



The Sage Gardener



From the Editor... *Bob Prchal*



**WE ARE A
COMMUNITY**

Volume 12, Issue 11

November 2016

Meetings & Events

- **November 07**
MG Mtg. in Cody
@ 7:00 pm
- **December 05**
Holiday Mtg. in the
New Hall, Park County
Fairgrounds @ 6:00 pm



In 1863, Abraham Lincoln, declared the last Thursday of November to be a National Day of Thanksgiving. November is the eleventh month of the year in the Gregorian Calendar and one of four Gregorian months with the length of 30 days. The Latin translation of "novem" is nine, for it was originally the ninth month on the Roman calendar.

November begins on the same day of the week as March every year and also February except in leap years. November in the Northern Hemisphere is the seasonal equivalent to May in the Southern Hemisphere and vice versa.

Unlike today's feast consisting of turkey, stuffing, cranberry, etc., the original Thanksgiving menu probably consisted of the following items:

- **Seethed [boiled] Lobster**
- **Roasted Goose**
- **Boiled Turkey Fricase of Coney**
- **Pudding of Indian Corn Meal with dried Whortleberries**
- **Seethed Cod**
- **Roasted Duck**
- **Stewed Pumpkin**
- **Roasted Venison with Mustard Sauce**
- **Savory Pudding of Hominy**
- **Fruit and**
- **Holland Cheese.**

<http://popculturemadness.com/Trivia/November/index.php>



Meeting Minutes... submitted by Teri Boyd



Sandy Frost convened the November 07, 2016 meeting to order @ 7 pm in the EOC room of the Park County Courthouse.

Attendance... Sandy Frost, Teri Boyd, Kathy Clarkson, Andi Pierson, Kim Pierson, Della Sheridan, Nikki Andrews, Rita Lewis, Donna Haman Luana Sheets, Sharon Pearson, Jackie Van Noy, Cathy Swartz, Denise Fink, Rhonda Faulkner, Suzanne Larsen and Linda Pettengill

Guest (s): Jeremiah Vardiman.

Approval of Minutes... accepted as submitted. **Treasurer's Report...** accepted as presented.

Old Business... Committee Reports, Announcements, etc.

- **Elections:** The October slate of candidates were elected unanimously; **President** Kathy Clarkson; **Vice President:** Andi Pierson; **Treasurer:** Denise Fink. The Secretary and WMGA delegate positions are open... members need to step-up and volunteer.
- **Newsletter Editor:** Kathy Clarkson will assume the duties of Editor; Brian Beauvais will act in an assistant capacity.
- **Christmas Party:** @ the Powell Park County Fairgrounds New Hall meeting room at 6 pm. Potluck (**bring a favorite dish**) and gift exchange.
- **WMGA Delegates:** Each county is afforded two delegates at State Master Gardener Association (WMGA) meetings. Bob Prchal resigned his position as a Park County delegate, so another delegate is needed to represent Park County.
- **MG Clothing:** See Suzanne Larsen if you ordered items.
- **Christmas season activities:** Linda Pettengill provided an update on the tree & wreath decorating. The Christmas tree will be part of a community silent auction and is located @ the Powell Chamber of Commerce. A Christmas wreath will be on display @ the Riley Arena in Cody and also be part of a community silent auction

New Business...

- **Financial Audit:** An audit committee (Teri Boyd, Rachel Olson, Rhonda Faulkner) was formed to review our financial records.
- **Tax liability status:** The issue was discussed and agreed that we should file the appropriate 501(c)3 paperwork.
- **Northwest Area MG Workshop:** Planned for February 8 and 9, 2017 in Riverton or Worland. Be thinking of workshop activities.
- **MG training:** In Thermopolis, March 3-4; 10-11; 17-18, 2017. All weekend dates... Anyone is welcome.
- **Portable Microscope Tablet:** Jeremiah Vardiman demonstrated the capabilities of this new portable technology for plant and bug assessment/analysis.
- **2018 WMGA State Conference:** Planned for Casper. Details will be forthcoming as they develop.

Reminders...

- **Wild West Gardening Conference April 22,23,2017 in Laramie... \$90/person**

November Refreshments: Appreciation to Andi & Kim Pierson

Educational Program: Kathy Clarkson on "Raising Orchids".

Adjournment... 8:30pm. **Next Meeting:** In Powell on December 05, 2016 @ 6:00 pm in the Park County Fairgrounds, New Hall meeting room. **December Refreshments:** N/A; Christmas potluck and exchange.

Extension Musings... from Joyce Johnston

Indoor Herb Gardening

From <http://garden.org/learn/articles/view/2352/>



Even in winter we can still grow fresh herbs. In most regions the herb garden is now dormant, but with a little planning you can grow many culinary herbs indoors this winter. An indoor herb garden is not only functional, it can be attractive and provide a remembrance of summer during the dark days of winter.

Getting the Right Herbs.... The first step is to select culinary herbs that will grow well indoors with limited space and light. Chives, parsley, thyme, oregano, basil, and sage are some of the best to try. You can even grow some unusual, small-leaved greens, such as arugula and mache, to complement your winter salads. Most of these herbs grow only 12 inches tall, so they're easy to maintain. For taller herbs, select dwarf varieties, such as 'Spicy Globe' basil, that will fit on a windowsill or under grow lights. You'll get fewer leaves to harvest on dwarf varieties, but the plants are easier to maintain. While some herbs, such as dill and coriander, have edible seeds as well as leaves, don't try to grow them for their seeds indoors. They won't produce enough to make it worthwhile.

Let There be Light... Most culinary herbs are Mediterranean in origin. They need sunshine and well-drained soil to grow best. In winter the days are short, and light intensity is diminished. Even if your plants are growing in a south-facing window and receive six or more hours of sun a day, they still may need supplemental light to keep them short and stout in the dead of winter. Place plants under full spectrum fluorescent or halide lights to provide the right amount and quality of light intensity.

Pots, Soil, and Water... Unless you have a greenhouse or large bay window, chances are you'll be growing your herbs under grow lights or on a windowsill. In either case, there will be limited space, so small pots will be a necessity. Sow herb seeds or set transplants in 3- or 4-inch plastic pots filled with moistened soilless potting soil. Group the plants together in a plastic tray to keep the humidity high. However, if you notice mildew on the leaves, space the plants further apart or use a small fan to provide air circulation and keep the leaves dry. Most herbs need excellent drainage and grow better when kept on the dry side. Water seedlings by pouring water in the tray and letting it soak into the soil, then draining the tray. As the herbs grow larger, you can start watering from above. Add enough water so it pours out through the drainage holes in the pot.

Feeding and Harvesting... Although many gardeners think herbs taste best when grown in poor soil, plants grown indoors need supplemental fertilizer. Once their true leaves form, feed the herbs with a diluted solution of water-soluble fertilizer. Harvest herb leaves as needed. The flavor is usually most intense in the morning. For some herbs, such as dill, harvest the whole plant. You can plant dill every few weeks to ensure a continuous supply of fresh leaves.

Pests... Any indoor plant will eventually attract some insect pests. Fortunately, most insects are easy to control with water washes or non-toxic sprays. Aphids, whiteflies, and mealybugs are the main culprits you'll find eating your herbs. Wash the leaves periodically with water to remove them. For more severe infestations, spray leaves with insecticidal soap. With a little care, your herbs will grow strong through the winter, providing fresh seasonings for your meals. Come spring, you can move the plants outdoors into the garden, cut them back, give them a shot of fertilizer, and they will continue to flourish.

Barnyards and Backyards... from Jennifer S. Thompson @uwyo.edu**Dry in your part of Wyoming ?**

If the weather has been dry in your area it may be time to get out the garden hoses (again). Many perennial plants are more likely to survive our tough winters if they go into it with some soil moisture. You can read all about winter (or in this case fall!) irrigation in the University of Wyoming Extension short publication Winter Watering.

For this and other resources on irrigation visit our 'Water' page at <http://www.uwyo.edu/barnbackyard/resources/water.html>

For more resources on a wide variety of topics on trees, shrubs, perennials and annuals visit our 'Landscaping' page at <http://www.uwyo.edu/barnbackyard/resources/landscaping.html>

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

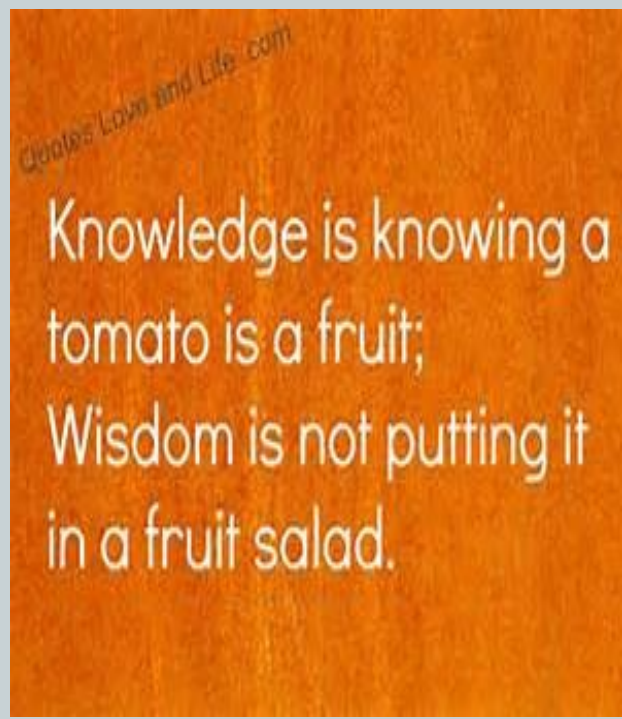
Extends the Horticulture season... extra, available resources

Just to lighten things up... from Bing.com

10 Facts about you

- 1: You r reading this right now
- 2: You r realizing that is a stupid fact.
- 4: You didn,t notice i skipped three.
- 5: You r checking now.
- 6: You r smiling.
- 7: You r still reading this even thought its stupid.
- 9: You didn,t realize i skipped eight.
- 10: You r checking again and smiling about how u fell for it again.
- 11: You r enjoying this.
- 12: You didn,t realize there,s only supposed to be ten facts.

thanks for read and smile...Regards, Arshi



Container Garden Ideas... from Bing.com



Member Birthdays

November

Laura Campbell



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



PCMG Christmas Tree @ the Powell Chamber... from Linda Pettengill



November Garden Guide from <http://lancaster.unl.edu>

Worthy thoughts & ideas for your consideration



- Plant spring flowering bulbs.
- After chrysanthemums have stopped blooming, cut stems back close to the ground and dispose of stems and all dropped and dried leaves and branches.
- Reduce peony botrytis blight and hollyhock rust by removing and disposing of all old stems this fall. This will reduce the carryover of the diseases during the winter and you will have less trouble next year.
- Clean up rose beds. Be sure all diseased leaves are raked up and disposed.
- If you've purchased gourds this year as decorations, plan to grow them yourself next year. They make great garden projects for kids.
- Be sure not to store apples or pears with vegetables. The fruits give off ethylene gas which speeds up the breakdown of vegetables and will cause them to develop off flavors.
- After the ground freezes, mulch small fruit plants such as strawberries. One inch of straw or leaves is ideal for strawberries. Small branches may be used to keep mulch in place.
- Remove all mummified fruit from fruit trees and rake up and destroy those on the ground. Also, rake and dispose of apple and cherry leaves. Good sanitation practices reduce re-infestation of insects and diseases the following season.
- African violets do well when potted in rather small pots. A good general rule is to use a pot one third the diameter of the plant. Encourage African violets to bloom by giving them plenty of light. They can be in a south window during dark winter months. They bloom beautifully under fluorescent lights. In fact, they seem to prefer them.
- Clean power tools of all plant material and dirt. Replace worn spark plugs, oil all necessary parts, and sharpen blades. Store all tools in their proper place indoors, never outdoors where they will rust over the winter.
- Clean and fix all hand tools. Repaint handles or identification marks that have faded over the summer. Sharpen all blades and remove any rust.
- Order seed catalogs now for garden planning in January. For variety, consider companies that specialize in old and rare varieties or wild flowers.
- Bring out the bird feeders and stock them with bird seed for the birds. Remember to provide fresh water for them too. UNL



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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@tritel.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

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