

GALLATIN GRUBBER

March 2020

April 6 Meeting

At our April 6 meeting, Tim Seipel, MSU Extension Weed Specialist, will speak on garden weeds. Dr. Seipel collaborates with agricultural stakeholders to develop and deliver research-based information on weed ecology and management. The meeting will start at 7 p.m. at the Hope Lutheran Church on 19th and Graf.

Refreshments: Ardie Kelm, Carol Flaherty and Kim Kotur

Tomato Plants

As part of our club's fundraising, we will be growing tomatoes for sale at the Plant and Tool Sale as well as for sale to individual members of the garden club. If you would like to order plants, they are \$1.50 per plant which will be growing in 4 inch pots and available for distribution about Memorial Day weekend. The varieties available are: Big Beef, Whopper, Early Girl, New Girl, Native Sun (yellow), Fourth of July, Bobcat, Black Krim, Sungold, Sweet 100, and Juliet. If you have other varieties you would like to have planted, contact Don Mathre (mathre@q.com) and get the seed to him by April 15 and let him know how many of each you would like.

March 2 Meeting: Fertilizing Home Gardens

Our next meeting will be Monday, March 2 at the Hope Lutheran Church on South 19th Ave. beginning at 7 p.m. Dr. Clain Jones, MSU Extension Soils Specialist, will speak to us about all things relevant to fertilizing gardens, including how to test your soil, what fertilizers to use, the value of compost, etc. You won't want to miss this program since it is so important to our gardening success. Dr. Jones' work focuses on educating and providing technical assistance to extension agents, producers and crop advisers across Montana. His career interests include evaluating the processes that control nutrient availability and educating extension agents, crop advisers, farmers, ranchers, and homeowners on soil fertility issues. Currently, his research focuses on nitrogen and phosphorus availability in both no-till and tilled systems.

Refreshments: Loretta Bendz, Frank Erickson and Cara Priem.

Market Garden Update

We got our garden season off to a great start with our annual onion planting party on Feb. 15. Our next event will be a planting party to get the broccoli, cabbage, and other cole crops planted in flats. It will be on Saturday, April 11 at 9 a.m. in the Plant Growth Center. More details will be forthcoming via e-mail. On Saturday, April 25 we will host a tomato transplanting party to get our tomatoes for the club hoophouse going. It will also be at 9 a.m. in the Plant Growth Center. Depending on the weather, we will have our first work party for the main garden in late April or early May to put up the pea fences as well as getting all the rows staked out. Again, stay tuned for the exact date and time.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Janne Hayward reports that we awarded \$17,925 in grants this year and \$180,000 since 2004. What a wonderful gift to the community!