



The Sage Gardener

Park County Master Gardener Newsletter



From the President... **Sariah** Bronson



Volume 1, Issue 10

January 2014

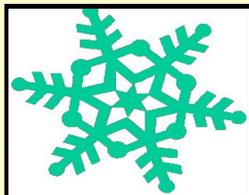
Dear Fellow Master Gardeners and Friends,

I am honored that you would ask me to be president. It is a tall order to fill and I hope that I can be the leader that you all deserve.

I know that we all have high expectations for this year and I hope that I can help us to succeed in them. I know that our previous president has really helped us to come far and I hope to keep going with what he started.

So here is to you my friends, for helping me see my potential and giving me a desire to be a part of my community, to the best Master Gardeners I have ever met!!

May we blow every ones expectations for this year out of the water and go places we never dreamed we could!!!!



Sariah

Forthcoming

Meetings & Events

- **January 27**
Community Garden
Steering Committee Mtg.
@ Big Horn Enterprises
Office in Powell
@ 5:00pm
- **February 03**
MG mtg. in Powell
@ 7:00pm
- **March 03**
MG mtg. at Cody Library
@ 6:00pm
- **Note:** Training /Brown Bag seminars in this newsletter
- **March 13 to 15**
2014 WMGA /WFMA
State Conference in
Sheridan @ the Sheridan
Community College
- **April 07**
MG mtg. in Powell
@ 7:00pm



Meeting Minutes... submitted by Valerie Bates

Sariah Bronson, President convened the January 06, 2014 meeting to order @ 7:03 p.m. in Cody in the EOC Room of the Park County Courthouse .



Attendance... Sariah Bronson, Dan Wasp, Karen Anderson, Kendra Morris, Bob Prchal, Donna Haman, Rita Lewis, Jo Anne Arzillo, Linda Pettengill, Suzanne Larsen, Ronda McLean, Jan Jackson, Valerie Bates and Sandy Frost.

Approval of Minutes... The November & December minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report... The Treasurer's report was NOT submitted.

Old Business

- **2014 Conference:** The Conference is nearing the final stages. The Registration web site is up and functional. All workshop speaker commitments have been finalized. Only small operational issues remain.

New Business

- **Recognition/Awards:** Bob Prchal provided a draft WMGA 'Awards & Recognition' policy document for review. Members were asked to review it and forward their comments, via 'e' mail, to Sariah prior to the February meeting.
- **2014 PCMG Projects:** Greater commitment and support is needed from our member volunteers to support our community service projects!
- **Meeting site change:** The members approved a motion to hold the March meeting in the Cody Library. Linda Pettengill will discuss Grant Writing.
- **Meeting site change:** The September meeting will be held at Donna Haman's home. A tour of the Thomas The Apostle Center will follow.

Committee Reports and/or Announcements

- **2014 WMGA/WFMA Conference:** It will be **March 13-15** in Sheridan @ the Sheridan Community College. The Conference will be a joint Conference with the Wyoming State Farmers Market Association.

Reminders

- **Lectures/Educational Opportunities:** Please refer to the Newsletter for times and place.
- **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.*
- **Background Checks:** All members who work with kid's need to undergo a background check. See Rachael Olsen (Powell) or Colleen Renner (Cody) @ the Extension offices for details and paperwork.
- **Volunteer Support Activities:** When activities are planned, please respect ALL requests for assistance by responding **yea or nay**. Let's respect and help the event organizer (s).

Next Meeting: In Powell @ 7:00 p.m. February 03, 2014 in the Park County Fairground Extension meeting room. Refreshments: TBD. Educational Program: TBD

Adjournment... 8:38 p.m. **Education/Workshop...** 'Fresh Cut' flower market... Sandy Frost

Extension Musings... Joyce Johnston & Ann Hinckley



Nylon stockings, according to the Seed Savers Exchange, are a marvelous invention. Besides doing what stockings do they make a safe way to mail your prized heirloom seeds, at least according to one individual who sent her favorite beans to the Seed Savers snug in a box of tights. Appropriate containers for seed storage can be glass containers, envelopes, ziplock bags and even clay vessels, although air-tight containers are recommended for long-term storage. The most important part is keeping seeds cool, dry, and dark—the big three rules to remember. A shelf in your bedroom closet is an excellent place for short-term (**5 years**) storage. If you store them in the freezer remember to let the entire container acclimate to warmer temperatures before opening the package. And, **always label your seeds properly.**

Did you know broccoli and cauliflower leaves are edible, too? They can be stir-fried, roasted, used as wraps, or made into nutritious snack chips just like kale. Cut out the center rib to use in other dishes. Cut the remaining leaves into chip-sized pieces and toss in a bowl with a splash of soy sauce and enough olive oil to coat. Spread evenly on a cooking sheet lined with parchment paper and bake at 250 degrees for about 20 minutes. Stir them around and cook for 10 minutes more. Sprinkle with a little salt, turn off the oven and leave them in the oven to cool; they will get crisp without burning.

Mother Earth News gives some helpful hints on choosing a good melon. Select heavy fruits with no soft spots or flat sides. The flavor of most melons (except winter melons) does not improve after harvest, so make sure they are ripe. Softer melons should have no remnant of stem left. An attached, jagged stem is a telltale sign that the melon was picked unripe. The stem spot should be aromatic and slightly soft. Harder melons should resonate like a drum when thumped. Watermelon skin should be dull and have yellow undertone that indicates ripeness. Store melons at room temperature... even watermelons. Any leftover cut melon should be wrapped or sealed in a container and refrigerated. Most uncut melons will last up to 10 days at room temperature and about five days if cut and refrigerated.

It look as if we are in for a real winter. Here are some helpful hints from U of W:

1. Prepare your vehicle—check the tires, antifreeze and washer fluid. Carry a survival kit along.
2. Make sure your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors are in working order. Replace any if over 10 years old. Check fire extinguishers.
3. Clean chimneys and fireplaces to prevent house fires.
4. Don't underestimate the dangers of slick surfaces. Wear footwear with non-slip soles and flat heels. Slow down and give yourself ample time to get where you are going. Take slower shorter steps when walking in icy areas.
3. Check your furnace/heating system. Don't use extension cords with electric space heaters.

Have a safe and happy New Year

MG Meeting Montage



Recycling Tidbits from Ann Hinckley



- ◆ When you throw something away it doesn't just disintegrate... it goes somewhere.
- ◆ If it is recycled it is made into some new product.
- ◆ If it is donated to businesses such as Restore or a Thrift Shop that deal with used articles it will be reused.
- ◆ When you shop, think about reducing the amount of packaging you will be throwing away; avoid single wrapped cheese slices, for example.
- ◆ Take your own reusable shopping bag.



Importance of Volunteer Time... 2013 Park County Master Gardeners

How does it help Park County Horticulture & The University of Wyoming

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

Expands 'pool of resources'..... increases manpower

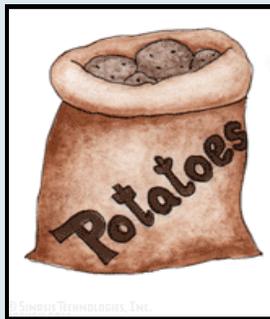
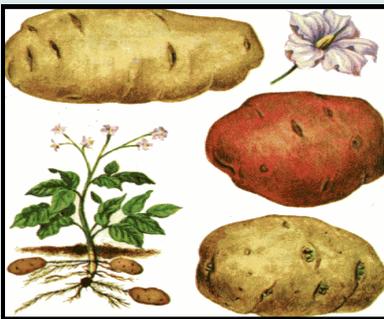
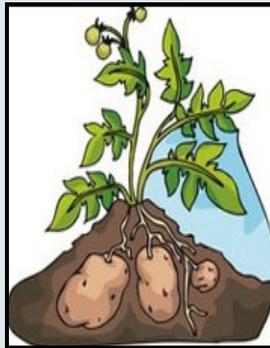
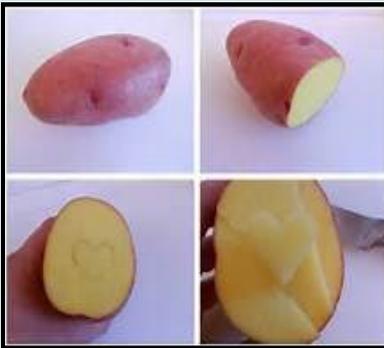
Increases the number of 'work' hours to address questions/yard calls

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

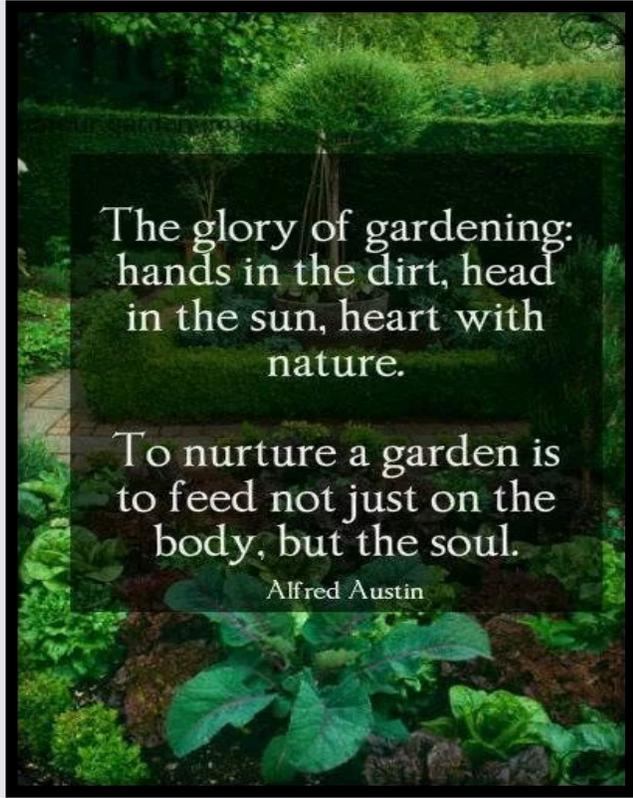
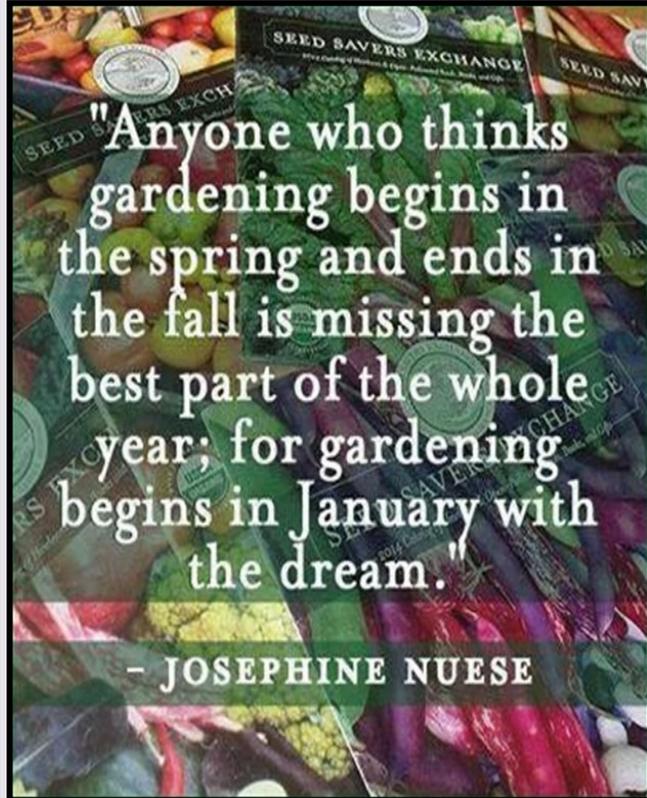
Allows more time for development of educational materials and programs

Extends the Horticulture season

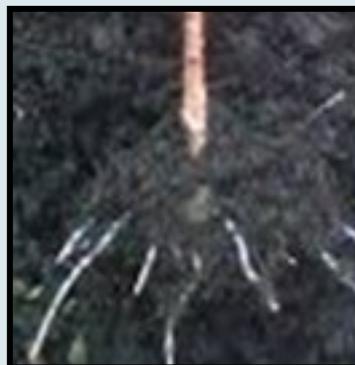
Brown Bag Seminars... *Sariah Bronson: How to grow the Best Potatoes*



Garden Stuff... keep dreaming !



What are we doing? from Joyce Johnston and Ann Hinckley



Brown Bag Seminars... from Sandy Frost

@ the Powell Library

Wednesdays 12 noon to 12:50 p.m.

January 15 **Early Seeding for our Growing Season**

Nancy Ryan, Park County Master Gardener

January 22 **How to grow the Best Potatoes**

Sariah Bronson, Park County Master Gardener

January 29 **Create a Successful Butterfly Garden**

Sandra Frost, UW Extension Educator



February 5 **Recycled Glass Garden Art**

Rita Lewis and Ronda Mclean, Park County Master Gardeners

February 12 **Grapes before Wine**

Joyce Johnston, UW Horticulturist

February 19 **Personalize stationery with Flower Pounding**

Linda Pettengill and JoAnne Arzillo, Park County Master Gardeners

February 26 **The Wild Garden... Creating a Natural Garden with Wildflowers**

Dan Wasp, Park County Master Gardener

For more information contact: UW Extension at (307) 754-8836 or sfrost1@uwyo.edu.

Recycling Message... from the Powell Recycling Center

What's New!!

Metals are readily being accepted... everything from:

- ◆ old faucets
- ◆ pipes
- ◆ holiday lights; and
- ◆ any scrap metal

Help get the recycling message to folks!

Fruit Fly Alert... from Park County Weed & Pest



Spotted Wing Drosophila

Drosophila suzukii

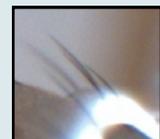
Pest of: a broad range of fruits, including tree fruits, berry fruits and vegetable fruits.

Damage: Females lay eggs in ripening fruit. Larvae hatch in 1 to 2 days. Egg laying produces scars and larval feeding quickly collapses fruit. Secondary pest infection further damages fruit. This fruit fly is from Asia and its first US appearance was in California in 2008. It is now found in many states, including Montana, Utah, Idaho, Colorado and **Wyoming**.

Distinguishing Characteristics:

Adults: Typically about 2-3mm long with bright red eyes, a pale brown thorax, and an abdomen with black horizontal stripes. Similar to other *Drosophila* flies but males have a dark spot along front edge of wing, near wingtip (A). Females have a serrated ovipositor (B).

Larvae: Small, white and cylindrical maggots.





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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

REMEMBER... Keep it pithy!



2014 Officers

President... *Sariah Bronson*

Vice President... *Karen Anderson*

Secretary... *Valerie Bates*

Treasurer... *Mickey Waddell*

WMGA Delegates... *Donna Haman & Rita Lewis*



Committee Chairs

Newsletter... *Bob Prchal*

Cody Garden Tour... *Darlene Manning*

Historian... *Jo Anne Arzillo*

Greenhouse... *Bob Prchal*

Scholarships... *Nancy Ryan*

Park County Fair... *Bob Prchal*

Change of Address/Phone/"e" Mail... *Rachael Olsen (Powell)*
or *Colleen Renner (Cody)*

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Dr. Glen Whipple, Director, University of Wyoming Extension, Laramie, Wyoming 82071.

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