# Montantal



FOREVER
IN OUR HEARTS

Shirley Spildie

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The Official Publication of The Montana Federation of Garden Clubs, INC.

Spring 2014 — Volume 60 — Issue 1

#### President's Desk



**DENISE FINK**President MFGC 2013-2015
Glendive Garden Club

#### **Welcome to Spring!**

*This is such an exciting time of year.* After snow last weekend, my flower seeds are sprouting under the grow lights. Penstemon, Gloriosa Daisy, Rudbeckia, Parsley, Basil, Thyme, Lisianthis, Carnation, Echinacia, Victoria Sage, Aquilegia, Phlox and more.

We are so looking forward to the District Meetings. Linda, Joyce and I have so much to share with you from Rocky Mountain Region and National as well as MFGC. Our convention planning is going full pace! "Gardening is Healthy" will have fabulous tours, workshops on Yoga for Gardening, a Fruit Leather Demonstration showing you how to use local produce, and, of course Sue Leferink and BeeGap.

One of the most important activities of the even number years is the membership nominations and voting on the new Nominating Committee. It is a special honor to serve and those who do determine the direction of MFGC with their choices of new officers. Nominating committee members need to be able to attend both conventions and Fall Boards. Please consider someone in your club who could serve and come to convention to nominate them. Congratulations to the current committee led by Norm DeNeal who just finished their two year term. Thank you for your service.

We are looking forward to sharing this year's gardening season with all of you.

Thank you,
Dervise Fink

#### 2013-2015 Officers

Denise Fink President fink52daf@gmail.com
Linda Sadler Ist Vice President 43sadler@bresnan.net
Joyce Hendricks 2nd Vice President mjh1@optimum.net
Glenna Waltee Treasurer gdwaltee@q.com
Lynn Mahan Recording Secretary mahanik@optimum.net
Jim Sadler Corresp. Secretary jimsadler@bresnan.net
Darlene Skari Parliamentarian dskari@3riversdbs.net

#### **DISTRICT DIRECTORS:**

#2 Cheryl Carroll #3 Nancy Johnson #4 Judy Rente #5 Pat Biggs #6 Vanette Nagamori #7 Jane Ereaux, Sharon Miller #8 Marie Jones #10 Joyce Hendricks

#### **ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

Phyllis White, Chairman Norman DeNeal, Darlene Skari, Ruth Layton, Mary McLane, Mary Olson, Jean Thomas, Marie Jones

#### MONTANA Gardens

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This issue is available in color at http://www.MTFGC.org

#### **MISSION STATEMENT**

The Montana Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. promotes education, resources and networking opportunities for its members and Montana youth to promote the love of gardening, floral design, and civic and environmental responsibility.

#### **SEND ARTICLES TO:**

Patricia Schlaeger, *MT Gardens Editor* Suite 531 The Columbus Center 1601 Second Avenue North Great Falls, Montana 59401

406-727-7633 – tamarackgroup@yahoo.com

Editor reserves the right to edit all submissions for content and length.

#### **ADVERTISING RATES**

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July 1st, 2014 / Fall
November 1st, 2014 / Winter
February 1st 2015 / Spring

#### MONTANA FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS, INC.

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# FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS Remembering Shirley Spildie by MFGC President Denise Fink



March 23, 1932 – December 10, 2013

We lost a very dear friend last December. Shirley Spildie passed peacefully away after returning home from her Circle meeting. She was the "Garden Club member of the Year" in 2009. She served as a garden club member for over 49 years, serving as Thumb-R-Green club president many times. She was a Flower Show Judge for many years, served as Flower Show Design instructor and taught courses all over the country. She ran our Flower Show School, Credential Chairman and Symposium Chairman for over 25 years. She served on the National Flower Show Handbook Exam Committee and Handbook Revision committee for many years.

Shirley was also a Master Gardener and worked with the Zoo Montana Plant Fair. Shirley told me she started designing in High School and was "hooked" by doing table designs. She was always a lady. All of us judges try to be like Shirley. She was patient, diplomatic and creative. She started a national trend using shredded car tires as "found objects". I remember at Flower Show School, she had an entire bicycle disassembled and stacked wheel upon wheel with the handle bar on top, draped with flowers and a mobile. She was unbelievably creative. Shirley designed the flower arrangements for her church almost her entire life and never charged for anything.

I know we are all better for her guidance and we will miss her terribly. Hers is definitely one of those "little voices" in my head that make me strive to be better, fairer, kinder; everything that she was every day of her life. In her obituary her family finished with "She was the prettiest girl in the West," yet she was a fine-textured, old-fashioned lady who believed in God, goodness and family.

Hers was a sensitive soul, an old soul

... A Treasure Lost

## CHAPLAINCY ETIQUETTE by Norm DeNeal, MFGC Chaplain

Though all chaplains in garden clubs are well meaning, sometimes in prayers it is Jesus who is invoked. This gesture leaves a few uncomfortable. After all, not only are there in attendance religious nonbelievers, but those from other faith traditions. Both National Garden Clubs and the Montana Federation recognize this reality and thus encourage only a general recognition of God without



reference to any particular religious tradition. Indeed, the role of a Chaplain is to encourage our best virtues such as listening to the wisdom of others, the gifts of life, harmony and tolerance. As such, rather than a prayer, many chaplains offer inspirations, many of which may not be rooted in religion. In our country where ever increasing diversity is recognized, a chaplain would do well not to offend the often hard won truth of others. Toward an awareness of a kind acceptance of all, *I hope we can say both Amen and Aho*.

#### Alma Higgins Honored in Butte

On December 14, 2013 the Butte Chamber of Commerce led a commemoration of Alma Higgins' achievements. Particularly noted was a recognition of Higgins as the "Nation's Christmas Tree Lady" toward the last decades of her life. It was Higgins with her friend, Evelyn Mooney (who became an NGC President) who were instrumental in the founding of the Montana Federation of Garden Clubs. Higgins led the planting of the national living Christmas tree on the White House south lawn in 1924. Higgins also began National Garden Week, first celebrated in Butte in 1922. She had the ponderosa pine designated as the Montana state tree in 1907. Higgins died in 1962 in Butte with numerous other contributions to her name.

This December remembrance of Higgins was attended by about 70 people at the site of a civic garden Higgins maintained for over 30 years to the time of her death. A 15 foot tree was ceremoniously lit along with other trees and decorations and banners placed in her garden. A band played, an honor guard displayed, fireworks lit the night sky, warm drinks and cookies provided, a one hour video about Higgins presented, and speeches were given to honor Montana's most renowned pioneer gardener and conservationist.

A partial restoration of Higgins' garden is planned for this year. (note: Refer to Higgins Article in the Winter 2013, Vol. 59, No. 4 Issue)

#### INDOOR COMPOSTING

Vermiculturing & Vermicomposting by Duane R. Morgan

Although the procedures are the same, the goal of vermiculturing is the production of worms, while in vermicomposting the goal is the production of a quality compost or worm castings. Both are of equal importance to the home gardener. Compost worms from indoor compost bin(s) are a useful addition to outdoor composting in the spring, and vermicompost in germination and potting mixes.

Vermicomposting is a rewarding activity for gardeners because it improves the environment by recycling valuable resources. Using the garbage disposal to eliminate kitchen wastes doubles the loading on wastewater treatment systems. Also recent studies have shown that using the common leaf worm (red wiggler) in composting increases the value of the compost by as much as four to five times.

There are numerous types of vermicomposting devices sold commercially which are designed for indoors and/ or outdoor operations. Commercial systems can be pricy but they are efficient in producing quality compost, especially with the addition of compost worms. There are numerous homemade designs found on the internet, but the easiest and least expensive method is a 30 gallon plastic tub available in hardware stores.

Media selection is typically Canadian peat moss. Shredded leaves, newspaper and cardboard are occasionally used but it is difficult to find moisture equilibrium, and they are better suited for outdoor vermicomposting. The right combination in the addition of new peat moss and coffee grounds at feeding time can eliminate the need for drilling drainage holes in the bin.

Compost worms can be useful during the gardening season by providing aeration for plants, the same as common garden worms. When garden worms may not be prominent, adding a cup of vermicompost media along with the compost worms to holes dug for transplants is effective in providing the tunneling necessary for good soil aeration. The addition of coffee grounds and compost to the soil placed back into these holes can keep compost worms in that location throughout the growing season.





Feeding compost worms is simplified with the use of a blender. Smoothies using egg shells, fruit and vegetable peelings, are readily devoured by worms. Adding coffee grounds at feeding time is another way to feed worms. Although worms will eat anything which was once living, there are some things which do not belong in a vermicompost bin. Meat scraps, onions, lemon and grapefruit rinds are items to be avoided.

Extracting dried media off the top of the bin at feeding time eliminates the need to separate worms from the vermicompost. The spent media can be grated through a 1/4 inch wire mesh screen and used in germination or potting mixes. For a detailed procedure on starting an indoor vermicomposting bin, check out this web site: www.morgansgarden.com



From Linda Sadler

April 15th — A date to Remember. It is the date all awards are due. Your club has lots of time to complete award projects. You have been taking pictures of club activities. Look over the award categories beginning page 35 in the Montana Directory your President has and apply. Remember many awards have a monetary value. The 3 page application is very easy to complete. The weather prohibits us from gardening. It is a great time to work on awards and earn money for your club.

The District Meetings are approaching. After being housebound, I am excited for the opportunity to visit with you in March, April and May.

Spring is just around the corner!

Línda

Chairman Victoria Bergesen

I am the 2013-15 NGC Landscape Councils Chairman and editor of Newscape, which will be sent to you digitally and be available on the NGC website (gardenclub.org). I am asking all of you who are NGC Landscape Design Schools Committee members, state schools chairmen or council presidents to submit an article twice yearly. This has been a brutal winter for just about everyone, even those in the south. So turn your minds to balmier days and send me a report on your club or council's activities these past six months.

I encourage you to include photos. Newscape is a way to share ideas that have been successful in your state and another place to announce plans for future schools or refreshers (including Tri-refreshers) that will reach those from other states. I am also asking that you share Newscape with as many of your Landscape Design Consultants and students as possible. I believe that receiving a national newsletter makes them more aware of their status as a part of a very special group nationwide.

Publishing Guidelines: All submissions will be digital, via E-mail. All submissions must include the word "Newscape" in the subject bar. Preferably the articles should be sent as E-mail attachments in Microsoft Word. If this is not possible, please E-mail me to consult as to the best format for transmission. All articles and photos must be original. Photos should be captioned with a photo credit.

If you are unfamiliar with *Newscape*, go to the NGC website, on the left hand side select Schools, then Landscape Design, then Schools again. Scroll down to the very bottom of the page and you will be able to view or download back issues of Newscape. Please remember that this is your newsletter and it can only succeed with your participation. Please E-mail me with any questions or suggestions. Many thanks,

#### Victoria Bergesen NGC Landscape Design Councils Chairman, **Newscape** Editor



Spring flowers in Old Lexington Gardens in Butte

NGCLANDSCAPE COUNCILS | The Montana Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. in cooperation with National Garden Clubs, Inc. presents LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL **COURSE IV SERIES 3** 

**Registration Form** 

May 16, 17, 18, 2014 Super 8 Motel 2200 11th Ave., Helena, MT 59601 Phone: (406) 443-2450

Phone:		
Email:		
Address:		
		_
REGISTRATION FEE COURS	E IV	
For Credit (includes test fee)	\$55.00	
Refresher Credit for those with	\$45.00	
Landscape Consultant Certific	cation	
Audit (Friday & Saturday)	\$45.00	_
Late Fee	\$10.00	
(postmark after May 10, 2014)		
COURSE TOTAL	\$	

Lodging & Meeting Room will be at the Super 8 Motel Helena, for \$55.00 +tax (double queen) (Mention MT Fed. Of Garden Clubs for rate) free full hot breakfast. Other meals will be announced at time of school.

All registrations due by May 14th – No refund after that date. (No exceptions)

Make checks payable to:

Name:

Mary J. Olsen, LDS - Course IV

15 Doe Lane, Townsend, MT 59644-9652

Phone: 406-266-5695

Email: wlmolsen@mt.net (new email)

#### LANDSCAPE DESIGN SCHOOL **COURSE III REQUIREMENTS**

\*Required Reading – textbook, Stewards of the Land (\$40.00 available in NGC Member Services Catalog or call 1-800-550-6007 or 1-314-776-7574)

Email: headquarters@gardenclub.org

#### Study Chapters for Course IV-

Chapters 26, 21, 36, 20, 14, 33, 31.

\*The National Gardener subscription, 3 years \$18.00 available from NGC. The article to be read will be provided to you at registration. Proof of purchase of subscription needs to be brought to class.

\*You are responsible for purchase of your own course textbook & Nat'l Gardener subscription.

#### **MONTANA SYMPOSIUM**

Sponsored by MFGC July 9th-10th, 2014





Hosts: Great Falls Flower Growers, Rainbow Garden Club Holiday Inn, 400 10th Avenue S, Great Falls, MT

#### **STUDY TOPICS**

**Horticulture Instructor:** David Robson, Springfield, IL Petunias and Daylilies – Growing, propagating, exhibiting and judging with oral and written point scoring

**Design Instructor:** Claudia Chopp, Wisconsin & Florida Underwater Design, Illuminary Design, Allied Topic – Floral Design Techniques

#### **SYMPOSIUM CHAIRMAN**

Luanna Maxwell – <u>luanamaxwell@bridgemail.com</u>

Phone: (406) 452-8227

#### SYMPOSIUM REGISTRAR

**Elaine Dow** – Phone: (406) 788-4190

#### MT JUDGES CREDENTIALS CHAIRMAN

Susan Billmayer – gsee@itstriangle.com

Phone: (406) 379-2545

Deadline for state judges to send Certification Application: June 6th, 2014

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY! YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE A JUDGE TO AUDIT THE SYMPOSIUM.

The symposium will be held at the Great Falls Holiday Inn. A block of rooms reserved July 8th-10th, 2014 under MT Symposium. Rate of \$109 + tax. Rooms held at this rate until June 10th. For reservations call 1-800-257-1998 or (406) 727-7200

FOR THE SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE and REGISTRATION FORM or for MORE INFORMATION:

#### Luana Maxwell

160 Banjo Hill Lane, Great Falls, Montana 59404 (406) 452-8227

<u>luanamaxwell@bridgemail.com</u>

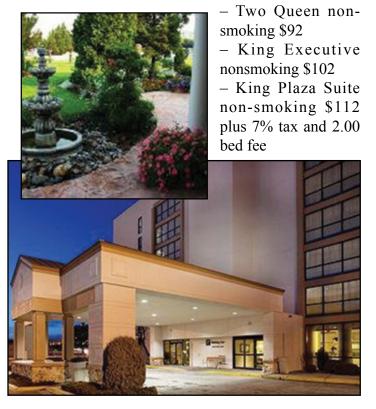
#### SAVE THE DATE!

77th Annual State Membership Convention of the Montana Federation of Garden Clubs June 20th-21st, 2014

It will be held in Billings at the Holiday Inn. Our president, Denise Fink, has chosen "Gardening is Healthy" as the theme. It should be a fun time with some educational opportunities, time to net work with gardeners from around the state, time to tour local gardens and much more.

Seminars will include information on Bees, Yoga for the Gardener, and Cooking tips from the garden to the table. Our Rocky Mountain Regional Director, Beverly Heidelberger will be sharing information with us also. The Lifetime Members are planning a fun event for Friday night! I hope you all can come and enjoy this time of being together. Please send in your registration ASAP so that our planning committee can make this a great convention (registration forms on page 7 and available on website).

Hotel reservations can be made by calling the Holiday Inn Grand Montana Billings at (406) 248-7701. Room rates are:



Enjoy beautiful Billings Gardens and the Holiday Inn Grand

#### **REGISTRATION FORM "GARDENING IS HEALTHY"**

77th Annual State Membership Convention — June 20-21, 2014



#### Holiday Inn Grand Montana Billings 5500 Midland Road, Billings MT 406-248-7701

Name:		
Address:		
Phone: E-Mail Address	E-Mail Address	
Club:District:	District:	
Please check ALL applicable Titles: * indicates Voting Member		
Club President*Garden Club MemberNational PresidentClub Delegate	e*State Life Member	
Regional DirectorAlternate Delegate*Flower Show JudgeRegion	nal Board Member	
District Director*Student FS JudgeNational Board MemberS	State President*	
Landscape ConsultantNat'l Life MemberElected State Officer*St	udent LS Consultant	
GuestAppointed State Officer*First Time AttendeeState Chairman*A	dvisory Council Member*	
* name must appear on Delegate Registration Form		
REGISTRATION AND MEALS: Registration deadline is June 5th. Hotel registration deadline is June 5th to get refunds after June 5th. All MFGC Members must Register to attend any function		
Full Time Registration: June 21st & 22nd	\$20.00	
Full Time registration postmarked after June 5th	\$30.00	
One Day Registration: FridaySaturday	\$15.00	
One Day Registration Postmarked after June 5th  FridaySaturday	\$20.00	
On-Site Full Registration (no meals)	\$35.00	
On-Site One Day Registration (no meals)	\$20.00	
Meals: Check all that apply Friday Lunch	\$15.00	
Friday Life Members' Banquet (Open to all Life Members & Potential Members)	\$25.00	
Saturday MFGC Awards Luncheon	\$13.00	
Saturday Banquet, NGC Awards Presentations	\$31.00	
Total	Enclosed \$	
Make checks payable to: Thumb R Green Garden Club and send to Thumb R Green Garden Club, P.O. Box 872, Billings, Montana 59103		

# — THE BUZZ — BONNIE HUBER Butterfly Chairman

For the past three years our insect education programs and traveling exhibits have created a buzz within our community. We've steadily moved our vision for a tropical butterfly house and insect museum forward while working to strengthen our organizational capacity. And we've made hundreds of friends, like you, along the way that share our enthusiasm.

It's time. I'm thrilled to announce that the Missoula Butterfly House and Insectarium is taking an exciting step forward.

In 2014 we plan to open the Missoula Insectarium. As the first phase of our long-term vision, this facility will offer an interactive museum and insect zoo for children and adults to explore the amazing world of insects and their relatives. With live animal exhibits and a classroom for field trips, community programs, and special events, the Missoula Insectarium will provide a unique way to learn about "the little things that run the world."





We're currently in the process of finalizing a location that will be central to downtown. In the weeks and months ahead, our focus will turn toward exhibit design and construction, securing the necessary permits to house and obtain an exciting array of critters, expanding our staff and ramping up our crew of volunteers ...and of course, securing the remaining funds needed to make all of this happen.

For those of you that are already supporters, I can't thank you enough for your visionary support that has made our progress possible. For those of you that have followed our efforts with interest and enthusiasm, there's never been a better time to lend your support.

And for those of you that have just recently learned of this exciting effort, I encourage you to jump aboard. It's going to be an exciting ride! I look forward to seeing you at the Missoula Insectarium in 2014!

#### Bonnie Huber

### **DISCOVER, CONNECT AND TAKE ACTION – Go Native**

The National Garden Clubs now has a Native Plant Patch for Girl Scouts of all age levels. This patch can only be earned by Girl Scouts who partner with local garden clubs. The purpose of the patch is to help Girl Scouts *discover* native plants in their area, *connect* with garden clubs and *take action* to encourage the expansion of native plant education and exhibits. To earn a badge Girl Scouts can interview someone about plants native to their area; establish a spot and plant some native plants; or by sharing information on native plants with others in the local community.

Patches are \$1.75 each (including shipping and handling) and can be ordered by calling NGC headquarters at 1-800-550-6007. So now is a great time to reach out to troops in your area and create a partnership. More information can be found on the NGC web site.



Sue Leferink
MFGC Wildflower Chairman
Helena Garden Club

#### SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINES

Deadlines for Montana Scholarships are listed below. Complete information regarding State and Federal Garden Club scholarships may be found on websites: www.mtfgc.org or www.gardenclub.org.

- March 31st Application Deadline for College Scholarship sponsored by the Great Falls Flower Growers. Read details at <a href="https://www.mtfgc.org">www.mtfgc.org</a>
- May 1st Application Deadline for Montana Life Members College Scholarship. Read details at www.mtfgc.org
- May 1st Deadline for applications for the Murphy Memorial College Scholarship Read details at www.mtfgc.org
- May 1st Application Deadline for Rainbow Garden Club of Great Falls College Scholarship. Read details at <a href="https://www.mtfgc.org">www.mtfgc.org</a>
- May 1st Application Deadline for Whitehall Garden Club College Scholarship for a Montana High School Graduate attending a Montana Institution of higher learning with a major in the Horticulture field. Read details at www.mtfgc.org
- Contact the Townsend Garden Club Ruth Layton, 266-5376; application forms, due by April 1, available at the high school guidance office in Townsend. \$500 Scholarship to a Broadwater County High School Graduate
- Contact the Dearborn Garden Club [Contact the Club at P O Box 263, Cascade, MT 59421 before the deadline of May 2.] \$500 Scholarship to a Cascade High School Graduate
- Contact the Anaconda Garden Club Wilma Burke, 213 E. 6th St., Anaconda 59711 wilma burke@yahoo.com or Elaine Lux-Burke, 369 Highland Park, Anaconda 59711 e.luxburt@gmail. com
- Contact the Miles City Garden Club Two \$500 Scholarships to Miles City High School Seniors planning to major in a horticulture-related field



#### **DISTRICT MEETINGS**

March 19 - Western District Meeting, Stevensville

March 20 - Central District Meeting, Great Falls

March 21 - Northern District Meeting, Conrad

**April 22** - Eastern Gateway District Meeting, Glendive

April 23 - Hi-Line District Meeting, Nashua

April 24 - East Central District Meeting, Lewistown

April 25 - Yellowstone District Meeting, Big Timber

April 26 - Lewis & Clark District Meeting, Bozeman

May 16 - Finance Committee

May 17 - Southwestern District Meeting, Butte

#### **DEADLINES**

**April 15** - Application Deadline for All Montana Federation State Awards Linda Sadler, Chairman

#### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

**April 30-May 3** NGC Convention, Norman, OK. More information available on the National Garden Club website www.gardenclub.org

May 3 "50's Fashion Show and Lunch" hosted by the Anaconda Garden Club. Contact Connie Fitzpatrick at confitz@bresnan.net

May 16, 17, testing on the 18th Landscape Design School, Course IV held in Helena, Montana. Information in MT Gardens and at <a href="www.mtgfc.com">www.mtgfc.com</a>. Registration postmark by May 10. Mary Olsen, Chairman.

**June 7** Anaconda Annual Plant Sale, School Administration Building, 9:00am to 2:00pm

**June 21-22** 77th MFGC Convention, "Gardening is Healthy" Billings Holiday Inn Grand, hosted by Sow and Grow and Thumb-R-Green Garden Clubs, Joyce Hendricks and Bobbie Meyer, Co-Chairmen.

Registration information on page 6 and 7.



#### Under Montana's Big Sky News From Montana Garden Clubs

#### ANACONDA GARDEN CLUB

On May 3 a "50's Fashion Show and Lunch" will be hosted by the Anaconda Garden Club at the Copper Village Museum and Arts Center. Visualize a diner with carhops, a jute box, red and white checkered tablecloths, metal napkins holders, Coca-Cola signs and posters of Jimmy Dean or Patti Page on the wall. Virginia Loranger, Fashion Show Chair, will guide you through this time machine. Menu items include barbeque pork sandwiches, coleslaw and apple pie and/or sundaes. Tickets \$15. Contact Connie Fitzpatrick at confitz@bresnan.net

#### **MILES CITY GARDEN CLUB**

The Miles City Garden Club met on January 9, 2014. On the agenda was election of officers, committee assignments and discussing projects for the year. Our newly elected officers are *Lynne Weischedel*, *President; Liz Smith, Vice President; Dona Zimmer, Secretary; and Emilie Qualmann, Treasurer*. We are looking forward to implementing more fun activities at our meetings, as well as continuing our established community service projects. *Pictured below: Back left to right: Emilie Qualmann, Liz Smith right left to right Lynne Weischedel, Dona Zimmer* 



#### STEVENSVILLE GARDEN CLUB

When the Hamilton garden club recently rededicated their lost memorial marke,r this effort was solely the work of Virginia (Ginny) Coleman, who was thenpresident of the Lil' Britches Dirt Dabblers Garden Club and member of the Stevensville Garden Club. This was not a Hamilton Garden Club effort. This was a tremendous effort on Ginny's part, and she should receive the appropriate credit for it.

- Nina Eadie, President, Stevensville Garden Club

#### WHITEHALL GARDEN CLUB

The Whitehall Garden Club is again offering a scholarship to any Montana high school graduate attending a Montana institution of higher learning with a major in the Horticulture field. The amount awarded this year will be \$450.00. Applications are due by May 1, 2014. For more detailed information and an application, interested parties may call (406) 533-8344.

#### CHESTER GARDEN CLUB

Chester Garden Club members and guests met at the United Methodist Church in Chester on December 9 at noon to Spread the Holiday Spirit and make Christmas arrangements. Club members brought a wide variety of finger foods for all to enjoy. The January 13, 2014 meeting was also held at the church with 10 in attendance and 1 guest, Rea Englund, who joined the club. Norma Layton and Jesse Fulbright hosted. The program was a DVD on Western and Eastern Bluebirds.

It was reported that 50 tulip bulbs were planted at the club's corner of the Chester City Park. Jennifer Hawks will again take care of the corner for 2014. Marion Wanken volunteered for the position of Treasurer and was unanimously elected. Many activities were discussed to be undertaken for this year. Where to use the 'Pennies for Pines' will be determined soon. Members have collected pennies for this venture for some time. They are used to replant areas that have been damaged by forest fires.

The group voted to purchase a subscription to the 'Zone 4' magazine for the Liberty County Library. Cost is \$24 a year and Montana Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc., receives \$5. from each subscription.

Upcoming meetings of the Chester Garden Club will be held at United Methodist Church in Chester. Darlene Skari will discuss starting plants for spring planting and Hostesses will be Dee Hambrecht and Shelley Sheldon.

Guests are always welcome to attend any part or all of the club's meetings!





#### **MEMORIALS**

#### **Endowment Fund**

In Memory of **Shirley Spildie** by Darlene Skari, \$25 In Memory of **Bev Knoll** by

Great Falls Flower Growers Garden Club, \$5

Memorial – **Chan Biggs**, husband of Pat Biggs, \$25 by Denise Fink

#### **Judges Council**

In Memory of **Shirley Spildie** by Marie Jones, \$50 In Memory of **Shirley Spildie** by Phyllis White, \$25 Memorial – **Shirley Spildie** - Judges \$100 by Denise Fink

#### Life Members Scholarship Fund

In Memory of **John McDonald**, husband of Ann, by Missoula Garden View GC, \$50

Welcome to the Life Members Group:

Judith Locker, Gallatin Empire Garden Club Judith C Fettig, Dearborn Garden Club

#### **Big Sky Star**

"In memory of Mission View Garden Club's active, long time member and friend, **Jean Cumming**. We will miss you at the meetings."

Mission View Garden Club Members

#### **Pennies for Pines Program**

Glendive Garden Club - \$68 Helena Garden Club - \$68 Sow and Grow Garden Club - \$68

Glenna Waltee, Treasurer Montana Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.



#### DIRECTORY CHANGES, CORRECTIONS, ETC.

Jo Daniels – Email: montanajojo2@gmail.com

Cindy Carlton - Email: <a href="mailto:cdearlton@hotmail.com">cdearlton@hotmail.com</a>

Norm DeNeal – Email: normandeneal@gmail.com

In the directory **Nancy Johnson** is listed as the president of the Dillon Garden Club. She is the Southwestern District Director

Dillon has 2 co-presidents: **Greg Cooper**, 500 Trista Dr., Dillon, MT 59725, 660-1449, horseman\_c@yahoo.com, and **Diana Peppin**, 143 Sweetwater Estates Dr., Dillon, MT 59725 865-0372, dil-pepl@outlook.com.

Rainbow Garden Club (New Club President)

Sharon Winchell – Email: grsw@bresnan.net

Miles City (New Club President)

Lynne Weischel – Email: <a href="mailto:lynne@midrivers.com">lynne@midrivers.com</a>

#### In Memorium

Natalie Fitzpatrick, a former President of the Anaconda Garden Club and Southwest District Director, passed away on January 8, 2014. Her daughter-in-law, Connie Fitzpatrick, is the current president of the Anaconda Garden Club.

#### Wrapping it Up

Notes from Patricia Schlaeger, Editor

Oh, are we ever so tired of winter cold and snow! However, we must rejoice because all this great moisture in our mountain's snow pack will be appreciated as we head into the growing season. We want our rivers and streams full (but not overflowing their banks).

On a lighter note, our English language is full of ambiguity and idiosyncrasies:

- \* If man evolved from monkeys and apes, why do we still have monkeys and apes?
- \* How do they get deer to cross the road only at those yellow road signs?
- \* Why is there an expiraiton date on sour cream?
- \* Why do stores have signs, "guide dogs only" since the dogs can't read and their owners are blind?
- \* One nice thing about egotists is they don't talk about other people!

Keep smiling when you weed!

MONTANA Gardens

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#### **MONTANA STATE SMOKEY BEAR AND WOODSY OWL CONTEST WINNERS**

Presenting our Montana State Smokey Bear/ Woodsy Owl Contest Winners. Congratulations to all winners!

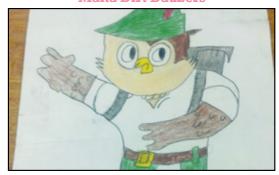
> First Grade: Sidney Mayer - Malta, MT **Malta Dirt Daubers**



Second Grade: Ava Hanley - Malta, MT **Malta Dirt Daubers** 



Third Grade: Camryn Mears - Malta, MT **Malta Dirt Daubers** 



Fourth Grade: Colin Stowers - Great Falls, MT **Great Falls Flower Growers** 



Fifth Grade: Camryn Brady - Great Falls, MT **Great Falls Flower Growers** 

