



The Sage Gardener



From the Editor... *Bob Prchal*



**WE ARE A
COMMUNITY**

Volume 12, Issue 10

October 2016

Meetings & Events

OCTOBER is the tenth month of the year in the Julian and Gregorian Calendars and one of seven months with a length of 31 days. The eighth month in the old Roman calendar, October retained its name (from the Latin *octō* meaning "eight") after January and February were inserted into the calendar that had originally been created by the Romans.

OCTOBER is commonly associated with the season of autumn in the Northern hemisphere and spring in the Southern hemisphere, where it is the seasonal equivalent to April in the Northern hemisphere and vice versa.

~ From Wikipedia

- **October 03**
MG Mtg. in the Park County Fairgrounds, New Hall building @ 7:00 pm
- **October 14**
WMGA Mtg. in Casper @ 10:00 am
- **November 07**
MG Mtg. in Cody @ 7:00 pm
- **December 05**
Holiday Mtg. in the New Hall, Park County Fairgrounds @ 6:00 pm



Meeting Minutes... submitted by Nancy Ryan



Joyce Johnston convened the **October 03, 2016 meeting to order @ 7 pm in the Park County Fairgrounds, New Hall meeting room.**

Attendance... Joyce Johnston, Rhonda Faulkner, Bob Prchal, Nancy Ryan, Kim Pierson, Andi Pierson, Jackie Van Noy, Linda Pettengill and Kathy Clarkson.

Guest (s): Jeremiah Vardiman.

Approval of Minutes... lacked quorum. **Treasurer's Report...** lacked quorum.

Old Business...

- **Nominating Committee:** Informed the members the following slate of candidates: **President - Kathy Clarkson; Vice President - Andi Pierson; Treasurer - Denise Fink; Secretary - position is open.**
- Covered under "Committee Reports".

Committee Reports and/or Announcements...

- Updates of organizational activities were provided. Comments focused on year end undertakings and planning for 2017.

New Business...

- **October Elections:** Elections were not held because there was no quorum to undertake a vote. The Nomination Committee slate of candidates and/or nominations from the floor will be accepted at the November meeting.
- **Newsletter Editor:** Kathy Clarkson will follow up on a potential replacement candidate.
- **Holiday Party:** Consensus of the members present was to have the activity in the Powell Park County Fairgrounds New Hall meeting room at 6 pm.
- **Junior Master Gardener program:** Kathy Clarkson provided background and an update. Planning & Progress reports will follow once we enter the "new year" growing season.
- **Christmas season activities:** Linda Pettengill provided an update on the tree & wreath decorating and action plan.

Reminders...

- **Response to emails/Requests for activity support:** Because of the necessity to use email to get important information out or gain feedback from the membership, please respond accordingly when requests/feedback is requested. **Let's respect and help the President or event organizer (s).**
- **WMGA Education Grants:** ***Park County Master Gardeners should assess their educational needs and if there is a worthy project that needs assistance, consider applying to the WMGA.***

October Refreshments: Appreciation to Cathy Clarkson

Educational Program: Jeremiah Vardiman presided over a Q & A on "Putting your garden/yard to rest".

Adjournment... 8:05pm. **Next Meeting:** In Cody on November 07, 2016 @ 7:00 pm in the EOC room of the Park County Courthouse. **November Refreshments:** Andi & Kim Pierson.

Extension Musings... from Joyce Johnston**Preparing for the Next Season -- Winter**

From National Gardening Association Steve Trusty

There are a number of variables to consider as you prepare your yard and garden for the winter season. Normal and predicted weather is at the top. If you don't have freezing weather, this article won't have much for you except to see what you are missing out on.



If you might experience frost, but not extended stretches of freezing weather, your main concern is protecting valuable plants from predicted frost events. In those cases you gather up all the sheets and blankets or cardboard you can find and cover the most important plants first and keep going until you run out of covers. Besides southern frost events, these tips also are for early spring or fall frosts in the rest of the country. Place the coverings before the temperatures get below 40 degrees to trap heat under the cover. Remove the coverings in the morning after the temperatures are safely above 40 degrees. Don't leave them on too long. If you can use stakes to keep the covers from resting on the plants, the coverings will be most effective. Thin, clear plastic is usually not a sufficient cover.

If water use permits and the temperature is not going below the upper 20s a light overnight sprinkling also can be a good frost deterrent. And, if you get a surprise light frost, a sprinkling in the morning before the sun hits the plants may alleviate frost damage. The warmer water keeps the plant tissues from freezing or helps them thaw gradually, rather than too rapidly.

For those of you in the colder climates where freezing temperatures can last for days, weeks or months the other factors to consider are the types of plants, their cold hardiness and your desire to protect them. Plants that are naturally cold hardy don't need protection from the cold, but they may need protection from freeze/thaw cycles. It is the back and forth that causes the damage. A good mulch to help keep the ground frozen is the best for these kinds of plants. Most perennials, bulbs, roses, shrubs and trees will benefit from a good mulch layer.

In some areas, evergreens, particularly broad-leaved ones may need protection from the sun that warms the leaves too much and is followed by a sudden drop in temperature when the sun goes behind a cloud, building or down for the cold night. A burlap shield usually provides great protection in these cases. Make a frame of stakes as tall as the plant. Place it on the sunny side about a foot away from the plant and cover the frame with burlap

Spraying plants with an antitranspirant/antidesiccant can provide added protection. These products place a coating over the needles or leaves that hold the moisture by cutting down the transpiration or drying out.

Another tip to help plants through the winter is to make sure they go into winter with plenty of moisture. They can obtain moisture from frozen ground, but frozen ground repels new moisture. If you have a very dry fall and winter, make sure you water plants before the ground freezes. It might even pay to dig the hose out and water if there is an excess of dry air during the winter.

Fall ideas... from Pinterest



**Dollar Store
plastic mold
as a concrete
pumpkin
garden
ornament**

New Website from Rachel Vardiman

Just an FYI... the Master Gardener newsletters are being uploaded to our new website. Not sure how many of you have had a chance to look at it yet, but here is the address:

<http://wyoextension.org/parkcounty/horticulture/park-county-master-gardeners/>

We have a lot of potential here, so let us know if you have thoughts on the webpage.

~ ~ *Rachel Vardiman*

Fall Cody Speaker Series from Denise Fink

You're invited to the annual Master Gardeners Fall Educational Series

WHAT'S NEXT ? THURSDAYS

Where: Cody Library: Grizzly Room

When:

November 3rd: TBA

November 10th: Kathy Clarkson M.G. Presents Orchids

November 17th: Denise Fink M.G. Presents Evaluating Hardscape and Landscape

November 24th: Happy Thanksgiving

Time: 6 to 7:30 p.m.



Importance of Volunteer Service... Park County Master Gardeners

Aiding Park County Horticulture & the University of Wyoming

Redoubles number of contacts... better service to the public

Expands 'pool of resources' ... increased manpower

Increases the number of 'work' hours to address questions and/or make yard calls

Permits the Horticulturalist to work one-on-one with more clients

Allows more time for development of educational materials and programs

Extends the Horticulture season... extra, available resources

Fall Yard Pics... from Suzanne Larsen



Amur Maple



**Mountain
Ash**

Ornamental Cabbages... from Suzanne Larsen



Member Birthdays

October

Teri Boyd

Kendra Morris

Cathy Swartz

Cheryl Wright



It is
scientifically
proven that
people who
have more
birthdays live
longer



Fall Yard Pics ... from Ronda McLean



Quinoa



Amaranth



Quinoa



Mums



Geraniums

Powell Community Garden cleanup pics from Linda Pettengill



“Putting the Garden Beds to rest”





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'Newsletter of the Park County
Master Gardeners'

~~ Content cannot be altered or
changed ~~

Newsletter Articles should be submitted by
the 15th of each month to Bob Prchal

rjprchal@tritnet.net

2016 Officers

President... *Sandy Frost*

Vice President... *Kendra Morris*

Secretary... *Teri Boyd*

Treasurer... *Rhonda Faulkner*



Committee Chairs



Newsletter... *Bob Prchal*

Scrapbook/Historian... *Cathy Swartz*

Park County Fair... *Andi & Kim Pierson*

Cody Garden Tour... *Suzanne Larsen*

Park County Delegates... *Bob Prchal & Sandy Frost*

Change of Address/Phone/"e" Mail... *Rachel Olsen (Powell)*
or *Rachel Vardiman (Cody)*



REMEMBER... *Keep it pithy!*

Jeremiah Vardiman

Extension Educator

655 EAST 5TH
POWELL, WYOMING 82435

~~

(307) 754-8836

Bobbie Holder

Horticulturalist

1002 SHERIDAN AVENUE
CODY, WYOMING 82414

~~

(307) 527-8560

Joyce Johnston

Horticulturalist

655 5TH STREET
POWELL, WYOMING 82435

~~

(307) 754-8836

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