

THE GARDEN PATCH



May 2006

Salt Lake Master Gardener Association

Vol. 8, No.5



PASS-ALONG GARDENING

By Catherine New

Once early April's forsythia punctuate the neighborhood, matching yellow blossoms percolate up in the native *mahonia repens* pooled around the aspen at the northwest corner of our front yard. While subtle fuzzy pendants emerge on the aspens, mahonia leaves turn fresh bright green below their bubbly yellow blossoms. In summer, dark blue berry clusters will adorn the mahonia; all winter its leaves were a rich deep burgundy color that contrasted dramatically with the white aspen trunks. Goldfinches and chickadees frequent this corner, singing and flitting from stem to stem, ground level to tree top and back down and up again.

At the southwest corner of the front yard I was dividing a woody rhubarb, trying to recall how many years ago it started as a little pass-along plant from a neighbor across the street. A grandmother came pushing a stroller down the sidewalk (her fifteenth grandbaby I learned when she stopped to chat.) Grandma grew up in the neighborhood; the infant and she were visiting great-grandma, her mother who still lives in their family home around the block. When grandbaby and grandma eventually resumed rolling down the sidewalk, a pass-along start of rhubarb swung in a plastic bag at the back of the stroller.

On hands and knees, at the north side of the front yard, I wrestled the variegated vinca, trying to recall how many years ago it started as a little pass-along sprig brought home after a Fourth of July celebration at a Buhl, Idaho farm. I was in my own world, stuffing fistfuls of vine into the bucket, reflecting on pass-along plants and listening to the woodpecker rat-a-tat the utility pole, when I realized a thin little voice had been speaking to me. From the sidewalk in the sunshine under the aspen next to the yellow mahonia blossoms, a vaguely familiar girl's face gazed at me over the fence. She was probably about kindergarten age.

"Do you have any praying mantises in your yard this year?"

A budding entomologist! She was soon joined by her mother and brother and the four of us reminisced that summer 2005 they had repeatedly observed a mantis preying in the bronze fennel and the rhubarb at the west sidewalk fence.

I guided our conversation to their yard (small back yard with some plants and sunshine), about insecticide use (no), and whether they'd be interested in hatching a praying mantis ootheca this spring (yes). I invited them into our front yard to see the ootheca I'd recently noticed about 18" above ground on a dried adendorpha stalk due for winter cleanup. While the children crouched to peer at the ootheca, mother and I reminded them about the praying mantis hatch they'd seen in the movie *Bugs!!!* There was quick enthusiasm about hatching this ootheca in their back yard. I instructed them to leave it on the stem and fasten the stem securely, perhaps with twist-ties, in an easy-to-observe place where by Memorial Day there would be some foliage for the nymphs to take cover in and some small insects for them to prey upon. The children were wary of the stem on which clung the papery-layered-foamy lump of an ootheca and preferred mother to carry it. And so the three of them went out the side gate to continue their walk, while I resumed wrestling the vinca and reflecting on our neighborhood's "pass-along culture."

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Traci Dahle

We had another fun meeting at our annual plant swap. We even had blue badge holders who said they had never been to the plant swap before. They didn't realize how much fun it would be, and that they would receive so many different plants. We had a ten minute talk on "Rip Your Strip" by Mark Dannonour from the Utah Rivers Council. He talked about how we can take the grass out of our parking strips and make them water wise gardens. But, keep in mind, if you ever do this to check with your local city and see what their rules are.

Thanks to everyone who brought plants. We had a lot to swap and Dick Hadfield brought his fun cement plaques that have a picture of a dandelion on it and say ALL MY WEEDS ARE WILDFLOWERS. If you have never received one, (for instance, the new class) Maggie Shao has the leftovers. If you want to pick one up, contact her. Also anyone who received one of the gift certificates: if you can't use it please give it to someone who can. I would hate to have them go to waste.

Thanks, Dick for your dedication. Dick Hadfield was one of the first people in the Master Gardeners to make me feel comfortable in the group. That's why it's important to talk to the new class and make them feel welcome. It only takes a couple of times to feel out of place, and they might not come back. We don't want to lose future board members, project managers, or just fun and hard-working people, so mingle with the new people when you get a chance.

We had our vote on the bylaw changes and they all passed. Thanks to everyone for your support. We will now be able to apply for non-profit status, which will help on fund raising, lower our postage rate, and more important it will help to get donations for Fresh From the Heart and other projects that might need help in one area or another.

When I got home from Arizona, I sure had a busy week. I got my gardens tilled up and planted my spring garden (late of course). I finished cleaning out my yard of dry perennials before the new growth starts coming up (late of course). I took out some of my yard art in my spare time. I even took advantage of a plant sale (I never pass up a sale. Ken says our car automatically drives in to a nursery when there is a sale sign) and planted about 30 new perennials and some cold tolerant annuals. We worked at Gilgal in the wet cold mud Tuesday, cleaned out the pond at the Fair Park on Wednesday, cleaned out about 50 pots for Fresh from the Heart, and talked at Murray High school on Thursday morning. Then I had to get my plants ready for the swap and set up for the meeting. I was ready for a break. So that night, we packed the truck and headed for Arizona on Friday morning.

I got down to Arizona and had about 15 ripe tomatoes, not including the ones that my neighbors had in a basket in their house. We were playing cards one night so for a middle of the game snack we all ate tomatoes. It's been fun to go out and pick one off the vine whenever I get a craving this time of the year. This is our last trip down so we will be hauling back all our flower pots and tomatoes, also cleaning up the yard, trimming all the lantana and bougainvilleas for the summer.

I'm looking forward to a busy and fun summer. I hope to see you all out working on one of our projects this year. Remember just because you have graduated you still should put in some hours somewhere during the year. If you can't do hard labor jobs, there is always diagnostics, teaching a class, web work for Amy, sitting at one of our booths for the garden shows or the fairs. So we have no excuse not to put in at least five hours or more a year. Happy Gardening!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Take care and be safe. See you at Cactus and Tropicals on May 18!!!!!!
Traci Dahle smoki1@smartfella.com

Nominating Committee

If you want to run for office or know someone who wants to run please contact

Jeff Asay

jeffrey.asay@comcast.net

or Cindy Deverall

cddeverall@msn.com

or Teresa Rivera

teresa@sisna.com

THANKS FOR NATIVE PLANT WORKSHOP HELP!

By Andrea Berman

I would like to thank all of the Master Gardeners who worked on the Utah Native Plant Propagation workshops. I also want to note my appreciation for all the enthusiastic and hard-working student Master Gardeners. With all their help, we not only sorted and nicked many seeds, but we also mixed soil, filled and watered trays, and the list goes on and on. Most importantly, we were successful at our role as Master Gardeners -- outreach to the community. Because of everyone's efforts with this project, USU Extension and the SLMGA were well represented within our community. Thank you all very much.

Please add to your 2006 SLMGA Phone List: Contact a member of the board for phone numbers

Burggraaf, Max V

Chin, Lisa

Croft, Susan

Israelson, Andrew

Lee, Stephanie

Mortensen, Spencer

Ross, Carol

White, Merry



Addicted to Spray? Try 12 Steps to Recovery!

By Maggie Wolf

Karl Hauptfleisch will back me up on this; people love to spray. I suppose it's their way of feeling in control, of denying the power of nature. I often wish we could package a brand of innocuous home remedies if only to keep people from using broad-spectrum insecticides. Maybe we could call it "Sherry Baker's Magic Whisky Mixture". Then follow up with a chaser spray of beer!

Letting go of Dursban then Diazinon threw people into withdrawal symptoms. I've actually had callers ask me if I know anyone who would let them have some of their old pesticide stash.

For any of you sponsoring a recovering Diazinon addict, remember these 12 steps:

Step 1: Admit you are powerless against your spraying addiction.

Step 2: Embrace hope that you may have a productive crop.

Step 3: Have faith that nature can maintain a balance.

Step 4: Inventory your old pesticides and properly dispose of those that are expired.

Step 5: Admit that you've over-mixed, used chemicals wrongly, and harmed non-target insects.

Step 6: Be ready to accept new pest management practices.

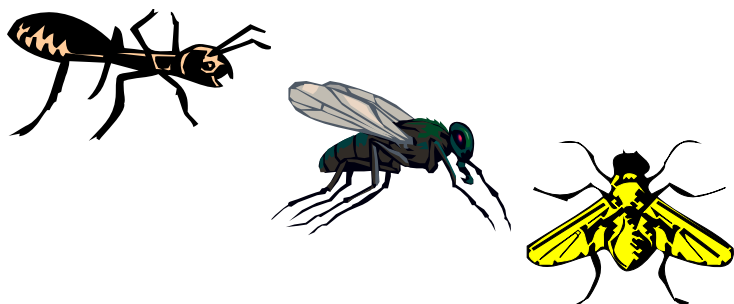
Step 7: Let go of the need to obliterate garden and landscape insects.

Step 8 & 9: Think of all the bees, lacewings, ladybugs, and preying mantis you've harmed, and vow to try to protect them in the future.

Step 10 and 11: Continue to learn and practice Integrated Pest Management, reading labels and literature and practicing cultural controls.

Step 12: Carry the message of IPM and sustainable landscaping to neighbors, friends, and fellow gardeners.

God grant us the serenity to accept the labeling we cannot change, courage to change our pest management practices, and the wisdom to peel and slice the apple before biting into it!



Notes from Maggie Shao

Spring has sprung! Festival season has started with the good weather and here are a few events you might be interested in for May.

Saturday May 13th, 8am to 6pm. 3rd Annual Live Green Festival. Pierpoint Ave between West Temple and 200 West. Sharing sustainable lifestyle choices.

Friday May 19th, 9am to 3pm. Plant Diagnostic Class. Learn more about diagnosing plant problems with Extension Specialists Diane Alston, Entomologist & Kent Evans, Plant Pathologist. Register by calling 468-3179. Cost is \$10

Saturday May 20th, 8am to 2 pm. Jordan Valley Water Conservancy Garden Fair Theme: Water-wise Landscape Design. 8215 S 1300 W. Master Gardeners will have a table. For more information: <http://www.slowtheflow.org/programs/fairs.html>

Flower Design Class for State Fair Competition

Come join us at Artistic Designers /Judges Council of Utah. We meet the third Thursdays of each month at the Garden Center in Sugar House Park at 1:00 p.m. Center is located at 2100 South just behind Highland High School.

We study basics of design, more advanced designs, hold small flower shows each month, have pot lucks and two big shows a year. No pressure to perform. Just come and enjoy.

Dues are \$15.00 a year for a year of good, good fun. For more information, call Debbie Ragan at 801-756-7356 or Ruth Magar at 278-0696

Federal Heights Garden Tour

Saturday June 10, 2006 9-4 p.m. rain or shine. Tickets are \$15 per person. Children under 11 are free-Discount coupons for \$5. are available prior to June 10th at Tuscan Garden Works.

Tour headquarters: Masonic Temple Lawn

Tickets are available beginning May 1st at Tuscan Garden Works, Cactus & ropicals, Western Garden Centers. Proceeds fund the employment program that teaches low-income single moms how to earn an adequate income in order to provide a better future for their kids.

The tour is in Federal Heights and is a self-guided walking tour. Gardens large and small, old and new, classic and innovative. About a dozen gardens to choose from.

DAHLIA DIARY V

THE GROWING STAGE

This diary prepares the grower -a month or less - before each step needs to be taken. In April we talked about planting, which most likely will be done in May. The exception would be to provide for frost protection and warming the soil, such as the Wall o' Water method.

Now, with tubers going into the ground, it's time to discuss the care of dahlias during the growing stage. These magnificent flowers can be planted and enjoyed without spending a great deal of time on them. However, the more tender loving care given to the plant and flowers - the greater the reward.

General Care

* When first planted the tuber should be kept damp, but the ground not be allowed to become soggy. After the plant appears it will need a constant supply of moisture. Drip type irrigation is best. But no matter what method is used, adding mulch is a good way of conserving water.

* Avoid any deep hoeing or cultivation. Feeder roots sent out from the tuber are generally very shallow.

* As the first shoot comes up it is very tender, serving as an enticing delicacy for snails and slugs. Don't share. Control the pests by whatever method you can.

* Sometimes a tuber will have more than one eye, sending up more than one stalk. These can be left to grow but since a single stem is preferred, gardeners should resort to a difficult practice. Use tough love. Save only the strongest stalk and remove any extras to encourage the best growth.

Tying

* As dahlias grow and begin to bloom they will need support to promote straight stalks and protect the plant from wind damage.

* With the stake in place, begin tying when the plant is 12"-18" tall and continue tying every foot or so as it grows. Green jute works well as any pieces lost or left in the garden will decompose.

* Select a suitable length and double it. Pass the loop around the stalk and the two loose ends through that loop, not very tight. Then support the stalk to the stake with a single knot then around the stake in a double knot.

* As the plant thickens in diameter these lower ties can become too tight and must be loosened or removed.

Topping (or Stopping)



This plant has been stopped above the third pair of leaves. This encourages more branching.

Left alone the plant will grow until the one terminal bud on the growing tip blooms. To promote more branches and flowers *carefully* break off this terminal tip. Do this when A and AA size plants have two or three leaf pairs, when B or BB have three or four leaf pairs and with smaller varieties after the terminal bud has formed.

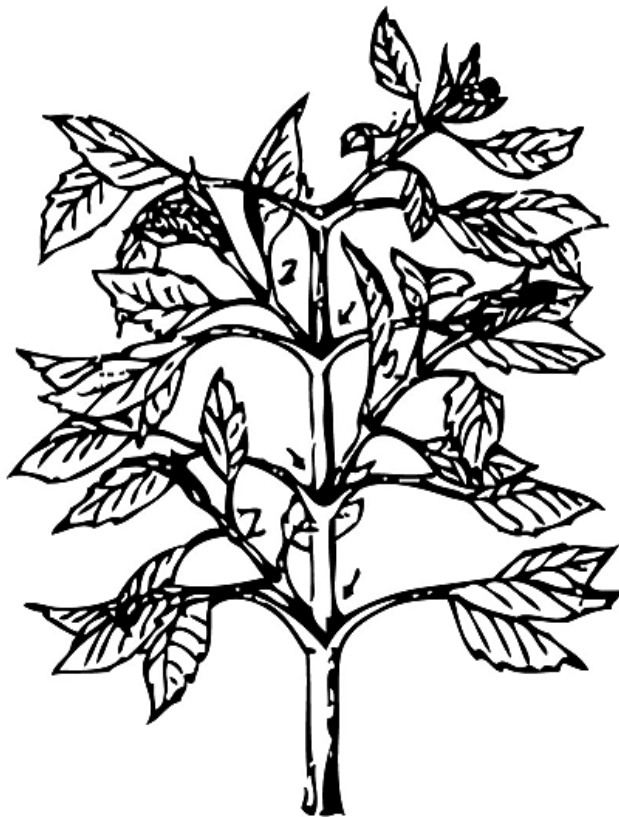
Disbranching

Sometimes some branches are removed to promote less, but larger flowers. This is usually only performed on large and giant varieties and should be done approximately two weeks after topping. The practice is carried out according to personal preference, especially by those who enter competitions, but other growers can be equally successful while enjoying a stunning display of dahlias in greater abundance. Notice on the illustration on page 5, that after topping, four new branches were removed from alternating nodes, leaving four other new branches. It gives the plant nice balance.

After the snow storm on April 17th, we had freezing weather for two nights. It was 19 degrees in my backyard, and it took out the neighbor's apricot crop. I am still waiting to see if the peaches were affected. Some of the tomato plants that were starting to grow out of the water walls were frozen a little on top. The water walls were mostly frozen but they still protected the plants. The rest of the garden seems to look okay so far. Only time will tell.

I have a lot of bags of leaves and pine needles that I was not able to sheet compost in the garden. With the compost pile I started last fall not being ready to use, I cleaned out the finished compost from one of the bins and shoveled it in to finish. I took all of the bags of leaves and pine needles and ran them through the shredder, so with the green material from the lawn clippings I should be able to get the pile cooking. This should make my wife happy to have all of the orange bags removed from the back yard.

DAHLIA DIARY, cont. from page 4



Next Month: DISBUDDING

Golden's Garden

By Wm. Golden Reeves

I planted clematis starts directly in the ground last year and they did not seem to do very well. This year I was surprised to see them coming up again, so I bought some more plants and started them in the greenhouse. They are doing great! I have planted them next to the others clematis, so they should fill up the large wheels I have against the back fence.

I taught a class up at Red Butte the first part of March on tomatoes. As part of the class they planted a flat of tomatoes from seeds. There were some great-looking tomato plants at the plant swap. I noticed that the varieties were the same ones used at that class. One of the new class members' husband had attended the class, and they only had room for five plants in their garden so they brought them to the swap. I guess I can take this as a confirmation that the class was a success. Sometimes I wonder if anyone learns some of the skills we are trying to teach.

I am waiting to prune the grape vines to see what canes have survived the winter weather. Last year I pruned them too early and the production was way down. The rhubarb has grown great this year; I have stewed some and put it on cottage cheese. At the store it was selling for \$2.59 a pound. I wouldn't pay that much for it, but it is a great plant to have in the garden.

The Christmas cactus is in bloom again this spring; I guess the amount of light it gets from being in the south window has triggered another bloom cycle. The cuttings from my rosemary plant have really been growing well, but I think I have lost the mother plant. I have started a lot of flowers from seed in the basement. Some I got from the seed exchange. Last year I tried to start the Butterfly weed and failed. This year my neighbor got the seed, and they really came up great. I have learned to check the encyclopedia on plants to find out the proper propagation method. This has helped me a lot.

Only a few of the carrots I have planted came up, so I replanted with new seed fairly close to the other rows. I will probably need to keep them watered so they can have a chance to grow. In the same bed that I have the carrots planted, I also have radishes planted. They are just starting to show some size. I have the greenhouse about full of plants, and I am waiting to see how the weather is going to be before I plant them in the gardens. We may be through with the frost for this year, but if I plant too early I know Mother Nature is going to punish me with more freezing weather. I am not going to take a chance this year. Happy gardening everyone!

MURRAY PARK

We will meet each Tuesday at 8:30 a.m. to work. The address for the Murray Park Office is 296 East Murray Park Ave. Questions? Contact Becky Hansen

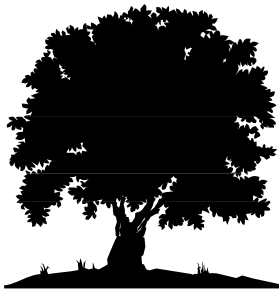
GENERAL MEETING LOCATIONS

Please note that, as usual, we will have a variety of locations for our general meetings in the next few months.

May 18 - Cactus and Tropicals
2735 South 2000 East

June 15 - Wasatch Community Gardens Straw Bale Greenhouse 600 East 800 South

Tree Tours of the State Arboretum of Utah



Come join us for a beautiful walk in the trees on the University of Utah campus. A master gardener tour of the State Arboretum of Utah is scheduled for **Saturday, June 24th at 3:00 p.m.** followed by a potluck at the home of Ann Scott. Look for additional information in future newsletters. If you have a group that would like to tour the arboretum please contact us. We would love to take you and your group on a tour of these magnificent trees. In addition, a guide book has been published to enhance your visit. Contact Julie Myers at 474-3954 or jscott63@comcast.net

KENNECOTT BUS TOUR

We are thinking about having a Kennecott Bus Tour in late August. We will meet out there on a week night about 5:30 for people who work. We need to get a count of how many we will have going in case we need another bus. Family member are welcome to come. We will be seeing the work they have done on their tailings ponds, based on the talk we had by Alex in January 2005. If you are interested, please contact Traci A.S.A.P. then we can get a date down and put it in next month's newsletter.

Minimal Mess/Speedy Repotting

By Mary Nichols

The title sounds like an oxymoron doesn't it? Read on.

Recently I bought lots of 2 inch pot geraniums (*pelargonium*) priced at 2/\$1. What a bargain! Or is it? What an undertaking! Tender plants are best put in the ground after June 1 at our home (In 1973 as a neophyte Utah gardener I planted my tomatoes on a beautiful, clear day, May 25, 1973. Three days later I was digging them up during a huge snowstorm on May 30! Back in our salad days I could not afford to replace them and didn't have anything with which to cover them.) So I never put tender plants out until June 1. Confronted with the large task of nursing them along for 2 months, my instinctive reaction was to repot them. This was reaffirmed after a one minute consultation with Maggie Wolfe. Without hesitation she said, "I'd repot them."

So, what to do? How to do it?

Luckily I have a gardening table in the garage with a slippery surface for easy clean-up. Previously I'd purchased some organic potting mix at an excellent price. Fortunately I saved enough 4" pots from other years' starts and I had some bulk mulch ready to use. The young seedlings had been watered once.

One of my favorite, most useful, thrift shop purchases is a large plastic tub (15" x 20" x 5") with rounded edges for easy carrying. I filled it with the potting mix, had a pan of mulch nearby with the seedlings at the ready. I donned my gloves and went to work. I knocked out 4 plants at a time; lay them on top of the mix. I put some mix in the bottom of the 4 inch pot, sprinkled in a bit of mulch over the mix, popped in the plant and filled in the sides with more mix and topped it off with more mulch. The first one was done. Yeah! Out of curiosity I timed myself. All 28 plants were in their new homes in 30 minutes. I was ecstatic. A dreaded job was completed; clean-up took five minutes. Now I could go back outside to enjoy the delicious sunshine.

The key factor in the speed was the large tub. I began using it several years ago whenever I repotted plants. I used to do this work on the garage floor which was hard on the back and legs. Next I tried doing it out on the grass, but it seemed like I lost more soil into the grass than into the new pots as well as being on my knees. During the winter I'd work on newspaper on the kitchen counter next to the sink. This seemed to splatter dirt in all the wrong places, and using a damp cloth to wipe it up made the dirt multiply.

When I use the tub the only clean up needed is to sweep off any leftover soil on the gardening table into the tub, then dump all the soil out of the tub back into the soil bag. Task completed, check it off! (My recycled whisk broom is an old cut off broom; its' handle is in my big container of plant stakes.) Oops, don't forget to water your new plants in an arrangement which allows them to drain. I keep mine in the garage for a few days before I roll them outside on my kid's old wagon to harden them off. It is critical to keep an eye on the weather so you don't lose them if one of our recent storms rolls in. Enjoy!

A NOTE TO THE NEW CLASS

Just a word of encouragement: 40 hours seems like a lot of time right now. The best way to attack it is to dig right in. There is a lot of variety on when you can work.

State Fairpark—Wednesday evenings

Murray Park—Tuesday mornings

Wheeler Farm—4 different garden areas.

Check with project managers (page 10) for times and days

Gilgal Garden—Tuesdays or other

Magna Elementary—Fridays

Pioneer Park Farmers Market—Saturdays

Information coming:

Diagnostic Clinics—probably Mondays

Utah AIDS Foundation—probably
Wednesdays

Christmas Box House
Hidden Hollow

Plus, there are a variety of other volunteer hours opportunities (see Fundraising page 8 for example). Check *The Garden Patch* each month for those miscellaneous opportunities.

Remember that you can count reasonable travel time to and from the project.

Don't procrastinate and don't get discouraged! It is great fun, a lot of work, and an excellent learning experience. The first 40 hours are the hardest!

Your efforts are greatly appreciated—

Remember to plant an extra row of produce for *Fresh From the Heart*. Share your harvest with the hungry!

Reciprocal Garden Receipts

By Mary Nichols

What to do with your plant information tags and receipts?

Toss them in a drawer?

Let the wind whisk them away?

Allow them to replicate in your wallet?

With a minimal amount of effort you can store, access, and use these receipts and tags to great advantage. If a plant with a one-year guarantee lives only 7 months, you will be able to take its remains and its receipt to the store for your refund! Here's how:

1. At the purchase point, write at the top of the receipt how many and what you just bought. Example: 21 geraniums, 2 bags Soil Pep, 1 pair garden gloves. If you do this in your own handwriting, it will be much faster to read when you are searching for your proof of purchase. Seeing its photo may help, too.
2. Keep the information tag about the plant, the one which tells its common and scientific names, the proper amount of sun and water needed for growth and survival, and its perfect picture.
3. Buy yourself a small, spiral notebook of about 4.5" x 5.5"
4. Staple both aforementioned papers on pages facing each other. Use only one staple on tags or seed pack ages so you can still read the reverse side.

You are finished with your filing!

NOW when a friend asks you where a gorgeous plant or a neat garden tool came from, you will be able to tell them all the above information with a quick search of your little notebook.

When, sadly, a plant does not survive, you will be able to take the plant and book to the correct store for a refund in a timely manner. Recently when I went to the returns department with my garden receipt book the clerk who scanned by receipt said, "I've never seen one of these before. That's neat." "Thank you," I said "and it's SO easy."

Just like a tennis serve it takes follow through. (Only 4 of 8 dahlia bulbs in a package grew, and amazingly they refunded the total purchase price.)

Another way to store information tags is to tape them into an unused standard size photo album (these can often be found at dollar stores and thrift stores). This can be helpful when planning a garden. If you need to recall a plant's name which you may wish to purchase, you can check the book. It may also prevent a mistake when you had poor luck with a particular variety of plant.

Questions: Contact Mary Nichols

FUNDRAISING

Anyone willing to help to get items to give away at our meetings (most of all at our picnic). I have done this for over 5 years and would like to have a little help with follow up phone calls, sending out letters, pick up items, that kind of thing. It would be a great way to get hours if you can't get around very well. It's not hard but sometimes can be quite time consuming, so if I had a couple of people as a group to work in different parts of the valley, that would be great. Contact me if you are interested. Traci e-mail smokil@smartfella.com

UTAH STATE FAIRPARK

Join us at the Fair Park on Wednesday evenings from 5:00 p.m. until dusk or so. Last month we pruned the roses and cleaned the pond. Soon we will add fish and additional plants. We will be planting seeds and seedlings during May, including sunflowers, ornamental peppers and ornamental corn. We are still looking for a willing Master Gardener to be co-manager this year. If you are interested or have any questions about the garden, please contact Cathy Miller.

GILGAL GARDEN

By Traci Dahle

Well, we started working at Gilgal. I, of course only worked one day while I was in town. It happened to snow that morning so we didn't have any extra help but our usual faithful people came. One thing that we don't do is not show up if it's cold (unless it is in the middle of a snow storm.) We have been known to work in rainy cold muddy conditions. I don't know if it's dedication or just stupidity but we get-r-done.

We are working every Tuesday night starting at 3:00 p.m. and ending at 6:00 p.m. If any one wants to get hours, please come. Once you have learned what to do you can work at you own convenience. Some people like to work in the cool morning hours or work and can't come until later. The gates are always open during the daylight hours. We hope to see you there.

Thanks to everyone who helps. We really appreciate it. If you have any question contact:
Bev Sudbury beverlysudury@yahoo.com or
Traci Dahle smokil@smartfella.com

Spotlight

On Peg Crowley

Unlike most gardeners, who sign up to improve their skills, Peg Crowley enrolled in the Master Gardener course out of desperation. "A friend brought a dead plant to my housewarming," she says. "To save me the trouble of killing it." She eventually gave Peg the real present – a nice silk plant.

How could this be, considering Peg's genes? Born a Sudbury, she's related to Don and probably every other Sudbury in the valley. Her gardening roots are just as deep on the maternal side. Her grandmother grew beautiful irises at her home in Hunter. Her mother had a lovely rose garden, where Peggy often slipped out to play as a child. She has a picture of herself there, a four-year-old all dressed up to go to a party, her fancy dress covered with mud.

"I guess I've always liked the soil," Peg says. But thanks to Master Gardener know-how she's even gained the confidence to take on the job of Magna Elementary Project Manager. "Only with Mark Hurst's backing, she insists. "He's the brains." This would be a great program for any school. Students from grades K-6 can join the garden club. They divide fifteen raised beds among the classes and choose their gardens, such as a butterfly, vegetable or red, white and blue. One, of course, showcases Mark's dahlias. They meet Friday afternoons, year around, and can always use the help of an extra Master Gardener.

Peg grew up in Kearns. "Class of '75," she says, "You do the math." A hair stylist for almost 30 years, she likes all the arts, especially plays. The Crowleys raised their two sons in West Jordan. They are now enjoying two grandkids, one of whom is Peg's garden helper.

With the entire yard needing redo, Peg took a landscaping class and has a design in place. Hard-pressed to do the large lot all at once, she tackles a different section each year. Her husband put in a huge canopy for her secret garden. The northern exposure presents a challenge. Fortunately she likes hostas. Honeysuckle and wisteria are coming along nicely, as is the cutting garden. Seems Peg has exchanged her old brown thumb for a green one. People are now actually giving her *live* plants. An abundance of daylilies came from such starts.



HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING!

Friday and Saturday, May 5 - 6 - Red Butte Gardens Annual Plant Sale

Saturday, May 6 - Utah Iris Society Early Show at the Sugarhouse Park Garden Center at 1602 East 2100 South.

Thursday, May 18 - GARDEN TOUR:

Dick & Barbara Hadfield: 6 - 9 pm. 1897 E. Claybourne Avenue. Open both before and after our General meeting at Cactus & Tropicals. See fabulous spring blooming perennials.

General Meeting at Cactus and Tropicals at 7:00 pm. It's time for our annual field trip to a local nursery to see what new and exciting plants have come out for 2006. Cactus and Tropicals is located at 2735 South 2000 East.

Saturday, May 20 - Wheeler Farm Pumpkin Patch planting and drip irrigation installation. Meet Golden there at 8:00 a.m. Get volunteer hours.

Saturday, May 20 - Utah Iris Society Big Iris Show at the Sugarhouse Park Garden Center at 1602 East 2100 South.

Saturday, May 20 - Jordan Valley Water Conservation Garden Fair. 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 21 - GARDEN TOUR:

*Faythe & Kevin Adams - 3663 South 1100 East
Karen Shurtz - 3744 South 2700 East
Noon to 5:00 or so.*

Sunday, May 28 - If you like/love iris, join us for a trip to Zebra Garden. Meet at the Extension Office parking lot at 9:00 a.m. if you want to carpool. Or take I-15 north to Exit 379—Tremonton. Zebra Garden is 9130 North 5200 West, Elwood, UT.

Friday and Saturday, June 2 and 3 - State-wide Master Gardener Mini-College in Logan, UT. See www.utahmastergardeners.org/mg-mc.html for details.

Thursday, June 15 - General Meeting at Wasatch Community Gardens - 600 East 800 South. 7:00 p.m. Come see and learn about the straw bale greenhouse. The designers and builders will be our tour guides.

Saturday, June 24 - U of U Tree tour (original State Arboretum). Julie Meyer and Anne Scott will be our tour guides. See page 9 for details.

Saturday, July 15 - Albion Basin Wild Flower identification field trip. Fellow Master Gardener Sherm Brough will once again give a class on identifying wild flowers. Join us and learn how to use a Dichotomous Key written by Sherm that will quickly help you identify that 5 petalled pink flower with 10 stamens and lobed leaves in a basal arrangement.

Thursday, July 20 - General meeting 7:00 pm: Alan Roe, the USU 'bug guy' will teach a class on Spider Identification.

Friday, July 21 - GARDEN TOUR:

Howard Andrews (gladiolas): 10 am to dark 3643 South 2200 West.

Saturday, July 29 - GARDEN TOUR:

*Ann Scott 1749 Ft. Douglas Circle (195 North)
Julie Myers 951 Diestel Road (1730 East)
Time TBA*

Wednesday, August 9 - GARDEN TOUR:

*Cindy Deverall: 1075 E. Vine Street, Murray
Karen Crook: 622 Lincoln Place, Murray
5 - 8 pm*

Wednesday - Saturday August 16 - 19 Salt Lake County Fair: Time to utilize the information learned from Etsuko Freeman, enter your flowers and take home the ribbons. Also another opportunity for volunteer hours if you help at the SLMGA booth.

Thursday, August 17 - General Meeting/Annual Picnic/BBQ and Iris Exchange at Murray Park Pavilion #5 (same place as always). 5:00 - 9:30 pm.

Saturday, August 26 - GARDEN TOUR:

*Robin Chubak (edible landscape) - 5266 Hunter Drive (3325 South) 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Steve LeCheminant - 5330 West Garden Green Circle (4065 South) 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Mark Hurst (Dahlia) - 5539 Elaine Avenue (3930 South) Time TBA*

Thursday through Sunday, September 7 - 17 Utah State Fair Another opportunity to utilize the information learned from Etsuko Freeman, enter your flowers and take home more ribbons. Also another opportunity for volunteer hours.

Thursday, September 21 - General Meeting 7:00 p.m. in the classroom. **Joy Bossi**, Master Gardener and host of the radio show "Joy in the Garden" (Saturdays from 9 to noon on 570 am.

Thursday, October 19 - General Meeting at the Columbus Center 2530 South 500 East. **Election Night and Successes and Failures.** Share this year's gardening successes and failures.

**P
R
O
J
E
C
T
S**

Christmas Box House
236 South 300 East

Peggy Call - pcall@xmission.com
Virginia Sargeant

Fresh From the Heart

Jennie Gibson - gibsongg@earthlink.net
JoDene Condrat - condrata@comcast.net

Gilgal Garden

749 East 500 South

Bev Sudbury - beverlysudbury@yahoo.com
Traci Dahle - smoki1@smartfella.com

Hidden Hollow

1165 East Wilmington

Charlene Homan - mhcharlene@yahoo.com.

Magna Elementary

8500 West 3100 South

Peg Sudbury-Crowley - crowbaby@xmission.com
Mark Hurst

Murray Park

5000-5300 South State

Becky Hansen - hansenpollei@mstar2.net

Pioneer Park Farmer's Market

400 South 300 West

Karen Crook - garykarencrook@comcast.net

Utah State Fair Park

200 North 1000 West

Cathy Miller - millercb2@aol.com

Utah Aids Foundation

1408 South 1100 East

Kay Packard
Mike & Ann Cullis - annandmikecullis@comcast.net

Web Site

Amy Hargreaves Judzis - cliz@juno.com

Wheeler Farm

6300 South 900 East
Wheeler Farm Vegetable Garden
Wheeler Farm Herb Garden
Wheeler Farm Pumpkin Patch
Wheeler Farm Home Garden

Ron Jones - ronjon61@aol.com
Trudy Guest - trudyg1@msn.com
Golden Reeves - greeves28@msn.com
Marlene Johnson - marlene32936@yahoo.com

***FARMER'S
MARKET
at PIONEER PARK***

The Farmer's Market at Pioneer Park will begin on June 10th. We will have a booth there beginning that day and every other Saturday thru October. We need volunteers to spend 2 hours either from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. answering garden questions from the public. Please come for some great people watching and easy hours plus an opportunity to sample some of our local produce and products. If interested please contact Karen Crook by E-Mail: garykarencrook@comcast.net.

**GET VOLUNTEER HOURS AT
WHEELER FARM**

Contact Marlene Johnson (see above) if you would like to help with the house gardens. After meeting with her for instructions, you can go on your own schedule.

We need tomato cages for the vegetable garden. Contact Ron Jones (above) if you have any to donate.

Pumpkin Patch planting Saturday, May 20 at 8:00 a.m.

Calendar

**General Meeting
Thursday, May 18**
**Our annual field trip to a
local nursery**
Cactus and Tropicals
2735 South 2000 East
7:00 p.m.

Thursday, June 15
General Meeting at
Wasatch
Community Gardens
600 East 800 South
The designers and builders will be
our tour guides.
Come and learn about the
Straw Bale Greenhouse.



THE GARDEN PATCH
is ON THE WEB at a
new, improved
(shorter) address
www.slmg.org

Bulletin Board



**“Swap and Shop”
and
“Garden Talk” Bul-
letin Board**
On the SLMG Web Site

You can now connect to the "Garden Talk" bulletin board, where there are topics for General Discussion, Swaps, For Sale, For Free, and whatever else tickles your fancy. If you have any questions, feel free to drop your trusty WebWench an e-mail at: webwench@slmg.org

You can access the Web Bulletin Board at <http://www.utahmastergardeners.org/forum/index.php>

The Garden Patch is published monthly by the Salt Lake Master Gardener Association.
 Editor: Jenny Allgrunn
 Send address changes to:

e-mail: gardenpatch2@juno.com



Inside this newsletter is a form to use for handing in your volunteer hours this year. Use it to start keeping track. You can also download a copy of the form from

www.slmg.org/hours

to print out and send in. Sometime in the near future, we hope to have an online form you can fill in and e-mail. We'll let you know when that becomes available.

Meanwhile, either mail or fax the form to:

Sarah Peterson

USU Extension

2001 South State #S1200

Salt Lake City, UT 84190-2350

Fax: 468-3174

MASTER GARDENER SHIRTS AND BAGS FOR SALE

Master Gardener logo shirts are currently for sale. You can see the various styles of shirts and their prices on the web at <http://www.utahmastergardeners.org/logoShirts2005.pdf>

Also for sale are SLMA logo canvas bags in four different colors. They will be handy to carry your books to Master Gardener booths when you volunteer and to carry tools when you go to volunteer project locations. They are \$12.00. Order from Barbara at e-mail address endlesspromos1@msn.com (If you have questions call Barbara or Traci smoki1@smartfella.com)

