



UNIVERSITY
OF WYOMING
EXTENSION | **master
gardener**

In The Dirt

February, 2021

Hello Master Gardeners and Community Garden Members!

There are some exciting things happening with our MG program! Wyoming State Forestry has a couple opportunities available for us. The first is the National Association of State Foresters is celebrating their 100 year Centennial and they are giving us 100 trees. The second is their Quick Turnaround Project, this is \$5,000.00 for us to use towards the Urban Orchard and Pollinator Gardens. We will discuss these opportunities at length during our meeting in February.

The tree sale forms are available in the Extension office and on the County website. This year we are changing it up a bit, we are not having our individual "day" sale. We are still offering those trees and plants, they are only available through a preorder instead. This was our way of still offering the individual trees and smaller lots to the public, incase we were shut down again.

We had our first Garden and Landscape Educational Event (GLEE) brought to us by Linette West. She taught us via Zoom, Growing and Caring for Orchids. We had over 20 participants on the Zoom! The event was recorded and can be found on the Campbell County Master Gardener FaceBook Page. If you don't have FaceBook, I can put the recording on a USB thumb drive and check it out to you.

On that note, we have our next GLEE Rose Care and Arranging a Rose Bouquet coming up in February. If you would like to follow along and arrange a half dozen rose bouquet, you can! Call Crazy Daisy Floral at 686-5641 or stop by 502 E. Lakeway to reserve your bouquet kit. The kit is \$25 and it will contain greenery, roses (colors may vary), filler and the vase; everything you need to make a beautiful rose bouquet. The bouquet kit will need to be reserved and paid for by 6pm on February 12th at Crazy Daisy Floral.

Please feel free to reach out to me at any time.

Mandy Reynolds
Horticulture Program Coordinator

Dates to Remember

- February 1st:** Tree Chipping at Gillette College Tech Center 8:30am
- February 1st:** MG Steering Mtg. at GAMB, Cottonwood Room 5:15pm
- February 1st:** MG Mtg. at GAMB, Cottonwood Room 6:00pm or Join Zoom Meeting <https://uwyo.zoom.us/j/92936304801>
- February 20th:** Rose Care and Arranging a Rose Bouquet brought to you by Garden & Landscape Educational Events, 1:00pm taught virtually by City of Gillette Arborist Wendy Clements and Janelle Mason with Crazy Daisy Floral <https://uwyo.zoom.us/j/96506758415> passcode 885967

You can now find this newsletter online!
<https://www.ccgov.net/282/Master-Gardener>

Websites!

Check out these websites that have some great information and classes!

uwyo.edu/barnbackyard/live/recordings.html

extension.psu.edu/

[wsfd.wyo.gov/forestry-assistance-programs/
community-forestry/educational-technical-
resources](http://wsfd.wyo.gov/forestry-assistance-programs/community-forestry/educational-technical-resources)

Campbell County Master Gardeners Steering Committee Meeting

Cottonwood Room, GAMB, Gillette, WY

4 January 2021

Meeting was called to order at 5:24pm, by Chairman Deb Reno-Sams.

Attending were Linette West, Shannon Hudson, Sandra Hunter, Heather Kleiner, Diane Monahan, Deb Reno-Sams, Rich Kistler, Diana Ohman (via Zoom), Mandy Reynolds (Campbell County Horticultural Program Coordinator), and Patsy Larson (towards the end of the meeting).

Mandy requested each person introduced oneself.

The agenda was reviewed:

Treasurer's Report was given. Heather K stated she had paid Nourse Farms for strawberries and raspberries for tree sale. A check was also written to Rayne Gardens for thank you gift card for Sandi Aberle, for being president for 2019. A third check was written for insurance.

Committee's Report – Diane Monahan will report during meeting regarding Education Committee. Classes have been scheduled throughout the year, with all information on Spreadsheet handed out. First class will be a Zoom class, due to Covid restriction, with Linette West teaching about orchids. Basic care, troubleshooting, repotting, and propagation instructions will be given. The class will be recorded, and she will need assistance during the class, which Mandy Reynolds volunteered for, to help keep track of names for giveaway. Linette stated she also spoke with Jordan, who wanted to know if we want to preorder rose supplies and get all of them to do for class. This will need to be further discussed.

Sandra Hunter moved to pay Linette back the amount she spent for supplies for the Banquet activity that we were unable to have, due to Covid restrictions. Rich Kistler seconded it. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Insurance was paid

On the agenda, the Urban Orchard Planter was removed, as it was put on the agenda by mistake.

In the agenda, Letter C was tabled for later in the meeting, as it was stated twice (again under Horticulture Program Coordinator's Comments.)

New Business:

Patsy stated we need to vote in person, due to online voting not being part of our bylaws. This will be taken care of during meeting.

Some of the Committees have been consolidated. Sign-ups for these committees are on the side table for people to sign up.

Tree Chipping will be at the college, the first week in February, weather permitting. Once a date is established, it will be sent out to all.

National Library Week is April 4th through the 10th. The library has requested that we organize a Seed Exchange with them for one day a week. Patsy spoke regarding this. This would be in addition to the class we are hoping to have with Dr Ball. The library is wanting perhaps something on self reliance and a short hands-on program. This would also help promote Master Gardeners. Perhaps Sharon Murphy could make seed tapes. We may have three classes in that one day. The Master Gardeners may need to approve funds for seeds. The Pollinator/Seed Library Committee can possibly take this on along with the Education Committee.

Horticulture Program Coordinator's Comments: Mandy stated the Spring Master Gardener course will again be online. Mandy and Diane added the Gazebo planting and identification to the education list. The new trainees will have it as a final assignment to work with the Master Gardeners to pick the right plant for the right place. It is hoped that this will become an annual project between the new trainees and the Master Gardeners.

Steering Committee meeting was adjourned at 5:58pm.

Campbell County Master Gardeners

Regular Meeting
Cottonwood Room, GAMB, Gillette, WY
4 January 2021

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Deb Reno-Sams at 6:00pm. It was established a quorum was present.

Attending were Charlie Britton (Zoom), Fawn Conrad, Catherine Crain, Shannon Hudson, Sandra Hunter, Sandra Johnson (Zoom), Rick Kistler, Heather Kleiner, Jody Kruse, Patsy Larson, Ruth Lundborg (Zoom), Audrey Mertz, Diane Monahan, Teresa Norton (Zoom), Diana Ohman (Zoom), Jeremy Onsgard, Carol Palmer (Zoom), Deb Reno-Sams, Mandy Reynolds, Gary Schlekeway, Janet Thompson, and Linette West.

Introductions of selves to other members were made.

Sandra Hunter stated according to bylaws, voting needs to happen in person. Voting is later this year than written in the bylaws, due to Covid, and various mandates. Deb Reno-Sams is running for President, Diane Monahan for Vice President, Shannon Hudson volunteered to be Secretary, and Linette West and Rich Kistler are running for Steering Committee. Members present voted for these individuals and all voted in.

Sandra Hunter moved to approve December Steering Committee meeting minutes as published. Jodi Kruse seconded it. Motion Carried.

Treasurer's Report was given. Checks were written to Nourse Farms for strawberries and raspberries for tree sale. A check was also written to Rayne Gardens for thank you gift card, given to Sandi Aberle for being president for 2019. A third check was written for insurance. A check was also written to Linette West to cover costs of supplies for Award Banquet we were unable to have due to Covid restrictions.

Committee Reports: Diane spoke on behalf of the Education Committee. She explained the classes are listed on the spreadsheet and we will be having an Orchid class in January and rose classes in February. There are possibly two extra classes to add. We are wanting to do the rose class every year in February. For the Bonsai class, if we want outside Bonsai trees, we would need to do it the end of May. If we continue with it in October, it would be for inside Bonsai trees. Facebook, Twitter, etc will be used for advertising.

Old Business:
Insurance has been paid

We can scratch out the Urban Garden planters. They are on the agenda by mistake.

Mandy spoke with Chris Hilgert and Roy Holdeman about trainees working with Master Gardener veterans to plant the right plants in the right places. It will be a teaching type garden, where plants are labeled, out by the Gazebo, and possibly out front too. The Gazebo area is technically county, but they are not going to plant it, so we are. The parks, afterwards, will then care for it. We hope to somehow make it a yearly project to get new trainees acquainted and involved. We are planning to do this in the Spring, make it look nice, and perhaps talk with local folks as to what is wanted, especially since it is used for weddings. More information will be forthcoming.

New Business:
New officers were again stated, as we voted them in, in the beginning of the meeting.

Due to needing to add by-laws approving electronic voting, the By-Laws need to be read and adjusted. There are also other changes we believed were made to the bylaws, however they were not recorded. A by-Law Committee consisting of Patsy L, Rich K, Heather K and Shannon H was appointed. They will meet, rewrite the by-laws and bring it in to the February meeting. If approved, a notice will then be sent in the mail, by Mandy, to all Master Gardeners. Changes will then be voted on at the March meeting.

The list of committees available was read, and sign up sheets were available for everyone to sign up for a committee.

We will be doing the tree chipping at the college, weather permitting. A firm date will be sent out, once established.

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The Vice President set up classes, as discussed during the Education committee report.

We will be looking into doing a seed exchange class(es) at the Library. We will ask Sharon, Sandi Aberli, and anyone else we can think of to help do this, as long as it does not interfere with Mr. Ball. An email has been sent to get a firm date. We are also trying to get a firm date/time with Mr. Ball. If a reply is not attained by Friday, Diane will follow up.

Insurance paperwork signed and paid.

Horticulture Program Coordinator Comments – Mandy stated the state decided to hold Master Gardener classes online for the Spring. There are five trainees from Campbell County for us to get ahold of, as well as some from nearby counties, as they do not have a Horticulture Program Coordinator, to get them involved. In addition, Mandy stated she has been adding links for educational information in the newsletter.

New Announcements:

Janet asked when we would be balancing the budget as it must be balanced. It was stated we would be doing this in just a moment, as it was balanced until we paid insurance.

Linette requested copies of people on the lists for committees that she is chair of. Shannon stated she would e-mail the members to the chair. It was also suggested to put a blurb about each committee, written by the chairs, in the newsletter.

No reminders or missed topics.

Budget:

We read over each line of the income, which included budget from 2020, used, and proposed for 2021. Patsy then moved to remove the amount paid to insurance from the savings account to balance the budget. Janet seconded it. Motion carried.

It was then questioned if the trailer has been looked at, specifically the tires. It has not been, however, the trailer is used locally, for bicycles, Farmer's Market, tree sale, etc, so we need to make sure tires have not dry-rotted and that animals have not chewed any wires. It is located at Clover Corrals. Deb volunteered to go take a look.

Heather brought up having treasurer's books audited. The Extension Office was a possible auditor, however, according to current bylaws, an independent person needs to do so this year. We approved a bookkeeper, Rhonda Whalen, and Heather will have this taken care of.

Meeting adjourned at 6:40pm.

Despite several challenges at the Prairie Community Garden, the 2020 growing season yielded beautiful, delicious, and healthy fruits and vegetables for many families. Gardeners ate, processed for future use, and gave away several hundred pounds of tomatoes, corn, cabbage, carrots, kale, onions, pumpkin, strawberries, squash, and other fresh produce.

The main challenges for the year included cool weather in late May, which delayed some planting; a break in the water system, which limited the water supply for a few days; and an invasion of raccoons in September, which decimated most of the fresh corn just as it was ready to harvest.

Gardeners took on the task of maintaining common areas more diligently last summer, which resulted in the space looking better than ever before. Previous years allowed for a lot of help from the honor farm which was greatly appreciated, but was not allowed this past year. Many individuals stepped up to regularly mow those areas and keep the undesired vegetation from taking over. Gardeners also hauled off debris which had been in the area for several years.

With the 2021 growing season just around the corner, Prairie Community Garden is anxious to include more gardeners. A new 16'x48' raised garden was built last summer with plans for a similar space this spring. Those spaces provide three to six gardens for planting.

Every spring offers hope for the next successful gardening season. We look forward to planning next season's garden, starting seeds indoors or purchasing plants from green houses, preparing the soil, and growing beautiful crops.

~Prairie Community Garden

Online Master Gardener Training February 10 - May 12, 2021

University of Wyoming Extension Master Gardener program is an extensive training and volunteer program focused on gardening and horticultural production in Wyoming. If you have a passion for gardening and want to learn more, the Master Gardener program is for you! For those who also want to give back to their communities through volunteer service, you would be joining a group of over 200 volunteers who support locally grown produce, beautiful communities to live in, and who share a common interest - Gardening!

Throughout this 14 week training you will learn from UW Extension educators and specialists with years of experience in their fields. Whether you are a new gardener or you have had dirt under your fingernails for years, you will take away knowledge, skills and the ability to successfully grow plants in your landscapes and gardens in Wyoming's uniquely challenging growing environment.

How This Class Works

Registration: \$75 + book *Books are currently being printed and will be available for purchase in late January.* You can register for the upcoming online Master Gardener training here: <http://bit.ly/master-gardener-2021>

Live Classes 6-9 PM on Wednesdays, February 10 - May 12, 2021

Weekly classes are live on Wednesday evenings from 6-9 PM. You will learn from University of Wyoming Extension Specialists and Educators who are subject matter experts with years of experience in their fields. Live classes allow instructors to teach as well as interact with you and answer your questions. Classes are live, using the Zoom videoconference program. You need to create a Zoom account in order to attend the live classes. Zoom is accessible using a computer, smart phone, or tablet. You can create a free Zoom account here: <https://zoom.us>

Class Recordings

If the live class schedule doesn't always fit with your schedule, no problem. Classes are recorded so you can participate when it is convenient for you. Recordings will be made available for you to view within 48 hours of the live class.

Class Schedule *Live classes are Wednesdays from 6-9 PM*

Feb 10 – Introduction and Overview of the Master Gardener Program

Feb 17 – Basic Botany

Feb 24 – Soils, Fertility and Composting

March 3 – Season Extension – High Tunnels, Low Tunnels, Row Covers, Cold Frames

March 10 – Vegetable Gardening and Growing Herbs

March 17 – Fruit Trees and Berry Crops

March 24 – Landscape Design and Site Analysis

March 31 – Herbaceous Plants

April 7 – Woody Plants

April 14 – Lawn Care

April 21 – Integrated Pest Management

April 28 – Plant Diseases and Diagnosing Plant Problems

May 5 – Entomology

May 12 – Volunteering in the UW Extension Master Gardener Program

Learn

Master Gardener trainings have been offered through local UW Extension offices since 1985. Trainees receive over 40 hours of education on topics including: botany, soils, composting, season extension techniques (high tunnels, backyard greenhouses, low tunnels, raised bed gardening), growing vegetables and herbs, growing fruit trees and berry crops, landscape design, trees and shrubs, lawn care, annual and perennial flowers, integrated pest management, diagnosing plant problems, and entomology. Classes are taught by UW Extension educators with subject matter expertise, specifically related to Wyoming growing conditions.

Give

On average, about half of those who complete the Master Gardener training participate in the Master Gardener Volunteer Program. After completing the training, Master Gardener volunteers give back to their communities through volunteer service. Volunteer activities are coordinated at the local level to address local needs and opportunities. Master Gardeners are asked to provide 40 hours of volunteer time in their own communities. Wyoming Master Gardener volunteer activities include community beautification, community gardens, demonstration gardens, educational conferences and workshops, garden tours, plant production, office support for UW Extension, school gardens, youth programs, diagnosing plant problems, and yard calls. Volunteer opportunities vary by location and may not be available in all locations.

Grow

Whether you are a beginning gardener or have years of experience, you will take away knowledge and skills that make you a better gardener after completing the Master Gardener training. Many Master Gardeners continue with the program for years and years. The longer a Master Gardener stays with the program, the more they learn and the more they share. University of Wyoming Extension Educators and active Master Gardeners offer advanced education to build on your base of knowledge. Master Gardeners typically enjoy the social aspect of learning together, volunteering together, and helping others.



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In The Dirt February, 2021

BARNYARDS & BACKYARDS Live!!!



Barnyards & Backyards Live! show is back!

(Show schedule and Zoom links at <https://bit.ly/BBWYLive>)

Mark your calendars! We're continuing the Barnyards & Backyards Live! show this season - **every Friday at 10 am, starting on January 29th**! Bring your questions and join us as we chat with our expert guests on a wide variety of subjects - growing trees, vegetables, fruit and flowers, keeping horses healthy, feeding birds, reducing wildfire risk, and more! Shows generally last an hour – sometimes we go a little bit over with good content and questions. The show can be seen either through Zoom <https://bit.ly/BBWYLive> or Facebook Live by following us at <https://www.facebook.com/BarnyardsBackyards/>

Can't make the show live? We are usually able to record the show and post it later. Check out last year's episodes at <http://bit.ly/BBLiveArchives>

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