

# GALLATIN GRUBBER

February 2024

## Feb. 5 Meeting

Our Feb. 5 monthly meeting will feature newly-appointed MSU horticulturist Clair Luby as our speaker. Dr. Luby is a plant scientist with expertise in



*Clair Luby*

genetic diversity analysis and seed systems. Her interests include how agriculture is an intersection of humans and their environment. Her work combines

scientific and community-based approaches to solve complex agricultural problems. In addition to her academic work, she has worked to move seed sovereignty and organic agriculture forward. The meeting starts at 7 p.m. at Hope Lutheran Church, 19th and Graf, Bozeman.

## Dues due!

Club dues for 2024 are now due. If you've not yet paid, please mail cash or a check to Janne Hayward, 325 Concord, Bozeman, MT 59715. Dues remain at the bargain rate of \$10 per individual or \$15 per family.

## 2024 Proposed Grants

As recommended by its board of directors, the club is proposing to award thirteen grants totaling a record \$20,000 in 2024. Funding for the grants is provided by sales from our market garden, annual plant and tool sale and donations. The club membership will vote on this proposal at the February meeting.

MSU Horticulture Scholarships	Scholarships for horticulture students.	\$4,000
Montana Ag Live	Montana PBS ag and gardening call-in program.	500
Anderson School	School garden for grades K-8.	1,750
Belgrade Senior Center	Continued upkeep of raised bed gardens.	500
Belgrade Community Library	Restocking of seed library.	500
Bozeman High School	Fund a center to teach students with disabilities vocational gardening skills.	2,000
Bozeman Senior Center	Fresh fruit for meals-on-wheels program.	2,000
Cancer Support Community	Tools, supplies and seeds for Gardens of Hope.	1,000
Eagle Mount	Materials for wheel chair accessible path in garden.	2,500
Gallatin Valley Farm-to-School	Pilot project to support school gardens by partnering with community groups.	2,000
Gallatin Valley Food Bank (HRDC)	Support completion of hoop house at Story Mill garden.	2,000
Headwaters Food Bank	Funding to utilize raised beds at Three Forks food bank.	250
Sage Gardeners	Provide accessible gardening spaces for seniors.	1,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$20,000</b>

# Looking Ahead to 2024

*by Don Mathre, Garden and Market Manager*

Our first activities will be to sow onions (February 24), cole crops (early April), and tomatoes (late April) in the MSU Plant Growth Center. Stay tuned for the exact dates, always on Saturday mornings starting at 9 a.m. Planting is followed by coffee, treats and conversation in the PGC Atrium.



*Don Mathre*

The garden itself is nearly ready to go after getting tilled twice this past fall. One more tillage in late April should have it ready for planting. Our first activity will be to erect the pea fences and stake out the rows, hopefully around May 1, depending on the weather. Early seeded crops will be planted as soon thereafter as the weather permits. In mid-May we will transplants onions, cabbage and related crops plus get our gladiola corms in the ground. Stay tuned to your e-mail for announcements of the date and time for the various activities. We normally work in the garden on Tuesday and Friday mornings.

The garden will look a lot like last year's with the exception of some new varieties. Our colored cauliflower has been a big hit at the Farmers' Market so we will be growing more of them. Hope to also have some new flowers for our bouquets.