of year is best for your garden. Please contact these one of ladies to get your garden on the list!

Garden Tour:

Penny Barton has scheduled a meeting April 12th from 9-12 to be held @ the extension office to organize the summer garden tour. If you have any interest or input to share please contact Penny or the committee members: Blaine Harvey, Shirley Barksdale, Jane Roach, Gail Swan & Chris McIntosh (will do the advertising).

Advanced Master Gardener Classes:

This class will be on "Plant Identification". Classes will be held @ the extension office, beginning May 16/17 for 3 hours. Both classes are full. Classes will run for 7 weeks and are open to anyone interested with a limit of 15 students per class. A hand lens will be required.

The fee (which includes the text) will be \$60 or \$45 if you don't need to purchase a lens.

Notes:

The Plant Clinic started May 1st; there are calendars available now @ the extension office for signing up for your hours. 9 hours are required of each active MG member. No extra hours are required for those taking the advanced class. The hours this year are from 9-12 although you may stay & finish projects you are working on after 12 if you wish. Those hours can be counted toward your total. There will generally be two MG's scheduled to be in the clinic each Tuesday & Thursday. Hours can also be scheduled on Saturdays @ the Farmers Market. Check with Bob @ the office for this arrangement.

Jane Roach (class of 2006) staffed the plant clinic alone on the opening day. It was a very busy day with lots of items already there, lots of walk-ins & lots of phone calls. Jane maintained her composure throughout her day & was able to deal with all this on her own. A big Thank You to Jane for being there!!!

There are changes in the plant clinic client form; all client info is now on the front of the form with all the MG info on the back. This allows the front of the form to be copied and sent to the client if need be.

Also, jot down any subject that the plant clinic needs more info on; we have money to purchase new books for the clinic and many need replacing or updating. If you know of a specific book and/or website-write it down on the sheet posted in the Plant Clinic.

Remember to water the planting areas & gardens

Following are the calendars for May & June

Please sign up for your hours & fill the spaces so we don't have this situation again.

May 2007						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		Janae R 1	2	3 Marshall	4	5
6	7 Joyce L Linda K	8	9	10 Janice	11	12
13 	14 Bonnie Chris MF	15	16	17 Barb Moss JCT	18	19
20	21 Shirley Joyce L	22	23	24 Marshall	25	26
27	28 Joyce L Linda K	29	30	31 Janice JCT		

June 2007						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3		4 Bonnie	5	6 Barb Moss Jane R	7	8
9						
10	11 Gail Penny	12	13	14 Jane Ann	15	16
17 	18	19 Bonnie Chris MF	20	21 Jane R Janice	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

UI BCMG Website:

We need our own domain name-any suggestions? Bob says it looks easy to set up & Susan Daffron will maintain it once it's done. Chris McIntosh will be our contact with Susan, so if you want something on the website, contact Chris. Chris & Penny will discuss what to put on the website initially.

Garden Tour:

We need more suggestions for gardens to tour. Ann Warwick will contact the Sandpoint Garden Club for ideas. Contact Penny Barton, chair, or any committee member: Harvey Blaine, Shirley Barksdale, Jane Roach, or Gail Swan with any ideas or suggestions. The tour will be held July 1st.

Bonner County Fair Booth:

The theme this year is "All American". We have people who have volunteered to be on the committee, but we still need a chairperson. Step right up for this fun filled experience!!! Call Bob, Penny, or any board member to let them know you want the job.

Plant Sale/Garage Sale:

This project did so well last year-Janae Dale & Pat Moss have volunteered to co-chair again this year. Save all your unwanted items and any extra plants you may have for this sale. We will have a "drop-off" place as time draws near for the sale.

Spokane Garden Expo

Much more info can accessed by logging on to <http://www.tiegardeners.org>



Jail Garden: *The committee met with Bob Gardener (@ the Jail) regarding the garden. It will feed the inmates & also donate to the food bank. The garden area is very large. Bob is requesting suggestions on garden books to purchase. There will be vegetables & flowers. So far, the committee helping on this project is Penny B., Joyce L., Jane D., & Ann K. Anyone wishing to help, contact Penny.*

Healing Garden:

Valle Novak is requesting help from any interested master gardener for spring work in the "**Healing Garden**" starting the beginning of April. Valle will be there in the am on Thursdays & Fridays. She will be happy to go over what needs to be done with you if you need to work another

day of the week. This is a big job and Valle shoulders most of the responsibility for it. It would be really great to have a group of us to show up and help her out. The Garden is such a wonderful addition to the hospital grounds; let's help Valle keep it that way.

Cat Sanctuary:

Valle is also requesting help with a project @ the "**Cat Sanctuary**" on Blacktail Road. There will be a planting project of trees & shrubs-to be done sometime in May (when the weather is warmer & the snow is gone). **Contact Valle Novak @ 265-4688.**

Bonner County Fair-August:

We need a chair person or co-chairs to head up the booth decorating for the fair this year. Anyone interested in this fun filled event please contact Pres. Penny Barton @ onecent@gotsky.com or 265-9733.

Fly Fishing:

Don Childress-"Fly Fisherman Extraordinaire" has consented to giving a class on his passion if there is enough interest expressed. Joyce Lane will help coordinate this class. If you have an interest, please contact Don @ dwc1rsc@televar.com or Joyce @ jlane@coldreams.com. This will include both classroom and practical classes.

Bill Tedesco's Blueberry Farm:

We have been invited to Bill's blueberry farm for information/demonstration on growing & pruning blueberries. Date: Friday, May 18th. Meet @ Klondikes (in Leclede) @ 9am. If you wish to carpool, meet @ the extension office @ 8:30. Contact Bob Wilson @ 263-8511 for further info.

Plant-a-Row (PAR):

PAR has begun. New flyers are available from Ann Warwick. There is a meeting @ the Library May 10th @ 7pm. Alice Wallace will represent the food bank. She is already receiving calls for more info on PAR. Ann Keiser & Ann Warwick will represent U.I. BCMG's @ the Library meeting.

The Learning Garden/Extension office Landscaping:

A work party was held on April 24th. Jim Seyfert & his wife constructed and donated a stand for hanging tomato plants. Thanks so much to the Seyferts! Thanks also to Ann Keiser, Jane Roach, Linda Kirchmann, & Jim for participating in the workday. Ann has started a bunch of plants from seed at home and will donate them to the Learning Garden. Don Childress donated 10 tires for planting potatoes (or whatever else we want). Don has lots more tires if anyone would like

some-Thanks Don! Ann K delivered the straw bales. They need to soak for 2 weeks before planting. Timers were suggested for watering. Another work day was just held on May 7th. A big thanks to those who participated. The garden is looking really great! Ann suggested that any MG who is able lend a planted patio pot for the front steps of the office for the summer. At the end of summer, they may be taken back for use next year. Any plants, any pots, a little creativity & individuality for the extension office.

IDAHO STONE
DO IT YOURSELF CLASSES

SIGN UP: Classes begin at 9 a.m. and usually last between 60 and 90 minutes. Food and beverages will be provided after each class. For some classes an instructional DVD may be included for five dollars. All classes are FREE! You may call them at 265-5178 to sign up in advance or just come the day of the classes.

CLASSES:

May 5 Concrete Wall Product: Allen Block Barbecue Grilling Station and Patio Enclosure
(The guys at Idaho Stone are very excited about this new product. They say it's a very versatile, user friendly system of bricks designed to go onto an existing patio or even deck and installs easily.)

May 12 Concrete Pavers: Belgard Pavers

Water Features

May 19 Pondless Waterfall and Stream

June 2 Small Pond and Filtration Options

May 26 Natural Stone Patio and Walkway

MARGE CARLSON, MASTER GARDENER CLASS OF 2003

By Chris McIntosh

Marge lived in Southern California until she was 60 years old and gardening is something she just did. Her grandparents and parents always had a garden somewhere on their property--big or little. She found it difficult in Idaho to grow the right things at the right time. She laments, "I had terrible clay soil and lots of deer to help themselves to what ever. I was frustrated after a couple of years and read about MG and so I did a little research and signed up for the program. I learned more than I ever expected. I also found that some people could grow certain things 3 miles from me and mine would die. I have tried a lot of ideas and experimented with various methods. You know you never get it perfect and every year I do a little something different, but that's the fun."

Garden Gate is the magazine she likes the best because it has so many ideas and lay outs. Sunset is another favorite with recipes for the veggies you grow. Marge says, "I like Country Gardens and find myself thumbing through them often. I get some great ideas from other gardens and a lot of inspiration from visiting garden shows and large public gardens."

Her biggest challenge after fencing off the deer is the horrible clay soil and trying to lengthen the growing season. She has done her own starts, but her cats find them very tasty, so she now buys from the nursery--that's their business and expertise! Buying starts has helped Marge have a longer and more successful season.

Marge writes, "My biggest success is nothing compared to the many other Master Gardeners, but my Little English Garden next to our house is my favorite. I had to bring in tons of topsoil and my husband built a fence and I laid out the pattern of the garden. Using lots of fertilizer and the rototiller, I finally got the soil I needed. Then I planned the paths and covered them with bark and brought up lots of rocks to line the paths. I'm still bringing them up a little at a time. This is a small garden and I love it. I have a cutting garden in the back so I don't cut the flowers near the house."