

PETALS NEWSLETTER February 2024

It has been an unusual winter as of today. I’m sure Mother Nature isn’t finished yet and we can be sure there will be lots of snow before spring arrives!!

Here are some items of interest:

* **Fundraising Committee** is busy and planning some exciting things for all members to look forward to. A very attractive and very functional item will be for sale – an MFGC umbrella in green with a bitterroot flower above the MFGC letters! Keep it in your car just incase it decides to rain on your parade. A second exciting item is a new MFGC Member pin. It will be copper in color with silver raised lettering. Look for details and pre-order form in the next issue of Montana Gardens.
* **2024 Annual MFGC Convention - “A Garden Party”**

Our Annual Convention is coming up soon. This year’s event will be in Malta, MT, June 27-29. Adding to the excitement, the National Garden Club President, Brenda Moore, will be attending. There will be a Gold Star Dedication on Saturday, 6/29 followed by the Life Members dinner. More information will be in the May issue of Montana Gardens. An exciting Design Competition and a tour of the Bowdoin National Wildlife Refuge have been planned! Don’t forget your Silent Auction item, ie. Basket, Planter, Garden Necessities, or even a Bottle of Wine and Wine Glasses. Use your imagination. Mark your calendars now for this fun event in Malta.

* **Attention Club Treasurers**: Our Federation Year runs from June – May. Send your membership roster along with your club’s dues to the State Treasurer, Glenna Waltee at P.O. Box 662, Whitehall, MT 59759. The following information needs to be included on the roster: NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE, EMAIL, and CLUB OFFICER POSITION (President, VP, Secretary, Treasurer). REMEMBER: For NEW members joining after January 1st, 2024, the MFGC dues is only $5.00 (not $10) and expires on May 31, 2024.
* **Endowment Interest Grant** applications are due by May 15th! Please send to MFGC, P.O. Box 662, Whitehall, MT 59759-0662. Grants, up to $500 to fund speakers, seminars, workshops or new technology to present educational programs are some of the ways these awards can be used. Guidelines are on the Website – mtfgc.org.
* **Landscape Design School Course #4** will be held in Billings, MT on April 11-12. More information will be coming as well as a registration brochure will be on the Website – mtfgc.org.
* **Awards & Books of Evidence** are due on **April 15.** Every Club in Montana has outstanding projects, apply for an AWARD and get the recognition you deserve!
* **NGC Convention** will be in Denver from June 2-5 at the Westin Westminster Hotel. Take a road trip and meet gardeners from all over the country. Robbie Kupper, Rocky Mountain Director, will be there with lots of information from the other states in our region. Many tours to the Denver Botanic Gardens and Butterfly Pavilion are planned each day and a special tour of the Betty Ford Alpine Garden, in Vail, will be on June 6! Go to the NGC Website, gardenclub.org, for more information.