
GALLATIN GRUBBER

October 2019

Oct. 7 Meeting

Our next meeting will be Monday, Oct. 7 at the Hope Lutheran Church on South 19th Ave. beginning at 7 p.m. The program will be presented by each of us as this meeting is the highlight of our gardening year when everyone comes to tell us "What worked and what didn't work in our gardens in 2019". Believe me, there is much to talk about the 2019 gardening season with a cold, wet May that made planting challenging followed by a severe hail storm in mid-June. But much of the rest of the summer was very favorable for gardening and we had some real successes with some crops and some real problems with others. Come with examples of the highlights of each of your gardens, as well as the problems you encountered and how you dealt with them. If you have plant samples to illustrate things, bring them along. Specific variety names are also most appreciated if you know them. We are asking that each of you who want to present something, to limit it to 2-3 minutes so that everyone who has a chance to speak.

Refreshments: Janice Hand and Shannon Brightman

Garden and Market Report

We finished up the season on Sept. 14 at the Farmers' Market. Overall it was a good, but not outstanding garden and market season this year. We still have about 100 lbs. of tomatoes ripening up for anyone who would like to purchase them at \$1/lb. Just give Don Mathre a call at 406-587-8666 or e-mail at mathre@q.com. Thanks to club members and friends who helped plant, weed, water and harvest the garden and staff the farmers market booth. Special thanks to:

- MSU and the Dean of Agriculture for providing the land, water, and electricity for our garden at the Hort Farm.
- Dave Baumbauer, manager of the Plant Growth Center and the Hort Farm, for all his support and his co-workers who keep the farm looking so nice.
- Mac Burgess and his crew who help with garden clean up in the fall and rototilling in the spring.

It was a great effort that paid off well, both in terms of the produce grown and sold and the wonderful friendships created among participants.

Nov. 4 Annual Meeting

The Nov. 4 meeting is the club's official annual meeting where officers for the following year are elected. (see below). Following the election will be the world premiere of "A Year in the Garden", a video featuring the club garden and starring all of you! Frank Erickson shot and produced this video which follows the garden from planning through sowing, weeding, harvesting, selling at the market and fall clean-up. Bring your own popcorn and sit back and enjoy the movie!

Refreshments: Bonnie Solid, Tom Hash and Frank Erickson.

Election of 2020 Officers

The club is governed by a board of directors that is elected each November at the annual meeting. Current officers are:

- President: Pat Flaherty
- Vice-President: Cathy Rechlin
- Past President: Susie Mathre
- Secretary: Frank Erickson
- Treasurer: Janne Hayward
- Directors: Yvonne Baskin, Don Heyden, and Maggie Spinelli
- Market and Garden Manager: Don Mathre (This is not an elected position, per the club by-laws.)

Several of the directors have expressed a willingness to serve another term. But, if any member would like to be considered for the board, or would like to nominate someone to serve, please contact Club President Pat Flaherty before Oct. 21. His e-mail address is: flaherty77@gmail.com. The board meets once a month September through June, usually on the third Monday at 1 p.m. for one hour or so. The board organizes club events such as the Christmas party, plant and tool sale, summer picnic, summer field trips and speakers for monthly meeting. The board also considers applications for grants and makes recommendations to the membership, and attends to other club business.

Christmas Party Dec. 2

Our annual Christmas dinner will be Monday, Dec. 2, at the classic Story Mansion where the dinner has been held the past three years. While we have settled on the location, we need to have a short discussion at the October meeting as to whether the membership would like to continue with a catered dinner, or instead try a winter potluck.

Projects for Financial Support

Now is a good time to be thinking about what projects you would like the club to support financially in 2020. The Executive Committee will be calling for written proposals later this fall with applications due Jan. 15, 2020. At present, the club has about \$15,000 available for grants, which is considerably less than we've had available the last few years. As you come to the end of the year and are considering making a donation to one or more of your favorite charities, think about making a donation to the Gallatin Gardeners Club (we are a 501(c)3 organization). We will use the donations to augment funding of the many projects that we support from our market sales.

Containers Needed

Over the winter we need you to save clean plastic grocery bags with handles. We use them for a variety of purposes at the farmers' market. Bring them to any of our meetings throughout the winter and spring. ***We are not in need of any more plastic boxes.***