

THE GARDEN PATCH



January 2009

Salt Lake Master Gardener Association

Vol. 11, No. 1

43 Join the Ranks of Certified Master Gardeners

Kirsten Abercrombie	Jan Konold
Brent Adamson	Dorothy Lamb
Catherine Allred	Larry R. Leishman
Sara Anderson	Karen McDowell
Sheri Barnes	Kathy Metcalf
Pam Barringer	Illene Mirabella
Carrie Bartlett	Tony Mirabella
Jordan Beesley	Kim Olmore
Vicki Bennett	Marsha Openshaw
Gigi Brandt	Chris Palyka
Jane Chesley	Marci Plouzek
Annette Clark	Daniel Rivera
Michelle Debolock	Gale Roberson
Theresa Etzold	Miranda Rodriguez
Kathy Festin	Any Sapulski
Monica Figgins	Chriss Schneller
Janet Frick	Stephanie Smith
Kory Gallegos	Terry Smith
Don Hartmann	Lenet Socci
Stanna Headden	SnowOwl Sor-Lokken
Mark Holt	Douglas Staples
Marilyn Jespersion	MJ Teske
Anne Jewett	Rebekah Whyte
Jane Kennedy	
Ronald Klepper	

50-hour Pin

Brent Adamson	Ronald Klepper
Sara Anderson	Jan Konold
Carrie Bartlett	Anita M. Krotz
Vicki Bennett	Dorothy Lamb
Gigi Brandt	Joan Matthews
Terry Curling	Cheryl Michaud
Jane Dahle	Illene Mirabella
Michelle Deblock	Tony Mirabella
Kory Gallegos	Mridula Patel
Mark Holt	Miranda Rodriguez
Marilyn Jespersion	Beth Rumple
Ann Jewett	Amy Sapaluski

50-hour Pin, cont.

Chriss Schneller
MaryJo Tedesco
Geri Tittensor
Allison Topham
Terri Wojcik

100-hour Pin

Barbara Braeden
Julie Bryant
Steven Finlinson
Cynthia Gandy
Anita M. Krotz
Kerry Morton
Robert Moss
Mridula Patel
Sue Squire
Terri Wojcik

250-hour Pin

Alexa Baxter
Julie Myers

500-hour Pin

Peggy Call
Becky Hansen

750-hour Pin

Peggy Call
Karen Crook
Charlene Homan

1000-hour Pin

Trudy Guest

1250-hour Pin

Jenny Allgrunn
Kay Packard

1500-hour Pin

Kay Packard

2000-hour Pin

Bev Sudbury

Major Awards Presented

Outstanding Mentor Award – Bev Sudbury
Executive Board Award – Teresa Rivera
Bev and Don Sudbury – Dick and Marlene Johnson
Dale Hughes Award – Karen Crook
Master Gardener of the Year – Cheri Schultzke

We also had a number of recipients of the Silver Trowel Award, but because of the holidays, we couldn't get a complete list. We will print a list of those award recipients next month.

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Kathy Dennis

Wasn't that a great, great Annual Graduation and Volunteer Recognition Awards Banquet??? Many more people came than we anticipated, and we were setting up new tables and chairs even as people were sitting down to eat. It was just great to see all the turnout and the enthusiasm, and to taste all the wonderful dishes that you folks brought!

Our extension agent, Maggie Shao, once again did a fabulous job making this annual meeting happen, and I certainly appreciated all the help from the incoming and outgoing Board members (and many others) who helped get things set up and put away in near record time!! Thanks to all of you who participated!

I've been receiving seed catalogs steadily now for a few weeks, and with each one I start drooling about what new things I want to try in my garden. This year my focus will be on the north shady side of my house where I want to remove turf grass, put in stone steps and plant a chamomile side lawn. Every year my eyes are bigger than my abilities and time, so I'm beginning to learn to do things in smaller chunks. From the November General Meeting presentation on square foot gardening, I took away the idea to put down cardboard on the turf grass I want to replace with stepping stones and chamomile steppables. So that project is already in progress as I lay down cardboard before the snow flies!

The new Board has many great ideas for monthly presentations, and if you have some suggestions, please feel free to call me at 801-298-4821 and share your ideas.



"I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the community, and as long as I live, it is my privilege to do for it whatever I can.

"I want to be thoroughly used up when I die, for the harder I work, the more I live.

"Life is no 'brief candle' to me. It is a sort of splendid torch which I have got hold of for a moment, and I want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it on to the future generations."

---- George Bernard Shaw

Ann Wright

We mourn the passing of a long time Master Gardener, Ann Wright. She served on the SLMGA board and in several other capacities from the beginning of the Association. Those of us who knew her loved her. She was cheerful, friendly, kind, and helpful.

When health problems caught up with her, she kept going. She took out part of her front lawn and planted a beautiful perennial garden even after arthritis stiffened her body. She dealt with the problems of not being able to attend the evening General Meeting by starting a daytime Lunch Bunch meeting for other Master Gardeners who could venture out easier in the daytime. Her humor was always evident, as at one meeting when she gave a presentation on Ficus Plasticus and other easy care plants.

The following is a portion of her obituary.

Ann died on December 01, 2008 of causes incident to old age. She was born on February 03, 1928 to a loving family that always encouraged her to become all that she could be. She graduated from the University of Utah Pharmacy School. She became a pharmacist in a time when few women entered that profession. She was married to Eugene D. Wright and had three children. She always put family and church ahead of her career. She was a loving kind person of great abilities and passions. Many people throughout her life were helped by her kindness. Most often her kind acts and deeds were done anonymously. One example - out of hundreds of acts of quiet kindness - was a time when she saw a neighbor who struggled to get into her own home because of a knee injury. The steps to their home had become dilapidated and unsafe. It pained her to see the neighbor struggle to gain access to her own home. Not wanting to embarrass the woman or her children she arranged to have the concrete on the steps rebuilt. She never took credit for the repair. Her reward came only from seeing the woman being able to stay in her home a little while longer with a little more ease. Although she was in great physical pain for many years she rarely complained and always was willing to lend a hand to anyone who needed help or encouragement. Over the years hundreds of people were fed at her table. Anyone who needed a table at a Christmas or Thanksgiving meal was invited and welcomed. Sunday dinners were always open and frequently used by those who were without resources or family. All were graciously fed. No one was ever turned away. She had a great passion for gardening. Her garden designs were featured in garden tours and newspapers. After her retirement she spent hundreds of hours in her garden. She was pleased whenever a passing walker would stop to

Continued on Page 4



By Maggie Shao

Thank You All! My sincere feeling of appreciation to all the Master Gardener volunteers at our annual awards dinner, for those present and to those who were not able to join us. Thank you. We had 160 people attend our Annual Graduation and Volunteer Recognition Awards Banquet. It's the one time a year we can formally acknowledge and recognize your generous efforts. And I speak on behalf of those who support the Master Gardener Program, from Utah State University Vice President of Extension Noelle Cockett, State Master Gardener Program Coordinator Larry Sagers, USU Extension Salt Lake County Director Marilyn Albertson, Salt Lake County Mayor Peter Corroon, and the Board of Officers of the Salt Lake Master Gardener Association.

The Board has served for two years and I appreciate their dedication. Elected members include President Stephen LeCheminant, Vice President Sandy Burgess, Treasurer Teresa Rivera, Secretary Karen Crook, Historian Karen Crook and voluntary members Garden Patch Editor Jenny Allgrunn, Volunteer Coordinator Barbara Larsen, Programs Coordinator Cheri Schulzke. All these folks contribute to the Master Gardener Program and of course there are all of the folks on the ground at the Master Gardener projects, teaching at community meetings, and providing gardening information at booths, garden fairs.

So we have a new Board of Officers and they are ready to go. We'll meet January 8th at 5:30pm to get to know each other, determine objectives for the coming year and strategies to accomplish those objectives. I want to let you know that I've been occupied in December with interviews with candidates to fill the vacant Horticulture Agent position. We had three good applicants and we are hoping to make an offer before the end of December and if the offer is accepted, we'll have another Horticulture Agent in Salt Lake County starting early in 2009. We'll work together on how to divide the program – one of the areas we'd like to focus on and the new agent will probably spend some time on is training commercial horticulture employees. Studies and surveys show that the general public goes first to nurseries and commercial entities for gardening information. I also hope that some of the Master Gardener training and coordination will be shared between us.

Another issue that needs attention will be food security. Did you know in Salt Lake County there are neighborhoods where there is not a grocery store within walking distance for the majority of the residents. The only stores available may be convenience stores which do not carry healthy foods like fruits and vegetables. It's a growing problem that poor health and obesity is tied directly to availability to nutritious food and I personally have wanted to revive the idea of Victory Gardens. I did a little research on Victory Gardens and both in United Kingdom and United States during WWI and WWII. Families grew fruits and vegetables in their home garden as a response to possible food shortages and up to 40% of a family's food would be harvested from their victory gardens. Eleanor Roosevelt shined a huge

spotlight on victory gardens when she planted a victory garden on the White House grounds. I was happy to see there are others who also seek to revive this idea and in my hometown of San Francisco, Slow Food Nation and Victory Gardens 2008 created an edible organic garden in front of San Francisco's City Hall. These two non-profit organizations took out lawn and grass and created a quilt. The Slow Food Nation Victory Garden is a living quilt of plants and people, a garden of communities. Featuring a wide variety of heritage organic vegetables suited to the Bay Area microclimate, the garden will demonstrate the diversity of urban food production practices. Food grown in the garden will be donated to those with limited access to healthy organic produce through a partnership with local food banks and meals programs. For more information on this program and with photo album of how it really looks you can go to Victory Gardens 2008 at <http://www.sfvictorygardens.org/cityhall.html>.

Wishing you all a Happy New Year filled with joy, peace and inspiration.

SPOTLIGHT

On

Stephen LeCheminant

What Master Gardener doesn't know Stephen LeCheminant? He certified about ten years ago and hit the ground running. He seemed to be everywhere. As a typical SLMGA workhorse he showed up for nearly every request for volunteers, especially at Wheeler Farm. He still looks forward to manning the booth at the State Fair. All that even after he became State Fair Project Manager and later as President of the Association.

Stephen says, "I grew up helping my father on his farm in Pleasant Grove. Naturally I gravitated to gardening." It's ironic that after moving to the Salt Lake valley he became a Granite High Farmer. He's been married 37 years, has four adult children, and nine grandchildren. Stephen retired from Kennecott after 32 years. He then started driving a bus for - guess who? Granite School District.

Stephen also credits his mother's influence in his life. "She was the flower gardener." Because of having a residential lot instead of a farm he, too, is inclined to grow flowers. He doesn't have a favorite but says, "I grow a lot of annuals." He keeps perennials to a minimum, not planting much more than an occasional dogwood. This gives him more land to experiment with many varieties, sometimes concentrating on one, such as when he went through a canna lily stage. Working with annuals requires some intricate planning to place them according to different colors, heights and bloom periods. Those who visited his yard on the garden tour saw a stunning arrangement that rivals that of any landscape designer.

Although he has no other hobbies at this time, Stephen once dabbled in photography and did some running. He now confesses, "Mowing my lawn is as much exercise as I get." No longer president, he's also cutting back in another area. "I'm ready to give up some of my vegetable garden. I give away more than I ever use." No, he's not slowing down. The ground is going to another project. Dahlias need their own space and he's a member of the fledgling Utah Dahlia Chapter.

The winter sun has stopped shining on the back yard garden and the snow has covered the frozen ground. There is only a few hours of sun on the greenhouse solar panels so I think winter has arrived. The seed catalogs are arriving daily and my order is almost ready to mail. I take the catalogs and compare the prices with each other to come up with the lowest cost. In some, the pictures are great looking but in others they are not as impressive. The cost per package is lowest in the Pinetree Garden Seed Catalog than many of the others. I have been using them for years and have been happy with the products.

The New Guinea Impatiens cuttings have sprouted roots and doing really well at this time. I hope I got all of the colors we had in the planter. I will keep the pot growing until I find out though. I took the cuttings and left leaves on the terminal end and took the leaves of two of the lower leaf nodes. I dipped the bottom part in to rooting powder and planted them into a four-inch pot of moist soil. The pot was placed into a one gallon bag and sealed, then placed on the seeding mat for bottom heat.

The pelargonium cuttings are doing great. Using the proper method only one out of twelve starts did not make it. The recommendation is to use just a vigorous growing stem three leaf nodes long. Remove all of the leaves from the two bottom nodes and leave only a few on the terminal end. Cut the stem off square just below the bottom node. Wet the end and insert them into rooting powder to cover the node. Fill a four-inch pot with standard seeding or cutting soil mix. Pack it firmly and place the pot in a container of water until the surface becomes moist. Remove the pot and allow it to drain. Using a pencil make a hole and insert the cuttings, then press down firmly to eliminate any air pockets. Do not water yet. Place the pot in a light warm position for one week. Bottom water in one week, then bottom water only until ready to transplant to individual containers. The problem I had to begin with was to place them in to a plastic bag and put them on the seeding mat. This caused grey mold called Botrytis and they also succumbed to damping-off. They need to be where they have free air circulation. In three to four weeks when they resist pulling from the soil and have grown new leave they are read to transplant.

Have you ever had a gardening product that broke while you were using it? This year I



By Wm. Golden Reeves

purchased a pair of hand bypass pruner from WalMart. They worked great for a while and then became very hard to use. They were Fiskars power lever technology - supposed to cut 2X easier. I used them in the spring and they become very hard to use so I put them away and tried to use them again to prune the rose hedge this fall. I found that a pin that holds the unit together had slipped out part way and by putting it back in place they were ok but the pin kept slipping. In trying to put the pin back in place I broke the housing. I found the original package they came in and found out they had a lifetime warranty. I called the factory and another pruner is on its way under warranty.

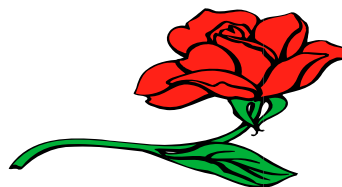
Has any one had any experience with the National Home Gardening Club out of Minnetonka Minnesota? If so let me know. After receiving two billings for over \$100 each with in two weeks I sent a cancellation notice back to them. Is it a scam or what?

I planted 'Glacier' tomatoes shortly after coming back from vacation, and they are starting to sprout. I normally plant these just after Thanksgiving so I am a little late this year. I pulled up the verbena plants in the fall and trimmed the roots and tops and planted them in pots. They are doing very well at this time but I found aphids on a few plants. I have been treating them and so far they look good. I had found aphids on some other plants and suspected they had come from the verbena.

A new year is here and new plans to make sure we have the best garden ever. I hope our dreams or plans do not turn into horrible nightmares.

Ann Wright, continued from page 2

admire her extensive collection of rare and unique trees, plants and designs. She was always ready to share a seed or a cutting from her unique collection of plants. She will be greatly missed. Although she loved gardening and living trees and flowers she did not like to see good money thrown after dead plants. She always felt flowers for funerals were a waste of a good flower and of good money. In lieu of flowers Ann requested that donations be sent to either the Utah Food Bank at 1025 South 700 West Salt Lake City, UT 84104, or online at www.utahfoodbank.org or the Eugene D and Ann O Wright Scholarship in the Division of Occupational Therapy at the University of Utah or perform an anonymous act of kindness in her honor.



Calendar

Thursday, January 15
General Meeting
Horticulture Intern Heidi
Wayman
will give a presentation
on
Indoor/House Plants
7 p.m.
in the classroom

If you have not yet renewed your membership, please send a check for \$15 made out to SLMGA to:

Cathy Miller, Treasurer
SLMGA

E-mail to get address
gardenpatch2@juno.com

Be sure to include any change of address, phone number, or e-mail address

Check out the USU Extension Web Site
<http://extension.usu.edu/saltlake>
Follow the Master Gardener links

Bulletin Board



You can read our past issues
on the web at:

[http://www.slmg.org/
gardenPatchTOC.html](http://www.slmg.org/gardenPatchTOC.html)

Please note that the current year is the
first column, not the third column.

Issues from previous years are



The Garden Patch is published monthly by the
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PROJECTS

These projects are done year-round. Please volunteer if you are interested.

Christmas Box House

Peggy Call

Phone: 446-7922

Email:

pcall@xmission.com



Community Talks

Barbara Larsen

Phone: 569-2737

Email: endlessprmos1@msn.com



If You Are Interested . . .

Would you like to “save a tree” and just receive an email each month with the link to the newest issue of The Garden Patch? If so, please let us know at gardenpatch2@juno.com. Please say whether you still want the paper copy sent to you or not. We also had good luck with e-mailing the file to some of our MGs instead of waiting a few days for the web copy to be posted. If you have Microsoft Office on your computer, you probably have the Publisher program and could view it that way. Let us know what you would like.