

GALLATIN GRUBBER



December 2020

2021 Directors

The following slate of officers for 2021 was unanimously approved by the membership via email:

President: Cathy Rechlin

Vice-President: Susie Mathre

Secretary: Frank Erickson

Treasurer: Janne Hayward

Directors: Yvonne Baskin, Kim Kotur, and Mindy Makos.

(Pat Flaherty will continue to serve on the board as past president and Don Mathre as market and garden manager, per club bylaws.)

2021 Grants

Groups and organizations interested in applying for a grant in 2021 now have the opportunity. Deadline for applications is Jan. 15. See details at:

gallatingardenersclub.com

Sales of our exclusive Garden Club facemasks (see Cathy's photo at right) have been brisk, but we still have a few available. Cost is \$5 each. If you'd like to purchase one, email Susie Mathre at susiemathre@yahoo.com. Checks, cash or credit cards accepted!

Reflecting on a Challenging Year

Greetings to All,

This year has certainly been a year like no other on so many fronts. We've all had to deal with disappointment and had to make adjustments in all aspects of our lives. Quite frankly, I'm happy to see 2020 end! New year, yes please!



Club President Cathy Rechlin

There's still so much to be thankful for. Not so surprisingly our market garden, in this beautiful valley, produced spectacularly this year, but even more shocking was how well our farmer's market sales were. We had a fantastic year and will have around \$18,000 to grant. I'm so thankful to all who came out to work in the garden this past year

and to all who contributed in so many creative ways. We have such a wonderful group of volunteers, from beginners to life-long gardeners.

Although we can't meet in person for the time being we are producing some really educational and informative YouTube videos to be viewed on line at any time. It's certainly not the same as meeting on the first Monday evening of each month or enjoying a holiday meal together, but it does keep us virtually connected for now.

I so wish we could have not had such a memorable year as 2020 and spent more face-to-face time together. My wish to all of you is a safe, healthy and happy holiday season. A very happy New Year full of love, joy and cheer.

I look forward to warm sunny days where we can see each other's smiling faces in the garden and laugh together again.

Warmest Wishes and Merry Everything!

Cathy Rechlin, Club President

2021 Programs

The executive board has put together a series of monthly programs for 2021 to help keep interest in the club and gardening alive. Initially, programs will continue to be virtual postings on YouTube. Later we may resume in-person meetings if the situation allows.

January— Elisha Boyd, Program Manager of the Towne's Harvest Student Garden, speaking about the student garden.

February— Don Mathre on New Flower and Vegetable Varieties for 2021.

March— Plant Starting Tips and Tricks, featuring various club members.

April - Cathy Zabinski, Professor of Land Resources at MSU, speaking about her new book "Amber Waves", a history of wheat.

May—Toby Day, speaking about the company he currently works for that deals with medicinal plants.

June— Amiya (Abi) Saeed, new MSU Extension Horticulturalist, speaking on "Pollinator Strategies for the Home Garden."

Dues Due

Club dues for 2021 are now due: \$10 per person or \$15 for couples. Make checks payable to Gallatin Gardeners Club and mail to Janne Hayward, Treasurer, 325 Concord, Bozeman, MT 59715.

Reports on 2020 Grants

The club awarded over \$18,000 in scholarships and grants in 2020. Reporting back, grantees both thanked us for the grants and commented on adjustments they made during this unusual year. Below are excerpts from some of the reports:

Gallatin Valley Food Bank— “Thank you so much for the grant provided to support the Learning Garden at Story



Mill Community Park. Funds were used to pay for garden supplies, volunteer training, staffing and outreach materials... When the pandemic hit in March, one mother began visiting the Learning Garden and Food Forest daily with her

daughter. She expressed that it was a sanctuary for her family during a challenging year and they looked forward to their walk through the gardens each day.”

Jennah Lebrecht (scholarship recipient)— “Thank you for the Gallatin Gardeners Club Scholarship in memory of Bill Hayward. Your support has made a difference in my education and I thank you for it. With so much division in the world right now I believe plants can be a therapy for healing the community and its people.”

Gallatin Valley Farm to School:— “Our 2020 BOB (Bozone Ozone Bus) program year was not what we anticipated when we started out in January... When schools went to virtual learning, we were not able to go directly to schools so we created a YouTube channel and filmed a series of educational videos for teachers and parents to utilize with their students. These included subjects such as cooking with local produce, planting garden starts, and a behind-the-scenes tour of BOB.”

Josey Ugrin (scholarship recipient): “I am so grateful to receive the Gallatin Gardeners Club Scholarship in memory of Bill Hayward. Thank you so much for your consideration in the pursuit of student knowledge. This scholarship allows me to further my education and for that I am very grateful.”

Sacajawea Audubon Society— “We are pleased to report that our “Plants for Birds Demonstration Garden” was installed this summer within the Learning Garden of the Story Mill Community Park. We greatly appreciate the supportive financial grant of \$1,000 you provided to help make this garden a reality.”