

## Laramie County Master Gardeners Newsletter

### January, 2007

I've learned of a cure for those itchy tingling hands caused by Wyoming's short growing season. With the warm-up predicted for the first week of the year I knew it was time to water the new trees. Wanting to not be wasteful and just a little bit lazy about pulling hoses and emptying them, I decided to make use of the wonder 5 to 6 foot drifts (one of which has eaten the patio and is starting on the back porch) by using the wheelbarrow to mound snow around the bases of the wrapped tree trunks. Keeping in mind that it takes 10 inches of snow to make 1 inch of water, the shoveling began. As usual, this was a learning experience. Did you know pushing a wheelbarrow through the little drifts is hard work? Did you know that fine powder snow under the crusted over stuff stays light and fluffy? Does the wind blow in Wyoming? It is also time consuming to get the splinters from the wheelbarrow out of your fingers, making the experience last even longer. Oh well, live and learn.

The new officers are at work. We owe a debt of gratitude to Shelley and Wanda for all their hard work. Please take a moment to let these ladies know how much you appreciate the many hours and the effort they have given.

**At the next meeting**, to be held on January 16 at 6:30 at the Fire Station we'll be discussing the following things:

1. Suspension the Mother's Day Raffle. Instead, two planters will be available for raffle at each house on the Garden Walk in July. Reasons will be explained at the meeting.
2. The date for the Plant Sale is May 17. A few more volunteers are needed to work on this committee.
3. Volunteers are needed to be paired by interest with the student in the spring class. Hopefully this will encourage greater continued participation after they graduate next fall.
4. Roberta will be presenting quotes for printing our Journal.
5. By-laws and audit committees may be presenting reports. Other committees need volunteers.
6. Is there an interest in having a monthly newsletter similar to this one? If there is, how do you feel about email distribution for those who have access? For those without email, would you be willing to provide us with a stamped, self-addressed envelope?
8. You should have received your interest inventory by email or post. Please get it in as soon as possible.
9. Logo—still and some more.

**New email address:** Christy can be contacted at [LCMG.pres@gmail.com](mailto:LCMG.pres@gmail.com). This address can be passed on to future presidents and might provide some consistency in contacting officers.

**Website** Wanda will continue maintaining our website.

**Hours** Keep track of all continuing education classes you attend, yard calls, time spent volunteering in Catherine's office, time spent writing articles and setting up meetings and special events, work on beautification projects for other 501-c-3 organizations. If in doubt, talk to Catherine.

**Congratulations** to Shelley and her husband on the birth of their daughter, Kaylee Grace, on December 4, 2007.

**Condolences** to the families of Kim Parker and Robin Andergregg who both lost their battles with cancer last month.

**Email** If you have email and we don't have your address, please share it with us. Roberta does a great job of distributing information and you don't want to miss out.

**President's Thoughts** This group has experienced some real successes because of the hard work of its members and officers. I think the potential for more success is enormous. Being "new blood", I need your help. We don't need to spend time trying to do things that haven't been successful before. I value open communication and actively want your input.

As with most groups, members sometimes drop out. If you are, or if you know of, a Master Gardener who no longer comes to meetings I'd appreciate knowing what we might do to encourage more active participation. The Executive Committee is currently exploring programs and activities that will hopefully appeal to most members. We'd like to see our numbers grow while fulfilling our mission of education and civic beautification.

I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting.

*Christy*

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