

THE GARDEN PATCH



November 2006

Salt Lake Master Gardener Association

Vol. 8, No.11

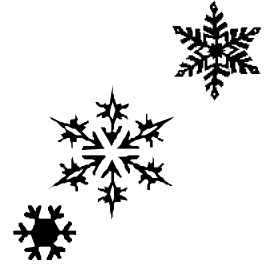
NEW SLMGA BOARD ELECTED

After elections at the October General Meeting, we have a new Board for the 2007 - 2009 term.

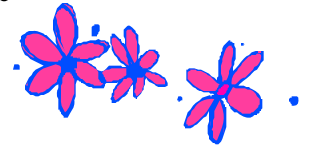
President: Stephen LeCheminant
Vice President: Marcia Sherry
Secretary: Lisa Chin
Treasurer: Teresa Rivera
Historian: Karen Crook

A big Thank You to all those who ran for office.

If you have a personal web site that is gardening-related and you would like a link to it placed on the SLMGA web site, please contact Amy Hargreaves-Judzis at cliz@juno.com



WHAT'S NEW AT SLMGA?



After several tries through the years, SLMGA has finally received the Non-Profit designation. This will save us money on postage, among other benefits.

A huge THANKS to Cathy Miller who spent an incredible amount of time and effort to make this happen!

*"A weed is a plant whose virtues we have not yet discovered."
---- Ralph Waldo Emerson*



NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Traci Dahle

Hi Everyone,

Well, I only have two more months to go as your president. It has gone by so fast. We had our voting at the October meeting, and we have a great new board coming in. Steve LeCheminant will be a wonderful president. Steve was the volunteer coordinator for us these past two years, and he did a great job. I will still be around for two more years as past president, helping where I can, but Steve has already been taking the initiative on getting to know what he is supposed to do. I'm excited to sit in with another new board and see how things go.

We also had our Successes and Failures night where everyone tells their gardening experiences - their best and worse during the year. We didn't have as big of a turnout as normal. That might have been because it was at Columbus Center, because of baseball season, or because it was deer hunting weekend but I don't think we have a lot of deer hunters in our group. Peg Crowley and Eva Daniels made some wonderful treats. We even got homemade Halloween cookies. I want to thank everyone who has taken the time to bring food to our meetings. Everyone seems to stick around and talk when we have something to snack on after the meeting.

Thanks to everyone who helped at the Wheeler Farm cleanup. We only had half as many people as in the past. I didn't even make it this year. But from what I understand, everyone stuck around and got the gardens all cleaned up and the pansies planted despite the rain that we had. I guess our group is like the postal service: we work in heat, rain, snow, or hail (well, maybe not the latter one.) From the stories of the best and worse, we saw that some of our Master Gardeners had a lot of their gardens destroyed by hail, so we might just shut our drapes and pray we have a yard after a hail storm.

We left for Arizona in September. Ken and I are on the October committee along with the rest of the horseshoe throwing group, doing Happy Hour food every Saturday night, welcome home parties, fundraiser dinners and, last but not least, Halloween. I'll let you know how it goes but of all things our committee decided, we are all going as farmers who are dying from E-Coli spinach poisoning. Go figure what gardeners and horseshoe wives would come up with.

I did catch a Monarch Butterfly down here and another dragonfly. I bought a National Audubon Society book on bugs and found out that there are over 5,000 dragonfly species worldwide including 450 in North America. So with those numbers and me not being a great bug expert, I might not quite get them named any more than just 'Dragonfly,' but I will keep looking. I brought my collection to the October Meeting for my successes this year. I am hoping to get more people to take the class I took this year from Maggie Shao on how to catch and pin butterflies and other insects. I did get called a bug killer at the meeting. I said our cars kill more bugs while we are driving around than I will ever kill. Even though you are looking at them from the inside out literally on your windshield, you just can't enjoy them as much as catching them yourself and looking at them through a magnifying glass. I discovered dragonflies have the cutest faces.

I hope everyone got their hours turned in on time for the Graduation/Holiday party. I hope to see you all at the next meeting. Our own Maggie Shao will be sharing her experiences "A Tree Grows in West Africa."

See you in November and be safe. Traci Dahle
smoki1@smartfella.com

Quote for the month: I can complain because rosebushes have thorns, or rejoice because the thornbush has a rose; it is all up to me. (Author Unknown)

Do We Have Your E-Mail Address Right?

If there is anybody who has not been receiving the weekly e-mail updates and would like to, please send Amy Hargreaves-Judzis and Traci Dahle an e-mail so we will have your address with a note saying you want the updates sent to you. When we do send the list out, there are about ten or so that come back undelivered. We don't know if this is because of address changes or if we have typed them in wrong. So please just let us know. Thanks!

Traci Dahle - smoki1@smartfella.com

Amy Hargreaves-Judzis -

slc-info@utahmastergardeners.org

Fall Mantis Watch: Look For and Protect Egg Cases

By Catherine New

Watch for praying mantis oothecae on stems and hard surfaces as you are doing fall cleanup. It's easy to overlook and inadvertently discard these treasures, so keep an eye on garden debris. [Fall 2006: I've found half-a-dozen oothecae in the adendorpha Lady Bells.]

For hatch next spring; leave them in place or harvest stems to which they're attached, leaving them attached to the stem. Keep oothecae cold over winter; warmth will lead to early hatch and a lot of hungry mouths to feed! Some folks store them in the refrigerator; many put them outside by the garden workbench or in an unheated garage. You can install them in the garden now, but understand visible oothecae offer tasty winter snacks for chickadees, so install where there is some cover/camouflage. Whether now or in spring, installation is simple. Poke a threaded needle through the ootheca and gently but securely tie the thread around a twig or wherever you choose. For a saved ootheca that's firmly attached to a stem, use twist ties or clothes pins to secure both ends of the stem to your chosen spot.

Oothecae are about the size of the end joint of my thumb, manila tan brown in color, sometimes described to resemble a walnut---though the texture is papery airy light and foamy.



By Maggie Shao

For those of you interested in Advanced Master Gardener Training, the next class, Fruits & Vegetables (small section of turf grass also), will begin in Salt Lake County on Monday, January 8, 2007 from 1 to 3 p.m. The class will meet on Monday afternoons through the end of March, 2007. Some of the topics to be covered include: Cucurbits & Solanaceous Vegetables, Small Fruits: Berries, Small Fruits: Grapes, Tree: Pome Fruits, Tree: Stone Fruits, Integrated Pest Management of edible crops. The class will be taught mainly by Larry Sagers, with some sections taught by JayDee Gunnell, USU Extension Davis County, and myself. There will be a total of seven (7) monthly labs from March through September and you are required to attend a minimum of 4 labs. Subjects covered in the labs include: Pruning, Variety Selection, Grass identification, Harvest lab and tasting.

In addition to the classes and lab, an advanced volunteer/educational project associated with the module is also required. This class is open to all active and newly certified Master Gardeners. To become a certified Advanced Master Gardener, you must satisfactorily complete all 4 modules: Landscape Design and Maintenance, Fruits and Vegetables, Herbaceous Ornamentals, and Woody Plants. For those not seeking full Advanced MG certification, but are interested in furthering your own knowledge may also apply. Cost is \$85. Registration will begin in November and I will send out an email announcement with the registration form. For those of you without email or computer access, you can call me and I will send you the registration form or you can stop by the office. Deadline for registration and payment will be December 15th, 2006.

Thank you for sending in your volunteer hours. This helps me with promoting and demonstrating the value of your Master Gardener volunteer service to Salt Lake County and USU Extension. I look forward to recognizing your volunteer efforts and graduating the new Master Gardeners at the Volunteer Recognition Dinner on December 14th at Wheeler Farm.

Just a reminder for this month's Master Gardener meeting, I will be presenting "A Tree Grows in Africa" highlighting interesting uses of the West African Locust Bean tree, but also sharing some of the experiences of living in a village for 2 years in Ghana as a Peace Corps volunteer managing a tree seedling nursery.

INTERNATIONAL MASTER GARDENER CONFERENCE UPDATE

Here is the latest of our IMGC newsletters for the International Master Gardener Conference in Little Rock, May 2-5, 2007. Click on <http://mg2007.uaex.edu/news/default.htm> and you will see the October edition highlighting our keynote speakers for the conference.

Registration is going well. Several of you have called and/or emailed me with questions regarding the online registration form. You must put a 1st, 2nd and 3rd choice in each time slot--even if you are signing up for tours and won't be able to attend a talk. Once you are given a tour, you won't be assigned a seminar. The computer program works that way--it won't accept your form unless you have something in each slot--sorry. Once we get farther into registration, the tours may fill up and you may need to be assigned seminars. Right now, that is not an issue. On line, once a tour is full, that will be shown as full, and you won't be able to sign up for it. We will try to enter the registrations as quickly as we get them and will try to give you your first choice if possible.

We do have plenty of space on tours now, but they will fill up as it gets closer to the event. Again, the site to access all registration information, tour descriptions, seminar and speaker bios, along with agenda and pre and post conference events is:

http://mg2007.uaex.edu/registration_information.htm

You should receive a confirmation of your registration by email--if you have email soon after registering. You will also receive a hard copy by mail within 2-3 weeks of your registration. Please review this material when you receive it to make sure everything is correct.

As always if you have any questions, let me now! Happy Gardening! Janet Carson

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WINTER HOME- WORK ASSIGNMENT

By Catherine New

I need to refresh my master gardener knowledge and vocabulary. There's a compelling lily I've been puzzling over for nine years. Just what is this mystery lily and how am I going to find out? The assignment: Descriptive vocabulary for foliage and bloom; botanic name; optimum microclimate, division, transplant; history, anecdotes. I planned this assignment Spring 2006 when I transplanted a couple of these emerging lilies to stand framed in the wrought iron fence corner at the sidewalk. If the transplants survive, they will be eye-catching standing in a whirl of sweet woodruff with a green backdrop of ruffled rhubarb leaves. With any luck the transplants will flourish to catch the attention of passersby, provoke curiosity; generate conversations about plants, insects, and ecology. There will be questions; I need to do my homework. Winter offers plenty of inside days for study before the mystery once again pierces April's overwintered blanket of leaves.

As a Salt Lake City newcomer in 1997, I puzzled over seemingly tropical leaves unfurling from a nameless purple-mottled shoot; a local resident speculated it was squash--I was dubious. When the plant showed a tendency to flop, I attached a simple support frame against the new three-foot wrought iron picket fence. Soon the distinctive bloom, the stench, and a phone call with master gardener Bev Sudbury, established this was a known lily--though if Bev offered a botanical name, I've forgotten it and lost my notes. That first year my mental inventory noted this specimen hidden in the prickly skirt of the blue spruce, then promptly forgot it; and eight years running went on to note and forget it annually. It took me nine years to accept this homework assignment.

Informally, I've been calling it 'corpse lily,' but online and in plant books the description under that name does not match this plant that spring 2006 leaned on the iron fence to stretch up four feet tall and bloom into a veritable insect airport for the amusement and inspiration of our entomological curiosity. Because its out-of-the-way prickly location discouraged observation, I transplanted a couple of bulbs to the southwestern corner of the sidewalk science garden. At transplant the pointy purple-mottled shoots protruded two or three inches above the leaf litter.

When the transplants bloomed in May, their distinc-

tive three-foot forms could now be admired from the upstairs window. Zoom down to the sidewalk: I watched two "flies" patrol the upper part of the lily's funnel-like bloom, and I peered down through the flower funnel throat to easily see leggy critters pace the shadowy chamber below. A shiny eggplant-purple-black pointy something emerges erect from the center of the funnel; that's part of my homework assignment: vocabulary, what is that thing called?

Watching the flies down in the funnel, I realized I discerned none of the typical decaying flesh scent. A cool morning breeze came from the northeast. "Breeze, western exposure, reflection from cement sidewalk, transplant shock," flitted through my mind as I noticed foliage and blooms on the two transplants were thin and pale compared to the original plant still flourishing sandwiched between spruce and fence.

Perhaps my 2006 transplant was less than optimum and weakened the plants. So, behind the lily, slightly up the slope to the sidewalk, I transplanted rhubarb to baffle northeast breezes, shelter the corner, and layer a ruffled backdrop for the lily. And I installed sweet woodruff passed along by generous neighbors, to combat erosion and battle bindweed for the honor of carpeting the mystery lily's shady slope. I'm thinking that while harvesting April rhubarb, my eyes will naturally scan the area and notice when the lily's purple mottled shoots pierce the overwintered blanket of maple leaves. And I'm thinking those shoots will inspire me to don gloves, to clean-up the corner, and discipline the bindweed. That's what I'm thinking. I'm also thinking that by then I'll have completed my winter homework assignment: Descriptive vocabulary for foliage and bloom; botanic name; optimum microclimate, division, transplant; history, anecdotes.

Catherine welcomes any ideas or similar experiences with unusual lilies for her anecdote collection.

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A GARDENING RIDDLE

What is blue
But is red when it is green?

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Answer: A Blueberry

Have you ever had a gardening tool break? Taking out a peach tree in the early summer I broke the handle of my best shovel. I got it at the ground-breaking of a LDS Chapel in 1980. I had to pay for it, of course, but it had a heavy blade, the back was welded, and the blade did not bend when used. After going the whole summer without it, I took the time to drill out the wood from the shovel head. With an old wood plane I worked on the handle to get it to fit with the right taper. With a pin through the head and the wood handle I had my good old shovel back. I also had a lawn rake with a broken handle that I was also able to repair. With a little sandpaper and some boiled linseed oil for the handle, the tools were ready to use.

A number of years ago I found a kind of wing weeder broken and in the trash can on the 4th East garden.* I saved the head and found a ski pole that it would fit into. I would be lost without that tool. I can stand and, with one hand, weed around the smallest of areas.

I have been working to get the garden ready for winter. I have the beds spaded, tilled, and the sheet compost from the walkways tilled in to the top of the hills. I have cleaned out the walkways and I am ready for the leaves. I am going to leave the header hose from the drip irrigation in the garden this year and see if that makes it a little easier next spring when I set up the system again.

The 'Granny Smith' apple tree has really been loaded this year. With taking about 3/4 of a five gallon bucket of small apples off the tree when thinning, there was still about nine and a half bushels at harvest. I left them on for a lot longer time than in other years, and they had sweetened up to the point that the birds and the wasps were starting to work on them. The same tree had one of the best crops of 'York Type H' apples. They were large and sweet but had some water coring. For some reason I can't get the wife to try them. She likes sweet apples but I guess she would rather buy them in the store for \$1.45 a pound. I will be happy to finish them myself. The

TOOL MARKINGS

By Mary Nichols

Did you ever throw away one of your treasured, time tested garden tools by mistake? Did you ever leave a tool in the garden, finding it days later, well watered and rusty? Did you ever miss collecting all of your tools because they blended into your grass, flowers, veggies or soil? Ever notice that most small garden tools are finished green or brown - good garden colors but much more likely to be lost if dropped on the grass or ground.

When I mistakenly disposed of a beautiful pair of kitchen scissors, I decided to take action immediately. It is both expensive as well as a personal loss of sorts when a favorite tool disappears. After trying various markings, most of which become obliterated rather quickly, my current favorite has become thick red yarn tied securely to the hand tool handles into a bow. These big bows are visible from a far yet they do not seem to hinder use of the tool. This type of yarn was popular for gift wrapping in the 70's. It is easy to spot almost anywhere. I tie it on to all of my small tools. If you cannot locate it, an alternative idea is to use a piece of brightly colored material (I like floral or stripes) or luminous shoe laces. I cut strips long enough to produce a bow and simply tie them on to the handles. They make it easy to track your tools from long distances.



By Wm. Golden Reeves

'Golden Delicious' apple tree had only 4 apples on the whole tree. I hope we have a little cooler temp this winter so the trees can get adjusted to bloom next spring.

I have taken the 'Silver Falls' Dichondra and looped it through a couple of pots with soil in them and let them grow roots and then cut them off. They are doing great in the house. The ice plant has been moved in also; I will try later on to propagate more of them. I have taken some cuttings from different plants and have them growing in some plastic boxes. If they grow I can transplant them out but I can also keep track to see if they are growing any aphids on them. They are nasty little guys to have in your propagation areas.

I put the garden debris through the chipper shredder and have a pile cooking in the compost area. I dumped beans, corn, and wheat which had been in our Food Storage for 28 years into the garden. It was a smelly mess when I shoveled it out of the walkways to dig it into the beds. I am glad the stench is gone; I hope there are some nutrients for the plants to use next year.

I still have some work to do in the yard before Old Man Winter arrives. The calla lilies need to be dug up and stored in the house. I have been spraying weeds, so I need to check on how they are doing. The walkways in the garden need to be filled with leaves, so the hunt for the bags on the curb begins. I found a broken lawn mower wheel this fall when I removed the sheet compost from the walkways. That was last year's treasure, I guess.

The fall harvest is the reward we get for our summer work in the garden. May we enjoy what we harvest. If not, then plan better next year.

*A former SLMGA project.

MAGNA ELEMENTARY

By Peg Crowley

There has been one individual who has been working at the Magna Elementary project almost all summer and has made quite a difference. Her name is Maryann Nauahi. She is a new recruit from this year's class. We've been very lucky to have her come every week and be so dedicated and dependable!!

Just another update on our project: Maggie Shao, Traci Dahle, and myself attended faculty meeting with all the faculty and most importantly the principal in hopes of solving some issues with the water and renewing some interest in their incredible gardening/learning space and to remind them that we are volunteers there to HELP them achieve their goals in their garden! Much thanks to Maggie and Traci for being so supportive!!

MAKE AN INEXPENSIVE STEP-SAVER GARDEN CART FOR NEXT SPRING

By Mary Nichols

Why should garden tools, a waste can, and other necessary tools be on wheels? Our lot is on a hillside. It takes 140 steps to walk from the garage to the "upper lawn" and 40 steps from the garage to the opposite corner at the low end. If I forget a tool it's a long trip back and forth, double those numbers.

My good friend, Master Gardener Alene Russon, has a very handy cart purchased long ago in Southern California from a nursery no longer in business. It would have filled the bill and passed through our small garage door opening easily. I decided I truly needed a cart but did not want to pay big bucks for an internet specialty.

While on a "quick thrift shop walkabout" I spied a miniature hand truck with these dimensions: 17" x 16" x 38" made in Minnesota long ago. Its frame and wheels were good. I know the Scandinavians made solid stuff so I quickly de-

ecided to buy it thinking I might convert it into a garden cart similar to Alene's. I asked her what her cart's favorite features were. "The trash container that is always open, a separate place for all my favorite garden tools plus a broom and a dustpan.

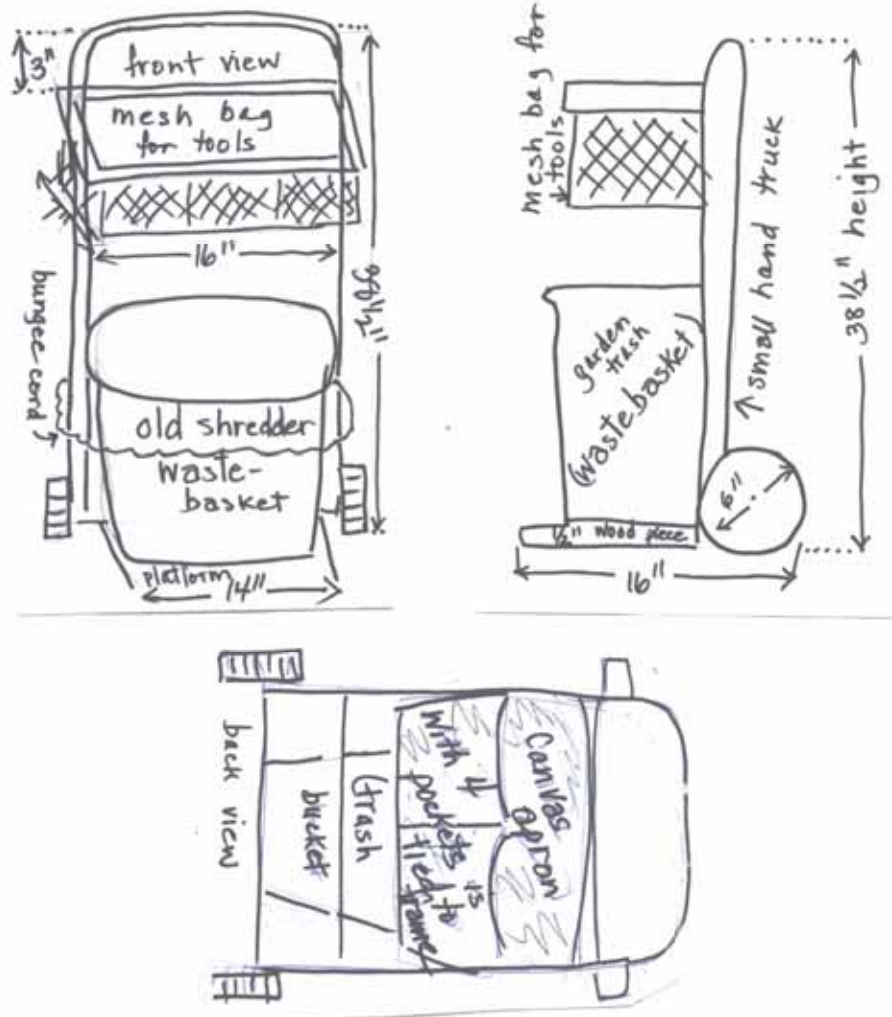
While these ideas percolated in my head I had my handyman husband add a wood platform to the bottom. It holds the old paper-shredder waste container which is held in place with a bungee cord. At another thrift store I found a mesh bag which I thought might hold my tools. It measures: 18" x 8" x 8". This is secured to the rectangular top frame: 18 1/2" x 11 1/2" x 1 1/2". The mesh bag holds my small tools, tie-up floral string and labeling materials. I have a lovely gardening apron with 4 good sized pockets which has always been too hot to wear. I wrapped it around the back frame of the cart, now it holds: my pencil, notebook, sunscreen, insect repellent and water.

I can even turn my large tools such as a spade, fork, broom, etc. upside down, feed them between the side of the mesh basket and frame placing the long handles into the trash container. I'm ready to roll with all the necessary tools in one place on wheels. This cart has saved me countless steps back to the garage for a forgotten tool.

You, too, could put one together with a minimum of effort and investment. I probably spend about \$10 on the whole project.

The Indispensable Garden Cart

Why did I bother to assemble this? I am tall. I'm getting older. I'd rather wheel my garden tools and trash around the yard than carry them. It is very handy and convenient. Questions? Mary Nichols 278-4103



FAIR REPORT

By Val Chatwin

The gate to the chicken pen is permanently open for the winter, and the chickens are happily roaming the yard and eating the garden. Actually their pen is large and I give them garden treats a lot, so they are very lucky chickens. Probably spoiled. I'm also not mean to them, ever. But in the pen they do just stand around a lot. Now they are busy scratching and riding my yard and garden of pests. There go all the bug eggs and larvae. However, they've already scratched the mulch onto the cement on the north, the grass clipping onto the west lawn, and left poop on the deck. Last year I had them trained to not get up on the deck but they forgot. The concord grapes are there, and they love grapes. So do the Starlings. Whenever you go out on the deck, the giant flock flies away and as they take off, they poop purple onto the windows. The Cole crops are the first to be eaten, the broccoli is becoming leafless and the leftover cabbage is disappearing.

The State Fair is over. It is such a relief to just go out in the garden and pick something instead of looking it over and accessing: Should I save it? Can it go to the fair? All summer long, when anyone came over to get some produce, I would carefully give them less than perfect stuff.

The ribbons and check have arrived in the mail, and I have the 'save the ribbons' fair book done so I know what the final count is. I put in 122 entries - 66 in Agricultural. The fruits did well, first on Almond, Stanley Prunes, Douglas pears, and Concord grapes. I also won Centennial Gardener, (decorating a 3 x 3 square with as many of the things you grow on it as possible.) I got 2nd the last two years so I really put an effort into it, put a rooster vase and ceramic hens and had a nest of colored eggs plus my many fruits and vegetables, even put a Jerusalem Artichoke. Some fairgoer asked the Master Gardeners what it was. The tray of 10 only got a 2nd place even though it was the only entry. It has been the only entry in that lot for 4 years, and it finally got judged. Remember to read the book so your entries don't get disqualified on technicalities. I also got a blue on Special Innovation, after we talked about what it is suppose to be for a while on entry day. I brought tomato jam and put tomatoes with it.

This is big - I got a 3rd on tallest sunflower! This is a highly contested item with lots of entries. The winner was 14 feet tall. There were so many peppers entered that I was pleased to get a first on my yellow bell, that plant was growing those giants all season. I love them. I got blues on gold zucchini. All the summer squash had been bearing like crazy all summer, then about 3 weeks before the fair they stopped. What is going on? I started watering them like crazy and was able to barely get the gold Zucchini and never did get gold scallop, staightneck, or crookneck in pairs. Also, I got a 2nd on white scallop, a blue on large pumpkins, 2nd on the under 6" pumpkins, but 4th on the mini pumpkins. Lots of those get entered. I got 1st on neck pumpkins. I saw it in Pinetree seed catalogue and decided to try them. They are supposed to be better for pie. Jack-o-lantern pumpkins are

not good for pie. The neck pumpkins grew well - a buff color, not orange, shaped like a swan gourd. The neck is long, fat, and filled with heavy meat. I will try them for pie. I usually just make pumpkin pies out of the huge banana squash that does well here. And I have been able to save seeds from them without them crossing over, like most of the cucurbits do. One of our daughters-in-law doesn't like squash pie, but does like pumpkin pie (especially when she doesn't know.)

I now have nearly every herb listed in the fair books growing in my garden. I pick them early, dry them in the dark, package them carefully and still only get a few blues! It's the same in the County Fair where there is no competition. There were a hundred entries this year at State. I've never seen so many. Is that a good excuse? Firsts went to lavender, fennel, summer savory, coriander, seconds to basil, borage (and it was the only one entered,) and thirds on peppermint, marjoram, thyme, rosemary, and oregano. The dill was disqualified. The anise and sage got 6th.

In Floriculture I only entered 2 shows as I had a relative's wedding right in the middle of it and we had guests staying at our house for a week. I entered 22 and did place on all, which is good. My zinnias were the best I have ever seen them in my whole, long, *I'm as old as dirt* life. I had two rows that grew 5 1/2 ft. tall and spread out. The little bush marigold border on my garden, 40 ft. long and 2 feet wide, did well and got ribbons. The potted Christmas cactus got blue. Last year it got a red; it's bigger this year. Maize that I grew from seeds from the Fairpark got a first. It is gorgeous. I will have to grow it in several spots next year.

In canning I put in 34 entries and made a few mistakes. They tell you what they are, which is good so you can correct it the next year. I did make money over the entry fee and Ball/Kerr sent me \$13 in coupons for their products. That's a lot of lids and pectin. The final score was 122 entered, 86 placed, made \$160 and the \$13 from Ball. Why am I doing this? I don't know. Why would I rather go pull weeds than lounge in a hammock and relax all summer? I would even rather slosh around in mud and irrigation water. I guess it is a new challenge in my old age.

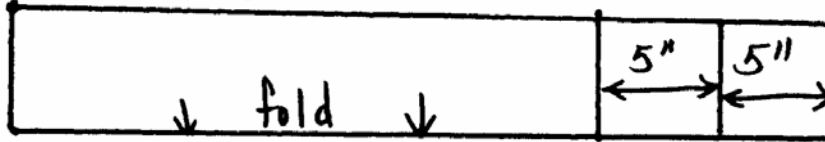
Tomato Trials are over. The tomato vines at my house froze last week when the weather people accurately predicted it. I finally got all the green ones into the garage. The tomatoes had kind of stopped in August when it was still hot, and then the rains came and blossoms and little ones started again. I didn't think I was going to have any green ones in the garage, but I have lots and some nice big ripe ones too. You don't know what to do with the end tomatoes. Your bottles are full and it is October for heaven's sake. Anyway. Here all the trials results. I got eight plants from Ron Jones and Maggie Wolf. They were absolutely the best looking plants I have seen. The three 'Big Beef' were large, smooth, red and prolific. The three plants produced 23 pounds. The two 'Celebrity' which are an early medium sized had the first ripe fruit and produced the most - 25 pounds. "Viva Italiano" is a Roma-type. They were bigger, bright red, and beautiful. I like to use them for sauces. They only produced 12 pounds but were definitely worth growing. My other Roma plants

Continued on Page 9

Sewing directions for "Leaf Catcher" Assembly

LEAF CATCHER

Purchase: 80 inches of 60" wide canvas, duck or poplin. (I chose easy to spot yellow in the garage and on the lawn.) Lay material out flat with the fold near you. It should look like this:



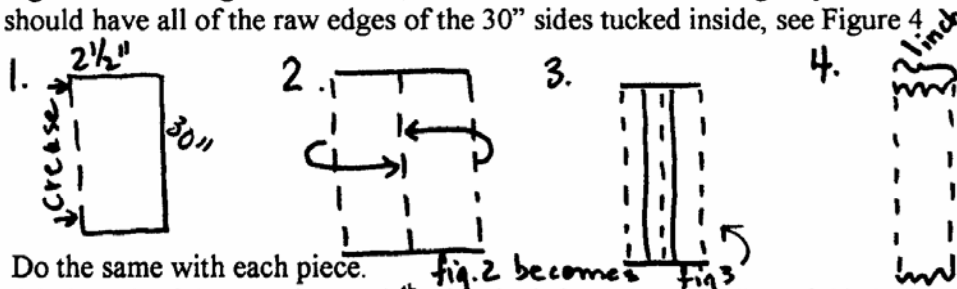
Mark off the 4 handles at one end. You will need 4 pieces, each 5 inches by 30 inches. Cut off the four handles from body of material and separate them.

To sew handles:

Figure 1. Fold one piece of material in half the long way. Crease well or press with iron

Figure 2. Open this piece then fold both of the long, outside edges of this piece towards the middle line. Crease both new folds. Keeping it folded...

Figure 3. Holding the two folds, fold one more time the long way. Your handles should have all of the raw edges of the 30" sides tucked inside, see Figure 4



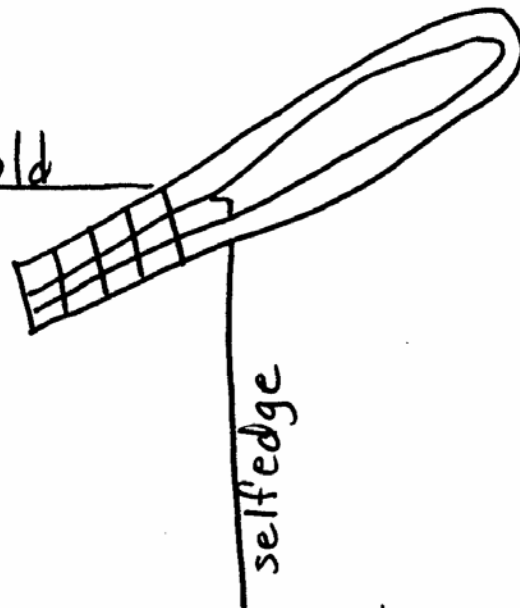
Do the same with each piece. fig. 2 becomes fig. 3. Stitch each of these 4 pieces 1/4th of an inch from the "open" yet folded edges, After zigzagging the small raw edges at the 8 ends, set these handles aside.

Fold down a 4 inch heading at both ends of the main body of the fabric, crease or press, pin down and stitch, both on the same side of the fabric. This finishes your 2 - 60 inch raw edges. Place handles diagonally on the stitched down fabric, one in each corner. See drawing: Figure 5

May wish to add another strengthening layer of fabric to the underside (approx. 54 inch square).

Stitch the handles at 1 inch intervals about 5 times. *fold*

I wanted the handles big so with gloves on I could move the catcher full of leaves to the compost pile. BENEFITS: You can rake leaves right on to it and carry it from here to there without losing a leaf. You avoid stuffing leaves into bags. It is light weight and the handles do not slip out of your hands.



9.21.06

fig. 5

handle attachment - add one each corner

LEAFCATCHER

By Mary Nichols

An easy to make garden helper is called a "leaf catcher." After struggling with an old blue, plastic boat tarp which would always slip and spill from my gloved hand, I decided to design one to my own specifications.

I purchased bright yellow canvas material, cut off 4 strips for handles and then hemmed the two raw edges. I reinforced the one side with another piece of heavier rubberized material so when it slides on the ground it will not wear out immediately.

All 4 corners have handles big enough to grasp firmly with gloved hands. This makes it easier to haul the fall leaves to the compost pile or garbage can and it saves time stuffing them into plastic bags. To make one do the following:

Purchase 3 yards of 60" wide canvas, 1 & 1/3 yards 60" wide rubberized sheeting or other heavy duty material.

Step 1: Open out the canvas with the fold towards you. Even the ends of the material, then mark off the 4 handles. Each should be 30" long and 4" wide. You should be able to get all them out of the first 8 inches of material. Cut them out.

Step 2: Next open the canvas out completely on the floor or ping pong table, find the center of the canvas and the center of the sheeting. Place one on top of the other, smooth them both out completely, pin in place, then zig-zag stitch them onto one side of the leaf catcher.

Step 3: Make the handles: You have cut 4 handles. Do the following 4 times separately:

Fold each piece in half the long way, Press and open it out. Fold the cut edges to the inside center crease and then fold again. Your handle should be about one inch wide and 30" long. All the raw edges should be inside. Stitch open edge closed. Do all 4 separately. Set aside.

Hem each end on your leaf-catcher by folding down 3", press, zig-zag stitch this hem/flap to the body of the leaf-catcher so it will not unravel.

Place each of the 4 handles diagonally in each corner. I put the near and far ends of each handle NEXT to each other so the machine will not have to sew through 9 layers of material. (I think most machines will balk at 9 layers.) The handle should form a loop.

Stitch one handle in each of the four corners at the beginning of the handle up to 5 inches out and the same in reverse for the far end of the handle. Now you are free to rake leaves directly onto your completed leaf-catcher and lift or drag it away.

FAIR REPORT, Cont. from page 7

produced the first ripe fruit. The 'Champion' and 'Super Fantastic' produced half as much as the others. The test was fun

A UTAH CELEBRITY: THE ELBERTA PEACH

Did you know that the nearly perfect peach was developed in Utah? A recent article in the Salt Lake Tribune (Sunday, August 13, 2006, p. B5) by Eileen Hallet Stone indicates that Sumner Gleason, a one time mayor of Kaysville, developed the 'Gleason Early Elberta' peach.

Gleason's father was a noted horticulturist in the 1800's. Although he followed several other career paths including that of physician, Sumner was also interested in gardening. An article in the August 1943 *Philadelphia Evening Bulletin* indicates that he successfully raised trees, grapes, berries, apples, and peaches in "dry ground" using a method called "deep cultivation." Unfortunately the article does not elaborate on this method.

In 1902-03, Stark Brothers Nurseries of Louisiana, Missouri shipped 4 million peach seedlings to growers throughout the country in an effort to utilize hybridization to develop an early-bearing variety of the Elberta peach.

"Stock No. 162 was sent to Gleason, who planted it 'just outside the kitchen door.' Through the doctor's cultivating, grafting and budding techniques, No. 162 eventually developed into the 'mother tree' of all Early Elberta peaches.

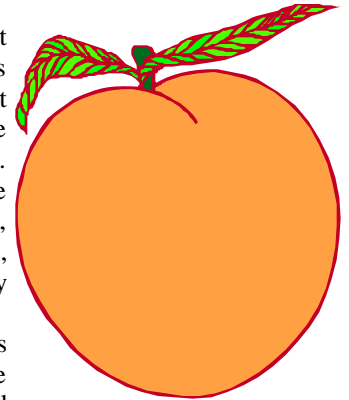
"Plump, sweet, beautifully colored and early to bear, the peach faced its last hurdle. Could it travel without bruising? In 1915, boxes of Gleason peaches were sent from Kaysville on a 19-day, 11,500 mile, countrywide, non-preferential parcel post journey of durability. Opened, examined and re-packed at each site, the peaches traveled to the horticultural magazine *Rural New Yorker*, cross-country to the California Agricultural Experiment Station, rerouted to the Fruit Grower in St. Joseph, Mo., and back to *Rural New Yorker* before disembarking at Stark Brothers Nurseries.

"The review was unanimous. 'Not a speck of rot, not a bruise, perfect, and sound as a dollar' Stark Brothers remarked in 1916's *Weekly Reflex*. Advertised in their catalogue as the 'quality king of all yellow freestones,' they only needed 200,000 genuine Elberta buds to propagate.

"For Gleason it wasn't a problem. His Early Elbertas were thriving in orchards throughout Kaysville, Clearfield, Brigham City, Willard, and Santaquin.

Sumner Gleason signed an exclusive contract with Stark Brothers to "personally supervise the cutting of buds from original bearing or parent tree[s]."

That almost makes an Elberta peach a Utah Native, doesn't it?



and informative.

Whoops! Sorry, Karl Hauptfleisch, for misnaming you in the September issue. Thanks, Barbara Peters, for sending me an interesting chicken article. That was fun to read.

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

Christmas Box House

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Virginia Sargeant -

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Karen Crook - garykarencrook@comcast.net

Utah State Fair Park

200 North 1000 West

Cathy Miller - millercb2@aol.com

Utah Aids Foundation

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Amy Hargreaves Judzis - cliz@juno.com

Wheeler Farm

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Wheeler Farm Vegetable Garden

Wheeler Farm Herb Garden

Wheeler Farm Pumpkin Patch

Wheeler Farm Home Garden

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Marlene Johnson - marlene32936@yahoo.com

CHRISTMAS BOX HOUSE

We need someone to help on Tuesday nights. You will be teaching children about plants, vegetables, fruits, roots - things like that - with games for them to learn. There is also a little garden that they put in with the kids. Please contact Peggy Call or Virginia Sargeant (see above) if you can help. There is a background check that you will need to pass to do this.

Some projects go on year-round. You can still be earning Volunteer Hours at:

The Christmas Box House
Magna Elementary
The Garden Patch

Plus other volunteer opportunities that pop up throughout the winter.

Calendar

Thursday,
November 16

Maggie Shao will
share her
experiences with
"A Tree Grows in
West Africa."
7:00 p.m. in the
classroom

Thursday, December 14

Annual Graduation and Awards dinner
in the Barn at Wheeler Farm. Social
hour starts at 6:00 p.m. Dinner at 7:00
p.m.

*Thursday, January 18, 2007 - Mandy
Self from Red Butte will talk on Water-
wise and Native Landscapes.
7:00 p.m.*

THE GARDEN PATCH
is ON THE WEB at
www.slmg.org

Bulletin Board



"Swap and Shop"
and
"Garden Talk"
Bulletin 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
[www.utahmastergardeners.org
/forum/index.php](http://www.utahmastergardeners.org/forum/index.php)

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e-mail: gardenpatch2@juno.com



SLMGA Holiday Dinner, Graduation, and Awards Night

Thursday, December 14
Socializing 6:00 p.m.



Dinner starts at 7:00 p.m. followed by Awards

Bring a partner and your favorite dish

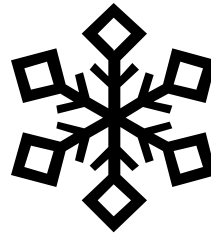
Suggested food assignments: A-K Side Dish

L-P Salad

R-Z Appetizer if you will be there by 6 p.m. or

Dessert

Meat and Drinks will be provided.
In the Barn at Wheeler Farm
6300 South 900 East



DID WE MISS ANY OF
THE COUNTY OR
STATE FAIR WIN-
NERS? IF SO, PLEASE
LET US KNOW:
gardenpatch2@juno.com
Or Jenny at 969-8181

