

GALLATIN GRUBBER

February 2025

Feb. 3 Meeting

Our Feb. 3 monthly meeting will feature Tom and May Heriza, owners of the 4 Daughters Farm on Stucky Road. Located on the periphery of Bozeman MT, 4D farm offers U-pick flowers and berries, a seasonal market farm shop, event florals, and workshops. 4D Farm believes in the importance of slowing down, establishing roots and the discovery of what sustains us. "The farm recalls an earlier era in Bozeman's history," writes Edible Bozeman magazine. The meeting starts at 7 p.m. at the Hope Lutheran Church, 19th and Graf, Room 123 and is open to all interested gardeners. Other speakers lined up for Spring meetings include Toby Day, Joshua Chance and Brent Roedeer.



Dues due!

Club dues for 2025 are now due. 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.

2025 Proposed Grants

The club's board of directors is proposing to award 16 grants totaling a \$17,250 in 2025. Funding for the grants is provided by sales from our market garden and donations. The membership will be asked to vote on this proposal at the February 3 meeting.

MSU Horticulture Scholarships	Scholarships for horticulture students.	\$4,000
Montana Ag Live	Montana PBS ag and gardening call-in program.	500
Belgrade Community Health Partners	Expand therapeutic student garden.	400
Belgrade FFA	Support new community farm and garden.	500
Belgrade Library	Restock seed library.	500
Belgrade Senior Center	Upkeep of raised beds.	600
Hawk's View Plant Center (BHS).	Purchase plants and support vocational field trips.	500
Bozeman Library	Replenish seed library.	500
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	Add shade sails to garden.	2,500
Gallatin Valley Food Bank (HRDC)	Support Story Mill garden.	2,000
Haven	Support shelter garden.	\$2,500
Headwaters Food Bank	Support food bank garden.	250
Sage Gardeners	Provide accessible gardening spaces for seniors.	1,000
Three Forks School	Establish garden on campus.	\$500
Total		\$17,250

Looking Ahead to 2025

This will be our first year growing the club garden without Don Mathre's leadership, but we are moving ahead as best we can. The garden was rough tilled last fall and will be ready for planting after being tilled again in the spring, hopefully by early May. We also have a brand-new hoop house, completed last fall, that will be the home for tomatoes and other heat-loving crops. Seeds have been ordered, largely reflecting what we've grown in the past with some colorful new and innovative additions.

The MSU Plant Growth Center is once again generously allowing us some greenhouse space for starting tomatoes, peppers, cole crops and a few other crops we need to sow early. Saturday work sessions for sowing those seeds will be in April, exact dates to be announced later. One change is that we will not starting our own onion plants this year, but will be trying Texas-grown plants, which several people have recommended to us.

Our first activity in the main garden 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 transplant onions, cabbage and related crops plus get our gladiola corms in the ground. We will also transplant tomatoes and peppers into the hoop house. 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.