

In The Dirt

September 2022

Hello Master Gardeners and Community Garden Members!

The next MG meeting will be at Sandra Hunter's house on September 12th, please bring a lawn chair.

If you have an overabundance of produce as you are cleaning out your garden, you can donate it! You can drop it off at the Extension Office or take it to the Council Of Community Services. They accept food donations 10am-3pm. If you are a Master Gardener, for every pound of produce you donate you get 1 hour of volunteer time.

We discussed the Jolly Lane Chili Pepper Festival in Rapid City at the last MG meeting. It will be on Friday September 16th 8am-7pm, Saturday September 17th 8am-6pm, and Sunday September 18th 11am-4pm. There was some interest in going as a group. If you are interested let me know and I will get you all in contact with each other. Most of the interest was for the Saturday date.

You may have noticed we received some press for the Vermicomposting GLEE and the North Community Garden. We didn't have as many attendees at the Vermicomposting in Gillette or in Wright. We aren't sure if it was the topic or with children going back to school and people being busy navigating their new schedules. Jared Green and Sandi Aberle spoke about their worm experience and the attendees seemed to be very interested in it. The Wright Librarian suggested moving their classes to early afternoon, we will consider that when proposing the education for 2023.

Feel free to reach out to me anytime.

Mandy Reynolds
Horticulture Program Coordinator

Dates to Remember

- September 9th & 10th:** State MG Conference in Thermopolis
- September 12th:** MG Steering Meeting, 5:15pm at Sandra Hunter's house, 1501 Rawhide. **Bring a lawn chair.**
- September 12th:** MG Meeting, 6pm at Sandra Hunter's house, 1501 Rawhide. **Bring a lawn chair.**
- September 13th: Harvest Dinner for all Community Gardens** at North Community Garden meeting 6pm at the garden. **Bring a lawn chair.**
- September 14th:** Pollinator Count at the Urban Orchard 12:15pm
- September 16th-18th:** Jolly Lane Chili Pepper Festival, Rapid City
- September 20th:** Prairie Community Garden Meeting 7:00pm at the garden
- September 27th:** Glee Overwintering Bulbs, Garlic and Plants with Sandi Aberle and Sage Bears 6pm at the Gillette Public Library.

Remember that 1 pound of donated produce equals 1 Master Gardener volunteer hour! I will manually add your pounds of produce donated to your volunteer hours.

Websites!

<http://www.uwyo.edu/wyndd/>

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/wy/home/>

**Campbell County Master Gardeners
Steering Committee Meeting
June 27, 2022
Camplex Park, Pavilion 4 – Gillette WY**

The July Steering Committee Meeting was called to order by President Diane Monahan at 5:23 PM. A quorum was established.

Attending the meeting was Mandy Reynolds, Diane Monahan, Rich Kistler, Shannon Hudson, and Suzy Blakesley (missed the beginning of meeting).

The agenda was reviewed:

Cathy Crain was unable to attend the meeting, so Mandy gave the treasurer's report. We were able to sell more willows and poplars. We also had interest come in this month. Our only fee was for the camera rental for the GLEE class.

There have been multiple yard calls that have come into the extension office. WE need to see which Master Gardeners are willing to assist with these.

We also need to discuss if we want to push back the August meeting, as that is during County Fair. Neither Mandy nor Shannon will be able to attend the meeting per our regular date of the first Monday of the month.

We also need to discuss possibly breaking up the Urban Orchard Committee into possibly two committees as it is a lot for one committee, and some members of the committee are only interested in certain parts of it.

An update on the Garden Walk will be given during the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 5:52 PM

**Campbell County Master Gardeners
Regular Meeting
June 27, 2022
Camplex Park, Pavilion 4 – Gillette WY**

The July Master Gardener Meeting was called to order by President Diane Monahan at 6:06 PM. A quorum was established.

Attending the meeting was Diane Monahan, Suzy Blakesley, Shannon Hudson, Shawna Stephens, Mary Schoen, Rich Kistler, Patsy Larson, Jody Kruse, Sandi Aberle, Sandy Johnson, Carol Palmer, Sandra Hunter, Kim Shank-Zehner, Synneva Richardson, and Katherine Schwartz.

Cathy, the treasurer, was unable to attend the meeting, so Mandy gave the treasurer's report. We were able to sell some of the willows and poplars. We also had interest reported for our account. Funds were spent on GPA for renting the camera for the GLEE class.

The GLEE recording for June is not up yet, but will be soon. Willows were given as giveaways.

There are a lot of yard calls coming into the extension office. It was asked if anyone was interested in volunteering. Sandra Hunter is willing to help with garden calls. It was stated that Fawn may be a good person to ask regarding tree yard calls. Janet has also been emailed. Diane Monahan is interested in possibly going out with Janet to learn. Right now there have been a lot of tree questions, including asking what should be trimmed and what is wrong with the tree. There is possibly some issues in the area with snow mold.

Mandy and Shannon will both be at County Fair on Monday August 1st, when our next meeting is scheduled. After discussing it, the August Master Hardener meeting will be held on August 8th instead, with the meeting location TBD.

After the meeting, we need to walk up to the urban Orchard. There are some trees that need to be weeded around. In addition, there are some trees that we need to look at and decide if we want to replace them. This will be discussed and voted on at the next meeting.

minutes continued on next page

minutes continued from previous page

June 27, 2022

Heather and Sandra Hunter were at the Community Garden and someone approached them regarding bees. They have not been seeing any. They also stated they come to the herb garden and enjoys getting books from the book library there at the Urban Orchard.

Jody asked about mulch for the Urban Orchard. Suzy stated she is going to have someone bring mulch so we can put it around the trees, prior to the Garden Walk.

Rich reported on the Urban Orchard. He already has nine houses that are interested for next year. The Garden Walk will be taking place from 9 to 4. Rather than meeting at the plaza, we will be meeting at City Park this year. This is due to insurance costs being more than we have budgeted. We will be meeting there at 7 AM.

Tickets are 1 for \$5, 6 for \$5, or 30 for \$25 for the raffle. After discussion, we will be switching it to 30 tickets for \$20 so that if you purchase more tickets, you are saving more money. We need to get pictures of the baskets and get laminated sheets at the houses.

We need to have snacks made for the refreshments after the walk, during the raffle drawing. Sandra volunteered Heather and herself to bring cookies. Diane Monahan also volunteered, and Suzy volunteered to purchase some. Mandy will bring the drinks and cups. Mary did the Bios and did a wonderful job on those.

The North Community Garden will be opened to drop off the baskets after the parade. They will then be taken to the downtown businesses. Sandi has already spoken to the businesses, so they are expecting them.

Linette is in charge of the 4th of July float. WE will be meeting on June 30th at 9 AM at the old Ice Arena to decorate it. She is bringing water. WE are asked to bring dishes of food to share after the decorating is done. Sandi Aberle will be wearing the bee costume for the parade. Sandra Hunter said she can walk in the parade. The parade is at ten, but we are unsure what time we are meeting.

So far we have ten businesses sponsoring the garden walk. We do not have money in hand, so this number could change.

We would like two individuals at each house/location during the Garden Walk. So far we have Sandi Aberle and Shannon Hudson at the Urban Orchard, Diane Monahan and Sandra Hunter at Knollwood, Synneva and Kathrynne at 703 Carey, and Linette and Mary at City Park. We will need more volunteers!

Jody Kruse, Mandy Reynolds, Sandi Aberle and possibly Suzy Blakesley will be helping transport the flower pots from downtown to City Park.

On July 6th, we will meet at the extension office at 3 PM to go look at the gardens that are in the Garden Walk. We will finalize details when we meet.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:56 PM.

Many of you have volunteer hours for 2022!

Report Period: 01/01/2022 to 12/31/2022

Total Volunteers with Approved Hours: 17

Total Contacts: 849

Total Male Contacts: 215

Total Female Contacts: 634

Total Volunteer Hours: 386

Total CE Hours: 269

Total Produce Donated: 8 lbs.

You can find the link here:

<https://wyoextension.org/campbellcounty/agriculture-horticulture/master-gardener/>

Or go straight to the page here:

<http://www.uwyoextension.org/mastergardener/login.php?logout=1>

If you have forgotten how to do it here is a quick reminder:

Username: first letter of your first name and your entire last name.

Example: Mandy Reynolds

Username: **mreynolds** Password: If you have not already logged in and changed your password, then your password is just: **password**

Thank you to all of you that have logged your hours so far!

Campbell County Master Gardeners
Steering Committee Meeting
August 8, 2022
Campus Park, Pavilion 4 – Gillette WY

The August Steering Committee Meeting was called to order by President Diane Monahan at 5:17 PM. A quorum was established.

Attending the meeting was Rich Kistler, Heather Kleiner, Diane Monahan, Cathy Crain, Suzy Blakesley, Mandy Reynolds, Katie Hudson, Sandi Aberle, Shannon Hudson, and Linette West.

The agenda was reviewed:

The minutes for the July meeting are attached to the agenda to review tonight.

Cathy Crain gave the treasurer's report. The Garden walk brought in some funds, however not as much as it did last year. We did have sponsors this year, however even with those, we did not bring in as much funds. Expenses for the last month included FaceBook ads, sales tax, and county fair awards. We will be getting two of those checks back, as they were not awarded this year. Linette also had expenses for the float that we need to pay her back.

During the meeting, we want to review the Garden Walk, including what went well and what we may want to change.

The budget also needs to be looked over as we are about \$2000 less than where we wanted to be at this point.

The remaining GLEE classes for 2022 need to be reviewed. August is supposed to be vermiculture, but we do not have a time or date. For September, we are looking at overwintering bulbs, garlic, and other plants, but we do not know who or when. Sandi offered to teach regarding the garlic or bulbs. She can do other plants as well but feels it would be better to have an additional speaker. The group as a whole will be asked if anyone wants to teach about overwintering other plants. October is supposed to be Rich and Diane working together doing pumpkin succulents. Rich and Diane need to get together to get this planned and pick a date. It was brought up that the pumpkins and succulents can be preordered. Rich will talk with Walmart tomorrow (August 9th) to look into this. November is supposed to be taking care of Christmas plants, such as Christmas cacti, amaryllis, poinsettia, and possibly little trees. Sandi Aberle will be gone at that point, so we need to see if anyone else is interested. If not, Sandi may be able to do it over zoom. At all of these meetings, we need at least two people to help with the set-up and tear down.

The State Master Gardener Conference is quickly coming up! We need a head count. There is a signup sheet on the clipboard on the center table. Registration and hotel are usually covered by the group, as long as there is at least two Master Gardeners per room. Today is the last day to register. September 16th through the 18th is the Jolly Lane Chili Pepper Festival.

Pollinator count is on Wednesday, 10 August 2022, at 1215. We would like to get a head count.

Do we want to give thank you gifts to Plant Shack, Rayne Gardens, Forget Me Not Floral, Crazy Daisy, Wyoming Art and Frame, and who else? Plant Shack goes way above! Sandi Aberle has actually already taken thank you's and fused glass plant stakes to Plant Shack and Rayne Gardens.

Mandy reported on her Horticulture Program Coordinator's Comments. For the State MG Conference, she will email the attendees so that all can work out the arrangements. Kris Jones from the Prairie Community Garden donated six embroidered tea towels. They are stunning! Mandy has copies of the Wyoming Vegetable and Fruit Growing Guide available in her office. We just need to stop by to pick one up.

The next Master Gardener meeting is September 12th. Does anyone want to host?

Suzy brought up the stakes that the park usually puts Christmas lights on in the winter. Right now they are bare. Do we as Master Gardeners want to start hanging something on them during the Summer, such as flags, to advertise the Urban orchard? She believes there are eleven or twelve of them.

Patsy brought a plant from Jan Rock to give away as a door prize.

Meeting adjourned at 5:57 PM.

Campbell County Master Gardeners
Regular Meeting
August 8, 2022
Camplex Park, Pavilion 4 – Gillette WY

The August Master Gardener Meeting was called to order by President Diane Monahan at 6:02 PM. A quorum was established.

Attending the meeting were Sandi Aberle, Suzy Blakesley, Bill Brown, Fawn Conrad, Catherine Crain, Katie Hudson, Shannon Hudson, Sandra Hunter, Rich Kistler, Heather Kleiner, Jody Kruse, Patsy Larson, Audrey Mertz, Diane Monahan, Teresa Norton, Shawna Stephens, Janet Thompson, Linette West, and Mandy Reynolds.

Copies of the steering committee and regular meeting minutes for July were passed out to all attending members. Suzy made a motion to approve minutes as written. Teresa seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Cathy then gave the treasurer's report. We raised less funds this year with the Garden Walk than we did last year, even with the business sponsors. Expenses this past month included Facebook ads, sales tax, and county fair awards. Two awards were not given out at fair, so those checks should be returned. Linette also turned in receipts for the float and will need to be reimbursed.

The Garden Walk was then discussed. There were many that feel tickets need to be available earlier. Some members of the public say they did not even know it was happening. There seemed to be a 3 to 1 ratio of people thinking it was alright to have a newer garden on the garden walk. Others did not like that a newer garden was on it. There were definitely mixed reviews. Some really liked seeing the struggle, as it is real life, and some really want to see it in a couple years to see how it looks then. There were a lot of comments regarding the lack thereof or needing to advertise more/better. Others brought up the fact that there was no information regarding the Master Gardener program. Perhaps we could have a half sheet or flyer at the houses. We could also go back to the post cards. We could perhaps use the advertising budgets for events, including for GLEE, MG class, Garden Walk, etc. Diane got lots of comments regarding her MG shirt as well. It was also brought up that we may need to end earlier.... As it gets pretty hot in the later afternoon. The central location was also brought up. We use to draw the raffle at the Third Street Plaza. There was more traffic there. Perhaps next year we could have it at Lasting Legacy. The citizens could also possibly plant something. Bill Brown volunteered to write something up to really "sell" what we are doing, as well. Talking on the radio was also brought up. It was also stated that a lot of people did not come due to political issues and the library situation. As Master Gardeners, we need to keep our focus on the fact that our "job" and purpose is to educate. For next year, we need to start earlier. We could take a general overview of the happenings to the GLEE meetings starting in January. We may even get more house nominations that way. The 4th of July will be on a Tuesday in 2023, so that will be when the parade is. As the garden walk is always the following Saturday, we may want to get the raffle items downtown earlier than normal and only put a few on the parade float.

As we are eight months into our budget, we should review the budget at home for up to this date, and if we have any questions, please call Diane or Mandy.

A copy of the upcoming GLEE meetings was passed out. We need to start having two people to help set up and two people to help tear down.

August: Composting/Season Extension – Rich will get ahold of Jared Green and see what his thoughts are on this, and when he is available for in Gillette. Diane Monahan can discuss about worms and vermicomposting. Sandi Aberle can discuss about using PVC pipes. We are already set up to go down to Wright on August 29th.

September: Overwintering bulbs/ Garlic/ and plants – Sandi Aberle is willing to talk about overwintering garlic and bulbs. Heather will contact Sage Bear about what she does with her plants for the winter.

October: Pumpkin Succulents – Rich and Diane are going to get together to plan this. We will need to advertise for this. There will probably need to be a \$20 fee to participate to help cover the cost of the pumpkins and succulents.

November: Taking care of Christmas Plants – Christmas Cactus, Amaryllis, Poinsettia, and maybe little trees – Sandi will be gone in November, though she is willing to zoom if needed. We could also ask Nate from Rayne Gardens.

minutes continued on next page

minutes continued from previous page

Signups for the State Master Gardener Conference close today. If you have or are registering for this, please also sign up on the clipboard on the central table. Those going will be emailed so that arrangements can be made regarding carpooling and rooms. The Master Gardeners reimburse for the registration costs as well as the rooms as long as two master gardeners are staying in the room. If you plan to stay in the room by yourself or with your spouse who is not a member, only half the room will be reimbursed. We are donating items for a basket. Linette brought in items tonight. If you have anything to donate, please bring it to Mandy.

The Jolly Lane Chili Pepper Festival is September 16th through the 18th. This event happens over in Rapid City, SD. If you are interested, please sign up on the clipboard on the sign-up sheet. We are thinking Saturday may be the better day to attend.

The next Pollinator Count is Wednesday, August 10th, at 12:15 PM. It is always the second Wednesday at 12:15. We are trying to get a head count, as it is often times one or two Master Gardeners and the Hudson children. Sandi, Shannon, Janet, Fawn, Cathy, Katie, and Rich will try to be there this month.

Who should we give thank you gifts to? Sandi Aberle has already written thank yous and given fused glass plant stakes to Plant Shack and Rayne Gardens. Perhaps we could give them, as well as to Forget Me Not Floral, Crazy Daisy, Wyoming Art and Frame, First Interstate Bank and Landon's, a thank you card and invitation to something, such as the Awards Banquet in January.

Suzy brought up the poles in Camplex Park that they usually put Christmas decorations on. She was wondering if the Master Gardeners may want to use those to advertise for Master Gardeners, Urban Orchard, as well as something about pollinators. We should be able to use rip stop fabric.

Patsy brought an avocado plant from Jan Rock to give away as a giveaway. Sandi Aberle won it.

Mandy went over the Horticulture Program Coordinator's Comments. She will email the State Master Gardener Conference attendees so that all can work out arrangements.

Kris Jones from the Prairie Community Garden donated six embroidered tea towels. They are amazing!

Mandy has copies of the Wyoming Vegetable and Fruit Growing Guide available in her office. We can stop by to get a copy.

The next Master Gardener meeting is September 12th due to the first Monday being Labor Day. Sandra Hunter volunteered to have the meeting at her house.

Shannon requested permission to postpone the Herb Festival due to health reasons. Heather moved to postpone the herb festival until 2023. Cathy seconded it. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:54 PM.

Registration is Open for the 2022 Fall-Winter Online Master Gardener Class

[Register Now https://extension.catalog.instructure.com/courses/fall-22-master-gardener-online-training](https://extension.catalog.instructure.com/courses/fall-22-master-gardener-online-training)

Registration fee \$150. We have expanded our training schedule for 2022 to include Plant Propagation and Weed Management classes, in addition to the 14 other classes previously taught. Participants will receive approximately 48 hours of gardening instruction taught by subject matter experts in this 16 week class. We added a few breaks into the schedule, so this class will run from September 15, 2022-February 16, 2023 (see schedule below). You will receive an electronic copy (pdf) of *Sustainable Horticulture for Wyoming: A Master Gardener Handbook* plus a variety of additional resources that go along with each class. Live classes are held on Thursday evenings from 6-9 PM and you will join the live classes using Zoom. Classes are recorded so you can review or watch class when it is convenient for you.



2022 Committees

Advertising/ FaceBook

Rich Kistler
Diane Monahan

Awards/Banquet

Linette West, Chair
Suzy Blakesley
Shannon Hudson
Rich Kistler
Heather Kleiner
Shawna Stephens

Education

Rich Kistler, Chair
Cathy Crain
Shannon Hudson
Sandra Hunter
Heather Kleiner
Diane Monahan
Diana Ohman
Jan Rock
Mary Schoen

Garden Walk

Rich Kistler, Chair
Suzy Blakesley
Fawn Conrad
Shannon Hudson
Priscilla Hixson
Sandra Hunter (parade & day of)
Heather Kleiner
Jody Kruse
Patsy Larson (day of)
Diana Ohman
Carol Palmer
Mary Schoen
Shawna Stephens
Linette West

Nominating

Tree Sale

Teresa Norton, Chair
Suzy Blakesley
Bill Brown
Fawn Conrad
Cathy Crain
Shannon Hudson
Sandra Hunter
Jody Kruse
Patsy Larson
Sharon Murphree
Diana Ohman
Carol Palmer
Jan Rock
Mary Schoen
Janet Thompson

Urban Orchard - Pollinator/

Seed Library/Herb/Perennial Beds

Shannon Hudson, Chair
Sandi Aberle
Suzy Blakesley
Fawn Conrad
Cathy Crain
Sandra Hunter
Sandy Johnson
Heather Kleiner
Jody Kruse
Teresa Norton
Carol Palmer
Mary Schoen
Janet Thompson
Linette West

September 2022						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5 Happy Labor Day!	6	7	8	9 State MG Conference	10 State MG Conference
11	12 MG Steering Mtg 5:15pm, General Mtg at 6pm @ Sandra Hunter's	13 Harvest Dinner for all Community Gardens, 6pm at the North Community Garden 105 Rohan.	14 Pollinator Count at the Urban Orchard @ 12:15pm	15	16	17
18	19	20 Prairie Community Garden Meeting 7pm at the garden.	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 GLEE Overwintering Bulbs, Garlic and Plants with Sage Bear and Sandi Aberle 6pm, Gillette Public Library, Wyoming Room	28	29	30	

412 S. Gillette Ave.
Gillette, WY 82716
(307)682-7281

In The Dirt
September 2022

GLEE

September 27th—Overwintering Bulbs, Garlic and Plants
Campbell County Public Library 6pm