



# The Sage Gardener



From the Editor... *Bob Prchal*



**WE ARE A  
COMMUNITY**

**Reminder...** a prompt to get registered for the  
**WFMG/ WFMA Joint Conference** in Riverton  
@ the Holiday Inn Convention Center.

**March 31 to April 2**

The room block rate is **\$89** (closes March 9th) and  
the Registration rate is **\$100** (closes March 15th)...  
so be sure to book early!



**Volume 12, Issue 2**

**February 2016**

### Meetings & Events

- **February 01**  
MG Mtg. in Cody  
@ 7:00 pm
- **February 12**  
WMGA Mtg. in Riverton  
@ 10 am to 3 pm
- **March 07**  
MG Mtg. in Powell  
@ 7:00 pm
- **March 31-April 02**  
WYMG /WYFM State  
Conference in Riverton
- **April 04**  
MG Mtg. in Cody  
@ 7:00 pm

**make your reservations**

<https://2016jointconference.eventbrite.com>



## Meeting Minutes... submitted by Sandy Frost



**President Sandy Frost convened the February 01, 2016 meeting to order @ 7:00 pm in the EOC Room of the Park County Courthouse.**

**Attendance...** Sandy Frost, Teri Boyd, Kendra Morris, Ann Hinckley, Mickey Waddell, Kathy Swartz, Nancy Ryan, Mary Vogel, Joyce Johnston, Deb Hayes, Andi Pierson, Kim Pierson, Donna Haman, Bob Prchal, Denise Fink, Rhonda Faulkner and Linda Pettengill.

**Guest:** Jeremiah Vardiman.

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

### Old Business...

- **Clarification of our educational session in the October 2015 Bulb forcing exercise:** The Erlicheer variety is a daffodil bulb and requires pre-chilling. It is not a Paperwhite bulb, which does not require pre-chilling. That is why our bulbs were not blooming!
- **Powell Community Garden:** It was reported that the water well is operational and drip irrigation systems will be installed. A flag pole, spotlight and totem sculpture will also be visible this spring.

### Committee Reports and/or Announcements...

#### New Business...

- **Spring Brownbag series:** Sandy Frost rolled out the March agenda and provided same to the members via email.
- **Horticulture 101 Training:** Jeremiah Vardiman, Extension Educator reported on the 2016 MG training. He also inquired about PCMG policy on offering training scholarships for individuals in need. Bob Prchal stated that there was policy and would provide same to Sandy Frost for review.
- **Educational Training Opportunities:** Please see the St Thomas Apostle Educational schedule in this newsletter! Sandy frost will present a Bluebird workshop with Ellie Wiser on May 07.
- **Member Recognitions:** Nancy Ryan: *Emeritus acknowledgement*; Linda Pettengill *10 year certificate*; and Mary Vogel *5 year certificate*.
- **UW Extension Small Acreage workshop:** Scheduled for Saturday, April 16 at the Powell Research and Extension Center.
- **2016 Membership & Volunteer/Education hours update:** Jeremiah Vardiman, Extension Educator reported that there are 23 active members and 15 Master Gardener Interns. Volunteer hours: 1174 and Education hours: 305.
- **Spring Plant Sale:** To be held on May 07 @ the Fairgrounds. Joyce Johnston is coordinating.

### 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.***

**Refreshments:** Cathy Swartz and Sandy Frost

**Educational Program:** Kendra Morris... *Building a gourd bird house.* **Door Prize:** none bestowed.

**Adjournment...** 8:30pm. **Next Meeting:** In Powell on March 07, 2016 @ 7 pm in the Park County Fairgrounds Extension meeting room.

**Extension Musings...** Joyce Johnston & Ann Hinckley

**Y**ou can still prune fruit trees and roses if the buds haven't broken yet.

**C**ool season seeds such as peas and lettuce and long-germination annuals and starter onions can be planted this month. They will germinate when the temperature gets up to 60 degrees.



**A**pply pre-emergent herbicide to lawns to get rid of the red root prostrate spurge.

**T**he average for the last killing frost is May 15 so plan your planting around that.

**T**he 12th annual Home and Garden Expo, including the Master Gardener plant sale will be Saturday, May 7th, from 9 am to 3:00 pm at the Park County Fairgrounds.

**A**re you making any changes in your landscaping due to last year's weather and the loss of fruit trees? Choose replacement plants that have been grown in zone 3 or 4. Don't assume that plants sold at Walmart or K-Mart fit this description. Check Territorial Seed Company, Stark Bro's, or Huls Nursery for fruit trees that will grow in our zone. Honeycrisp, Goodland, Sweet Sixteen are some of the apples we can plant. Manchurian apricot or Nanking Cherry are some other fruits we can expect to do well. For a more complete list check with your Extension Horticulturists.

**P**asque Flower, also known as Wind Flower or meadow Anemone, is one of the first perennial wild flowers to bloom in the spring. The delicate, hairy, lavender flowers appear before the leaves of the plant. This plant is said to be a healer for high blood pressure, poor circulation, headache, or anxiety. The Indians used it to treat sores and wounds.

**T**here will be an exchange of grape cuttings at the March 7 meeting in the Powell Extension office. Bring cuttings that include two nodes each, cut straight at the bottom and cut angled at the top. Wrap them in wet paper towels and place in a closed zip-lock bag.

**A**n effective and safe herbicide is household vinegar. It can be used alone or in a mix of 1/2 gallon vinegar, 1/2 cup salt and 2 tablespoons of dish soap. Spray or individually anoint the weeds. Use it early in the Spring when the weeds are young and tender and on any new growth you find as your garden/lawn grows.

**A**re you interested in earning volunteer "points" and learning about gardening in a painless, useful way? Call Joyce Johnston and offer your services helping with printing this bulletin. The current scribe is ready for retirement.

## Horticulture 101... 2016 Master Gardener Training

### Horticulture 101 Course Tentative Agenda Tuesday and Thursday Evenings 5:30 to 8:30 pm

Date	Location	Topic	Instructor
3/1/15	Fairgrounds, Powell	Introduction/ Climate	Jeremiah Vardiman
3/3/15	Fairgrounds, Powell	Soils	Mica Humphreys
3/8/15	EOC Room, Cody	Season Extension	Jeremiah Vardiman
3/10/15	EOC Room, Cody	Fertilizers/Composting	Caitlin Youngquist
3/15/15	Fairgrounds, Powell	Vegetables/Fruit Trees & Small fruit	Jeremiah Vardiman
3/17/15	Fairgrounds, Powell	Lawn Care	Terri Boyd
3/22/15	EOC Room, Cody	Introduction to Botany	Mae Smith
3/24/15	EOC Room, Cody	Plant Identification	Mae Smith
TBA	TBA	Pruning	Bob Prchal
4/5/15	EOC Room, Cody	Plant Diseases/ Diagnosing Plant Problems	Bobbie Holder
4/7/15	EOC Room, Cody	Herbaceous & Woody Ornamental Plants	Bobbie Holder
4/12/15	Fairgrounds, Powell	Entomology	Terri Boyd
4/14/15	Fairgrounds, Powell	Weed Management	Mary McKinney
4/19/15	Fairgrounds, Powell	IPM & Understanding Pesticides	Jeremiah Vardiman
4/21/15	Fairgrounds, Powell	Discussion, Evaluation	
4/26/15	EOC Room, Cody	Graduation	
4/28/15	EOC Room, Cody		

\* The hands on pruning will be on a Saturday from 1 to 4 pm; place and date TBA

## Garden Art from Pinterest.com



**Breaking the Ice... getting to know our members****Cathy Swartz**

Master Gardener since 2014

**1. When did you start gardening and what inspired you?**

*I started gardening when my husband and I bought our first house. We planted a vegetable garden and had enough success that I was hooked.*

**2. What do you like most about being a Master Gardener?**

*Being a Master Gardener has expanded my knowledge base. Most of my gardening experience was in Florida and to say the least, Wyoming has been a challenge. Having experienced gardeners to consult has made many of the challenges easier*

**3. What was your funniest or fondest gardening experience?**

*Probably my funniest gardening experience began in Florida with my prize guava tree. I finally had enough fruit to make jelly. After all the preparation, as I was cooking the fruit, I noticed something floating on top of the fruit; as you can guess it was worms! So much for not spraying.*

**4. What is your gardening motto?**

*Any work you can do in your yard beats any work in the house.*

**6. What gardening publication or other garden resource do you value most?**

*The best gardening resource besides other gardeners is the internet, you can get an answer quickly.*

**7. What is the one gardening tool you couldn't live without?**

*My hula hoe and pick axe are my favorite tools!*

## 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

### Brownbag Montage... Anne Kania, International Floating Islands: *Using recycled materials to reclaim our water quality*



## Horticulture 101 from Jeremiah Vardiman



**Dates:** March 1 to April 28  
*(see the educational schedule previously provided)*

**Meeting Times:** 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm on Tuesdays & Thursdays

**Where...**

**Cody:** in the EOC Room of the Park County Courthouse

**Powell:** in the Park County Fairgrounds Extension meeting room.

This is a 40 hour course that costs \$150 per person. Pre-registration is required.

For more information contact **University of Wyoming Educator Jeremiah Vardiman @ 307-754-8836.**

## Member Birthdays

### February

*Andi Pierson*



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



## 2016 Educational Opportunities

### Adult Gardening Workshops @ Thomas the Apostle Center

~ Gardening and Care for Creation ~

**Theme:** 21st Century Gardening in the North American Steppe Series

Date	Workshop	Cost
<b>Saturday, May 7</b> 9 am to 12 pm	Partnered with PCMG. Workshops: "Birds of the Steppe", with Ellie Wiser & "Building a Bird House", with Sandra Frost.	\$25 Pre-registration required
<b>Saturday, June 11</b> 9 am to 12 pm	"Design With Nature" Susan Tweit, writer and plant biologist	\$25 Pre-registration required
<b>Saturday, July 23</b> 9 am to 12 pm	"A Kitchen Gardener's Grocery List: Varieties for Inspired Cuisine" Carol O'Meara, Entomologist from Boulder	\$25 lunch included
<b>Saturday, August 20</b> 9 am to 12 pm	"Inspired by Nature: Making Western Gardens that Mirror the Beauty of Our Prairies, Chapar- rals, and Deserts" Lauren Springer Ogden, garden designer and horticulturist.	\$25 lunch included
<b>Saturday, Septem- ber 10</b> 9 am to 12 pm -	"Annuals for Weather Resilient Color" Marcia Tatroe, gardener and lecturer	\$25 lunch included
<b>Saturday, October 22</b> 10 am to 12 pm	"Cooking With Lentils" Ronda McLean	
<b>Friday and Saturday, October 28 &amp; 29</b> Times TBA later	"Lentil Underground" Liz Carlisle and Dave Oien.	



## Brown Bag Seminar Series

# Brown Bag Lunch Talks

**Where...** *Powell Library*

**When...** *Wednesdays @  
Noon to 12:50 pm*

### February

- 10** **Weeds in the Garden**  
*Mary McKinney, Park County Weed & Pest*
- 17** **Using Recycled Materials to Reclaim Our Water Quality**  
*Anne and Bruce Kania of International Floating Islands*

### March

- 02** **Starting Seeds & Transplants**  
*Bob Prchal, Park County Master Gardener*
- 09** **Sweets from the Land**  
*Learn which fruit tree & shrub varieties are best for Park County*  
*Joyce Johnston, UW Horticulturalist*
- 23** **A Good Garden Starts with the Soil**  
*Learn importance of garden soils; and how to test for nutrients & improve your soil*  
*Caitlin Youngquist, UW Extension Educator/Soils*
- 30** **Perfect Potatoes**  
*Mary Vogel, Park County Master Gardener*

**For more information contact:**  
**UW Extension @ 307-754-8836 or**  
**[jvardima@uwyo.edu](mailto:jvardima@uwyo.edu).**





# The Sage Gardener

Volume 12, Issue 2

February 2016

'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](mailto: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... *Bob Prchal*

Cody Garden Tour... *Suzanne Larsen*

Park County Delegates... *Bob Prchal*

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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**Bobbie Holder**

***Horticulturalist***

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**Joyce Johnston**

***Horticulturalist***

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Glen Whipple, Director, UW Extension, Laramie, Wyoming 82071.

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