

GALLATIN GRUBBER

September 2018

Fall Meetings

Our regular Monday monthly meetings at the Hope Lutheran Church will resume in September.

Sept. 10, 7 p.m.— Casey Delphia will speak to us



on "Native bees of Montana." Dr. Delphia is a native bee expert and is leading the Western Sustainable

Research and Education program project at CSA farms in the Gallatin Valley. This should be a very interesting program.

Refreshments: We are going to try a new idea for refreshments at the September meeting: vegetables! Flocks will bring veggies and dips, and F. Erickson will bring pico de gallo and chips. We invite others to add finger food vegetables from their own gardens.

Oct. 1, 7p.m.— Our traditional "What Worked and What Didn't Work" meeting, presented by all of us discussing our gardening successes and challenges in 2018. This is always one of our most interesting meetings, so plan on attending.

Refreshments: Julie Geyer, Cara Priem and Pat Donovan.

Market and Garden News

After a dubious beginning, 2018 turned out to be a highly successful season in the garden and at the market.

A discouraging late frost the night of June 11 killed all of our outdoor-planted tomatoes and damaged other tender crops. But thanks to quick reseeded and good weather, the garden largely recovered and some crops were the best ever. Beans were abundant this year. At the Aug. 17 market we sold a record 70 gallons that helped generate receipts of over \$1900. Another big factor in our success has been expanding flower sales—notably gladiolas and sunflowers—shepherded by Yvonne Baskin assisted by Cathy Rechlin. Our hoophouse tomatoes are also showing renewed vigor this year, thanks to deep tilling and soil amendments. And, for the first time, we've grown enough sweet corn to supply not only our volunteers, but sell a little at the market as well.

Speaking of volunteers, our good members have endured heat, cold and pernicious mud to reliably bring in the harvest every Tuesday and Friday. Thanks to all who helped!

Only two markets remain: Saturday, Sept. 8 at the Fairgrounds and Tuesday, Sept. 11 at Bogert Park. After that we may have excess produce to sell. If you are interested in quantities of beans, beets, carrots or tomatoes, we offer a discount off our regular price. Please let Don Mathre know via e-mail (mathre@q.com), or phone (599-6312) if you are interested. Post harvest garden clean-up will be scheduled in late September. Watch your email for details.



A few photos of the 2018 garden and markets