

# THE GARDEN PATCH



April 2007

Salt Lake Master Gardener Association

Vol. 9, No.4

## It's Worth a Try

By Jenny Allgrunn

We have a lot of Master Gardeners who fight an ongoing battle with wild deer who think their yards are the local salad bar. Living in the valley, I have not had this problem, but I do have some neighborhood rabbits who like to visit for an early breakfast before escaping back around the fence. Since I am really an animal lover at heart, I won't try Jeff Asay's suggestion involving a shotgun. They actually graze on the lawn, which isn't bad and they do eat the bindweed. They are not really The Enemy. After determining that freshly sprouted veggies are the only thing they really caused problems with last year, I've decided to experiment with peaceful co-existence. I am putting the water jugs from my greenhouse floor in a row around the vegetable garden to see if I can just keep them out that way. I'll also sprinkle one of the smelly repellants around it. The rabbits may tunnel in from underneath, but there are a lot of other things in the yard they can eat instead without me getting upset. So it is worth a try.

I also received an interesting e-mail newsletter from High Country Gardens that listed several plants that deer and rabbits will not eat (unless, of course, they are starving.) Some of these I have in my yard, so I will see if the rabbits

stay away from them. Let me know what works for you.

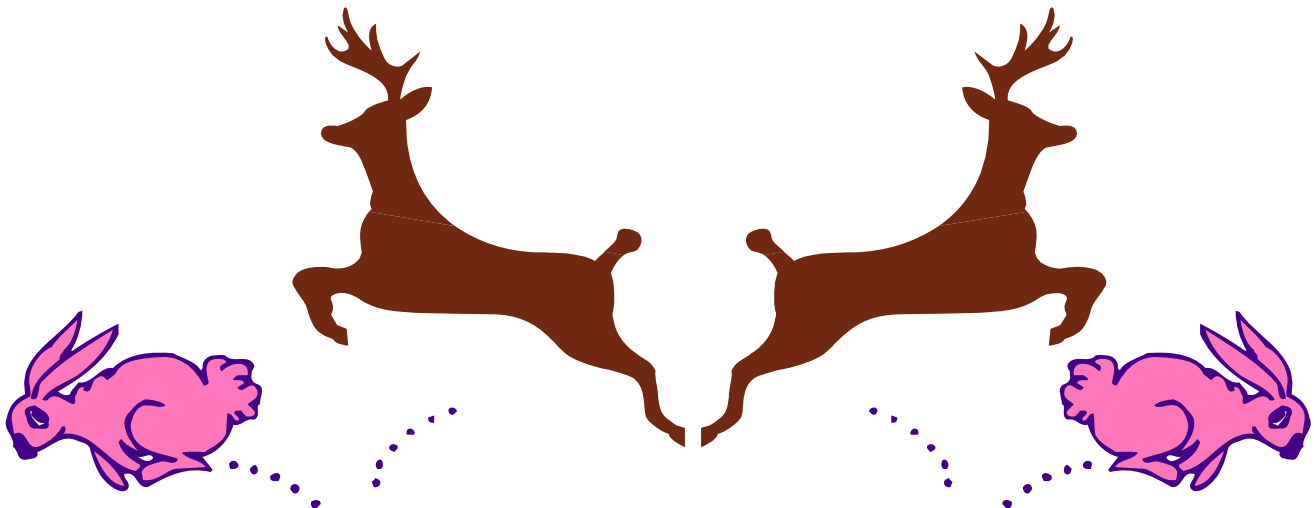
**Rabbit Resistant Ground Covers:** achillea ageratifolia, artemisia, marrubium rotundifolia, paronychia kapela, penstemon procumbens, various thymes, veronica pectinata

**Rabbit Resistant Perennials:** various achillea, agastache, agaves, allium, amorpha, anthemis, antirrhinum (snapdragons), aquilegia, artemisia, castilleja (Indian Paintbrush), centranthus ruber, coreopsis, dianthus, digitalis, echinops, eriogonum, gaillardia, gaura, gazania, gladiolus, helianthus, hymenozys, kniphofia (red hot poker), various lavenders, linum (Blue Flax flower), nolina texana (Bear grass), various salvias, scrophularia macrantha, and several stachys.

**Rabbit Resistant Shrubs:** arctostaphylos, artemisas (sage brush varieties), barberry, calylophus caryopteris (Blue Mist shrub), Rabbit Brush (go figure – I do have one and they've never bothered it), cytisis (broome), fallugia paradoxa (Apache plume).

**Deer Resistant Plants:** includes most of the above plus Berlandiera lyrata (chocolate flower), buddleia, cerastium tomentosum (a nice little ground cover), chamaebatiaria millifolium, yuccas, echinaceas, several kinds of cactus, geum, catnip, oenothera varieties, perovskia (Russian sage), mock orange, ratibida, rudbeckia, santolina, saponaria, prairie scullcap (scutellaria), goldenrod, and zauschneria.

That is quite a list. I don't know if it is completely trustworthy. It is interesting that many of these are xeric. That could be because the company specializes in xeric and native plants, or that rabbits prefer juicy greens rather than drier and grayish plants. Deer will eat anything if they are hungry enough. But then again, it is worth a try.



## NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Steve LeCheminant

Once again I would like to thank Cheri for setting up our meeting last month. We were presented with some good information on preparing ourselves for working in our gardens this spring and the importance of protecting ourselves from the harmful rays of the sun. Remember sun screen and be sure to use it throughout the summer. I hope my wife doesn't read this, as she is always after me to put on sunscreen.

Spring has officially been here since March 21st. As you know, spring has been exceptionally warm this year, at least so far. The warm temperatures have brought out many of my perennials already and I think they would really like some cooler temperatures. My crocuses have come up and are mostly gone. My daffodils are in bloom and even some of them on the south side of the house have spent the blooms already. The few hyacinths that I have are in bloom and their fragrance is very nice.

I would like to pass on a story from Greek Mythology on how Hyacinth got its name taken from the book *100 Flowers and How They got their Names* by Diana Wells.

Hyacinth was a beautiful boy whom the God Apollo loved. While they were playing the ancient game of quoits together, Hyacinth ran forward to catch the discus, but it struck him on the head and killed him.) A chilling elaboration of this story tells that Zephyr, the wind, was jealous of the friendship and blew the quoit against a rock to rebound and kill the boy.) As Hyacinth died, a flower sprang from his bleeding head, which hung over the shoulder of Apollo, who was desperately cradling him in his arms and begging him to live. Wild hyacinths always bend toward the ground, and the letter-like markings on their petals were supposed to read AI. AI in Greek is the sound of a mournful wail. Wild gladioli and some wild orchids in Greece have the same symbol, and they were all used in wreaths for the dead. According to John Parkinson, hyacinths "hinder young persons from growing ripe too soon," which would be useful to those who love unchanging youth.

I thought it was an interesting story, and I wanted to share it with you. Remember the plant exchange this month. Come out and have fun with us, especially you in the new classes being taught by Maggie.

**Check out the USU Extension  
Web Site**

<http://extension.usu.edu/saltlake>

Follow the Master Gardener links

## CATCHING UP WITH VAL

By Val Chatwin

I've gotten some more catalogues. Jenny Allgrunn told me she had received 40! Wow, anyone else received more than that?

We were on a cruise to the Caribbean for the last meeting but Cheri's presentation the month before was wonderful. She is a very good teacher. It was something I needed. It was fun to get the whetstone so you could do some honing immediately. It was surprisingly easy. I have to admit my tools are neglected. I left my scroungy looking tools in the car, until I walked in and saw a few others. Then I went and brought them in. I got several packages of seeds that I needed to buy from the seed exchange. Thank you.

I got to work with a newly-sharpened loper on a "finally warm enough to get out in the garden" Saturday shortly after that. We filled up two garbage containers with rose trimmings, stalks, and prunings. I even started pruning the nectarine, but no more garbage can room, so will finish it later. This is what happens to me and my tools. I filled the garden cart with the tools I needed, left them out there by the tree when I quit and woke up the next morning to blowing snow across the yard. So there are my newly sharpened tools, out in the garden instead of safely in the shed, nice and dry.

Actually I am terrible at putting the tools away in the shed. I want them handy when I need one in the garden. They do get wet, rusty, and bleached. I like new plastic handled ones in bright colors so you can spot them. Tools are important. You need the right tools for each job and it makes it easier. That is why there are so many jobs where people just specialize in one thing now, like hanging garage doors or digging irrigation ditches. They have the tools that make it easy, and most people don't have those tools.

We pulled out the dried up 8 ft. stalks of the Jerusalem artichokes; their bottoms are huge and fleshy. They taste a little like potatoes. I put them in salads, or with dip. The chickens love them. They are not like that at fair time though. They are little, just starting to form buds.

Two of the Amaryllis have bloomed. The third one just has leaves. Again. They look pretty, but not blooming for 3 years means I am going to try to find another that blooms and discard this one. Anyone had experience with getting one to bloom? E-mail me what to do. ([valray@netutah.net](mailto:valray@netutah.net)) I haven't thrown it away yet, because the leaves still look good. I unpotted them and put them out in the garden during the summer. They have tulip-like leaves so you can tell where they are. I brought them in October and let them die back. Last year I potted them and started watering them all at the same time and the two that bloom, bloomed at the same time. What a waste. So this year I potted them up and only started watering one, then a month later the other one, then later the third. The large pink had a huge flower head with four flowers and was spectacular! The medium one started blooming after it finished and was gorgeous. During that time the first one put out another flower head so again I had two blooming right at the same time!

Usually people have them bloom at Christmas but I have a thousand decorations I put out so don't need that and a pot of flowers blooming in January, February, and March is uplifting. I have two Christmas cactus with a few blooms. I put Valentine hearts in the poin-

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EXTENSION

**Utah State**  
UNIVERSITY

By Maggie Shao

I'm writing this column on the Vernal Equinox also known as the first day of Spring. We'll still have some cool weather ahead, but I know many of you have been out in the garden with the warm weather. The Vernal Equinox is when the sun is directly over the equator, and in the northern hemisphere we have exactly 12 hours of daylight and 12 hours of night.

I wanted to thank all the volunteers who worked at the Home and Garden Festival at South Towne Expo. From the questions and contacts, about 600 people stopped by the Master Gardener booth. We will have a table at the Conservation Garden Park (aka Jordan Valley Water Conservancy Demonstration Garden) fairs on May 19<sup>th</sup>, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, and September 8<sup>th</sup> and at the State Fair booths in September.

I was in Logan from March 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> for the annual USU Extension Professional Development Conference. It is the one time of year that all Extension field staff and faculty gets together with campus faculty and administration. A highlight is that Utah State University Cooperative Extension is celebrating 100 years. Extension has been providing education and services to the residents of Utah for the past 100 years and looks forward to the next 100 years. Just to brag a bit, two of our Extension faculty in Salt Lake County Extension office were presented special awards. Our 4-H agent, Donna Carter was presented the Taggart-Ballard Award of Excellence and our regional Finance specialist Ann House, was presented Extension Vice President's Award for Excellence. Maggie Wolf, Maggie Shao, and Sarah Peterson were national finalists for newsletter by team communication award from the National Association of County Agriculture Agents (NACAA).

The International Master Gardener conference is coming up soon in Little Rock, Arkansas May 2-5. I don't think I'll be able to make it this year with the Salt Lake County Jail Hort program in full swing, which I will be teaching every tuesday and thursday for seven weeks. First class started today, and Sherm Fox has been such a great resource and valuable person in helping set up the trickle irrigation system for the jail garden. The 2009 International Master Gardener Conference is scheduled for Las Vegas; I hope many of you plan on attending.

I know that many projects are getting geared up in April and May. Golden Reeves will be starting a cleanup, drip irrigation installation, and planting of the Wheeler Farm Pumpkin Patch the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of May. I know he'll appreciate some volunteers for that, as well as throughout the summer keeping the weeds under control. Fresh From the Heart Project will also be holding a training on Monday April 30 at 6:00pm here at the USU Training room. JoDene Condrat and Jennie Gibson will train folks interested in teaching container gardening to clients at food pantries. The three locations of workshops for Fresh from the Heart are at Baptist Concern, Sunny Anderson Senior Center, and Utah Aids Foundation. Please contact JoDene or Jennie if

## Fresh From the Heart

The Fresh from the Heart training session will be held Monday, April 30 at 6 p.m. in the USU Extension Master Gardener classroom. The training is for everyone interested in teaching and/or helping with the container gardening workshops at the emergency food pantries this spring. Here is your opportunity to participate in this rewarding program. Volunteers must attend this training session if they want to teach at the pantry. All volunteers will be given printed information and instructions on teaching these workshops. For those volunteers who prefer not to teach, we can always use help preparing the containers and assisting the pantry clients in planting their containers. If you plan to attend this training session please RSVP to JoDeane at [condrata@comcast.net](mailto:condrata@comcast.net), or Jennie at [gibsongg@earthlink.net](mailto:gibsongg@earthlink.net). We look forward to meeting our new volunteers.

Remember to plant a row for the hungry! It's a great feeling to be able to share your produce!

you are interested in helping out with teaching container gardening.

Don't forget about grafting fruit trees. Bart Anderson and Golden Reeves will be teaching that on April 21 at 9:00am at Bart's home, 5340 West 3500 South, West Valley. Also, in April there is a Purge Your Spurge Event. Salt Lake County Weed Control is sponsoring a native plant exchange up to 5 plants for myrtle spurge, which is becoming a weed problem in our foothills. The event will be at REI on Saturday April 14 and again on April 21 from 11am-4pm. Check out our Salt Lake Master Gardener calendar online for more information at <http://extension.usu.edu/saltlake>.

Finally, the next Salt Lake Master Gardener general meeting is the annual plant exchange. It will be on Thursday, April 19 at 7:00pm here at the USU Extension training room. Bring your plants to swap and your planners/calendars to sign up for volunteer projects. I'll see you there.



## SPOTLIGHT ON Ann Scott and Julie Myers

"I enjoy my garden year round," Ann Scott says. "On warm winter days I don a jacket and dig and rake, clearing and sprucing beds to bring out winter interest." Ann has created and cultivated her garden nearly single-handedly for twenty-five years. Formal beds, oak groves, natural areas, and rock gardens grace the landscape. The garden is a major focus year-round and provides her family with a wonderful addition of "rooms" extending from their home.

Julie Myers is Ann's daughter and together they are Master Gardeners, lecturers, authors, and guides. They both received their SLMG certificates in 2004 and are currently attending Advanced Master Gardener classes. Lecturing is their primary volunteer effort for the SLMG Association. They started out in the speaker's bureau, but eventually struck out on their own, finding they could reach more people by directly contacting organizations to offer presentations.

Last year they lectured a dozen times. They've already doubled that load this year with 25 presentations scheduled through mid-May, including stepping in at the last minute for a Master Gardener meeting when the appointed speaker couldn't make it. "We've had good response from our audiences and enjoy sharing with them," Julie says, regarding their instructions on waterwise gardening, plant combinations, tree choices, and diagnostics. They are also authors of *Trees of the State Arboretum of Utah* and offer guided tours of both Red Butte Garden and the University of Utah Arboretum.

Ann inherited her garden interests from her mother. The genes surfaced in daughter, Julie, with the passing of her Grandmother Bowman at the age 102. Julie moved into the 1920's family home and says, "The garden had become overgrown, so we spent a long season clearing and pruning. We then watched the next season and cheered the re-blooming of lilacs, hawthorns, spirea, viburnum, beauty bush, crabapple, and honeysuckle." Grandmother would smile to see Julie once again cultivating the garden she so lovingly tended.

Draped along a stone wall, Ann has a large, graceful 'American Beauty' rose started under a bottle from a cutting of the favorite rose in Grandmother Bowman's garden. That particular flower blooms as a symbol of the lasting connection between the generations. By the same token, Julie and Ann's enthusiasm and dedication reflect the strong bond between all gardeners, related or not.

## CHRISTMAS BOX HOUSE

Lori Gillespie Hansen has been volunteering once a month at Christmas Box House. On Feb. 27th she gave a presentation on prunes in an attempt to redeem their image a tad. She owns a prune farm in California and splits her time between Salt Lake and California. One of the older boys expressed the stereotypical idea about prunes right off. She was fantastic and most of the children were right with her. Well, I say most, that is more than usual. She explained through a storybook and pictures of her prune orchard, the history and production of prunes. The children were very bright and remembered everything when it was time for the game. She also gave them a prune maze to work on while we prepared their treat. For their treat she had prepared chicken salad pita sandwiches with prunes, flavored prunes, prune cookies, a small drink of prune, grape juice, chocolate covered raisins, and of course a prune. It was a real hit. Thank you so much Lori.

Christmas Box House is a shelter care facility for children removed from their homes in Salt Lake County. It is located on the west side of West Temple at 3500 South. If you like children, it is a great opportunity to help. The average length of stay for these children used to be about 3 weeks, but because of extensive background checks even for family members, the average stay is now about 2 to 3 months. These children are in dire need of attention and love. Some are very grateful, and others are lonely and struggling.

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. Coming once a month, twice a month, or every week is very rewarding. They are thrilled to see us each week. I'm not sure if it is because we come with treats, or because we have such stimulating activities - probably because we pay attention to them and love them. They do not sit quietly and listen attentively, but it is still rewarding to help these precious children. You will need to have a background check even though a staff member must be with us every minute. If you have any questions contact Virginia Sargeant [threedz@utahweb.com](mailto:threedz@utahweb.com) or Peggy Call [pcall@xmission.com](mailto:pcall@xmission.com)

The Christmas box house is located at 236 South 300 East. in Salt Lake City.

What nice weather March has brought this year! The first week was cool but the last few weeks have been great. I planted three varieties of peas: 'Oregon Sugar Pod,' 'Oregon Sugar Pod II' and 'Lincoln.' With the warm weather, all of them have broken ground. I can see little rows of green. That's a good sign. I also planted 'Detroit Red' beets and the Fourth East spinach, and they are growing also. The early tomato plants are also outside in water walls and have almost doubled in size in just two weeks. 'Glacier,' 'Stupice,' 'Early Goliath,' and 'Sweet Celica' have been planted in the garden. The rest are still in the greenhouse waiting to size up before I plant them in the garden. I have been eating the 'Glaciers' for a few weeks and still have some of them growing in the greenhouse. I plant them in five gallon containers, two plants per container, and put wire cages around them. It works great and I can move them out on to the patio or garden as the weather warms up.

The last few months have been really busy for me with taking the Advanced Master Gardener program and teaching classes. I was thinking I would have more time to get a lot of the spring work completed. When the warm weather hit I didn't have the drip system installed or the beds taken care of, but I found by leaving the header hose in place it went much faster. With the raised beds the ground dried out quicker. All I needed to do was to rake the tops, level them out, and install the drip lines.

With the nice weather I found that the buds on the apple tree were starting to swell and open, so it was time for the dormant oil spray to go on. I had to pick up the spray and get it on right away. That really came early this year and put me in a rush to do it. I had done the pruning a few weeks ago but was waiting to finish it up to see what I was to learn at the pruning class. The other problem I ran in to was that Sears was repairing my Chipper Shredder. It was to be finished February 28<sup>th</sup>, but they were two weeks late getting it finished. Then once I got it home, I had only chipped about ½ of a bag when the bolt on the fly wheel came lose, and I had to shut it down. Needless to say I was not a happy gardener. I needed to take it apart and make the repairs.

The pruning of the rose hedge went a lot better this year; I did not bleed as much because I had a heavy coat and welding gloves on. I did find that they had stabbed me in the legs, but the blood had dried by the time I discovered it. The cuttings I took two years ago are still alive. I had to take out dead bushes, so I planted the cuttings in their places. (I have a hedge of pink 'Simplicity' roses from Jackson & Perkins.)



**By Wm. Golden Reeves**

In the walkways of the garden I stored and buried the pots I have daylilies planted in. They made it through the winter just great. The oak trees I grew from acorns survived very well but one of the pinion pine trees was broken off from the snow, so now I am down to just four pine trees. I had oregano planted in a barrel. and the plants were dead about four inches in from the sides but the center has made it and is starting to grow.

I have had a hard time starting flowers from seed this year. There are so many different ways they need to be taken care of. Some need light to germinate, others need a long time, others need warm areas, others need cooler spaces. I check out my garden dictionary to find the proper method for each seed. I ordered coleus seed and received some dust in a small glass vile. They need light to germinate and I was able to get 20 plants to grow. I think the more expensive the seed the harder they are to grow. Spring is here but keep an eye on the weather, Old Man Winter can return any time.

## *"Ruthi's Garden Pizza"*

Submitted by Cathy Miller

Canned Crescent Dinner Rolls (store brand works great)  
Sour Cream  
Horseradish  
Fresh Veggies of your choice

### Directions:

Press out the crescent roll dough into a rectangle onto a nonstick baking sheet (or use parchment paper). Bake as directed until golden brown. Cool completely. (You can do this a day ahead.) I like a thicker crust, so I use three cans of rolls for two baking sheets.

Add a tablespoon of horseradish to one cup of sour cream (more or less to taste) for each crust. Spread to edges of crust. Top with your favorite veggies cut into bite size pieces. Try mushrooms, bell peppers, green onions, tomatoes, broccoli, or avocado. Cut with a pizza wheel and enjoy!

## Notes From the Past President

Sorry I haven't written an article for a couple of months. I seem to have gotten so involved down here. In Arizona Ken and I are on the Landscape and Maintenance Committee. We have a 9 hole par three golf course and have been putting down regrid asphalt on all the cart paths. Also we have about 60 bougainvilleas along our outer wall, and with the frost this year and the regular maintenance people not checking the water, we had to give them a little fertilizer and fix the watering system, also weeding which also has to be done down here - surprise. Besides water aerobics, walking the dog, golfing and just enjoying the sun. (Sorry I had to add that in) we are still gardening strong.

We had two more Mexican Fan Palm trees taken out of our yard. They are one of the fastest growing palms, and ours got over 40 feet tall (not any help from me with my Miracle Grow and constant watering). I wish I would have taken the Master Gardener program long before I did. We didn't have to cut these down. There is a company that will take them out for free and then resale them to building developers. Anyway we put in two more smaller slow-growing palms, a Canary Island Date Palm and a Mediterranean Fan Palm that has three different sprouts coming out.

We also brought in some block wall retainers and built a raised flower bed. We put in ice plant for the edges and three more tomatoes and three bell pepper plants along with some different flowers including some red sunflowers seeds which doesn't surprise anyone who has seen my Utah yard. The temps this last month have gone up in to the 90's and 100's, so things are growing and hopefully the blossoms that have already set will stay. It should get back down to where it belongs in the lower 80's. We have been eating on tomatoes for the last two months from the 'Glacier' that Golden gave me last fall. Along with the baby plants that started popping up from below that plant, we have five more 'Glaciers' - one with two new tomatoes on it. Unfortunately, I don't think it will like the heat as much as the other new ones we just planted. We'll see.

I have been coming back every month for the board meetings and the general meetings. I've missed seeing some of the regulars there. Hope all is well, and that you will come back soon. The plant swap is next month, and that is always a fun meeting. I have about 30 palm trees that I started over a year ago to give away and 40 castor bean plants that I started in my greenhouse in February. I have the last of the aloe vera left over from the Christmas party bulbs and I don't want to store them anymore, so please show up and take them away.

Last month when I got home, it was warm enough for me to till both my gardens and plant my peas. Hopefully it rains while I'm gone because it was still too cold to start our drip system yet. I also did some spring clean up and got most of my perennials cut back. I miss the spring in Utah because I don't get to enjoy my hundreds of tulips, daffodils and crocuses along with all the little noses of plants starting to pop up. My peonies, sedum, columbine and ground covers were starting to come back as well. I guess the good thing about

going south is that I get to garden year round, and when I do come home monthly there is always a surprise in my yard when I get there. It is mostly good, but sometimes not so good like when my greenhouse windows flew off and froze almost everything in November. Luckily most everything is bouncing back, and it only affected the leaves and not the whole plant.

I know Bart and Golden will be teaching their fruit grafting class in April. If you have never taken this class, it is very informative and fun to try. I took it three years ago and I have a miniature apple tree in my back yard where I took some of the grafts and put, I think, four or six grafts on. Three of them worked, so now my apple tree is actually four different kinds of apples. If all else fails, it's a great conversation piece.

Beverly and I did a walk through at Gilgal when I was there, and things are looking good. I hope to see a lot of you out to help this year. With Ken retiring, we will be taking a couple of trips this summer. I hope to see you all soon. Spring is just around the corner, so happy gardening!

-- Your past-but-not-lost Past President, Traci Dahle

## MURRAY PARK

It's the beginning of a new year - for those of us who reckon years from spring to spring. Much like the sap flowing in the trees, our blood quickens with the longer days and warmer temperatures. We have had some beautiful "teaser days" that get us outside raking and cleaning off the gardens - so, let the season begin. We will start volunteer days in Murray Park on Tuesday, April 10th at 8:00 am. Meet at the park office. If you need more directions or information please contact Becky Hansen at

## GILGAL GARDEN

We will begin our season work in the garden Tuesday, April 3 at 3:00 p.m. to dark, or at least 6:00 p.m. Of course, if it is snowing, we will defer. The work which we will be doing will include tree and shrub pruning, trimming the old materials out of perennials, and raking the garden. There are always weeds to be pulled, and you will become acquainted with our most prolific one, "Bouncing Bet", *Saponaria officinalis*. We don't have plans to have it in our garden, but it is very determined. You can see that many tools will be needed and because Gilgal works on a limited budget, we have been using our own tools. Please call Beverly Sudbury if you can be with us, or if you need more information. We will also take time to discuss further plans for the garden and share ideas about getting donated plants. Thank you. Email [beverlysudbury@yahoo.com](mailto:beverlysudbury@yahoo.com)

## Kielbasa and Cabbage Dinner

Submitted by Eva Daniels - *This is my 'lower the carbs' and 'make it quick' version of an old Frugal Gourmet recipe.*

2 oz. of large egg noodles, cooked and drained (or any leftover pasta)  
 1 T. butter  
 1 pkg. of cole slaw mix (or about a pound of shredded cabbage)  
 Salt and pepper to taste  
 2 servings of Kielbasa sausage, cooked

Saute cabbage in butter for just a minute or so (don't overcook it). Stir in noodles, salt, and pepper. Serve with Kielbasa. 2 Servings

## Membership List

Included with this issue of *The Garden Patch* is a list of the current members of SLMGA. This list is provided for Salt Lake Master Gardener Association business only. Please respect the privacy of your fellow Master Gardeners by not using their phone numbers for business or other purposes. Thanks!

If we have your phone number wrong, your name misspelled, or if you change phone numbers, please let us know.

Jenny Allgrunn at  
[gardenpatch2@juno.com](mailto:gardenpatch2@juno.com).

If you are not on the list and should be, please let us know.

Teresa Rivera at [rivera.slc@comcast.net](mailto:rivera.slc@comcast.net)

## WANTED

I am looking for a Master Gardener who would like to have the monthly assignment of copying and mailing *The Garden Patch*. It would involve being available for about 4 hours in the daytime on a weekday a few days before the end of each month. I would deliver the newsletter master and the labels to you, and you would take them to Kinko's on State Street in Sandy, run the copies, fold, tape, and label them and take them with the completed mailing permit to the Sandy post office. You would pay for the copying and postage, but would of course be reimbursed by SLMGA.

This would be a nice job for a couple or just one person. As it does not involved getting your hands dirty, you would still need to do other volunteer projects if you are still working on your first 40 hours.

Contact Jenny at [gardenpatch2@juno.com](mailto:gardenpatch2@juno.com) if you are interested.

## CATCHING UP WITH VAL, Continued from Page 2

settias. A hosta blooming plus the three outside geraniums pots I bring in are blooming like crazy. One is salmon, sits in the sun in the living room, and has 15 flowers heads and has all winter. It sits on a white rug and is in sun, so it looks wonderful. When they are outside you don't notice how much they shed. We got home from our cruise and the white rug was covered with orangy flower petals. What a lovely sight. Our church gives them on Mother's Day, so that is where I got them. One pot is five years old. I know I am the only mother in the ward who still has one after five years.

I found a funny thing last season's end. Miracle Grow, which I usually never buy (you pay for the name, and you know of my frugality) was on sale for 75% off. It was fertilizer in "Alka Seltzer" form. A fertilizer pill that fizzes. 15, 20,15. It got me to do some inside fertilizing, and the houseplants and the geraniums look better than they ever have. The hanging Ivy is really good too. If I would just do the same with regular fertilizer it would give the same results. But this was fun, and isn't that what a manufacturer wants? These are Instant Action Houseplant Food Tablets.

One recent new catalogue was Meyer Hatchery in Ohio, where we bought the currant bunch of chickens. And, low and behold, our mystery bantam hen has been identified at last! There was her exact picture! She is clean-legged Bantam, white with random splotches of gray all over. You won't believe this: the name is Rosecomb Splash. Yes! I love the name and that is exactly what the spots on her looks like. Splashes. The description said their combs are shaped differently. I went right out to look, and sure enough, it isn't a stand up straight thing. It's like the Arcanas', whose combs look like knots on top of their heads. Well, now I'm going to call her Rosy Splash instead of Mystery hen That's a lot better. When there is snow covering the ground, and I go out and call them from across the yard (they are clear over in the garden) she flies over. The other Bantams will fly occasionally but she does it regularly. She isn't very good at landing - flaps into the air and then glides clear across, puts down her feet and falls on her face. The other day she flew over and hit me!

The first thing I did when we arrived home from our trip was go out to check them. Our daughter and her husband had been tending things here. Two were missing - Goldy a Gold Orpington, and Saddy, a brown Sebright hen. I hurried out to the nest box and found both sitting in their nest on the eggs growling at me. They want to be mothers. I should get some baby chicks from IFA and let them raise them. Not this year though. This lot of chickens has survived well.

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S**

**Christmas Box House**  
236 South 300 East

Peggy Call - [pcall@xmission.com](mailto:pcall@xmission.com)  
Virginia Sargeant - [THREEDZ@utahweb.com](mailto:THREEDZ@utahweb.com)

**Fresh From the Heart**

Jennie Gibson - [gibsongg@earthlink.net](mailto:gibsongg@earthlink.net)  
JoDene Condrat - [condrata@comcast.net](mailto:condrata@comcast.net)

**Gilgal Garden**  
749 East 500 South

Bev Sudbury - [beverlysudbury@yahoo.com](mailto:beverlysudbury@yahoo.com)  
Traci Dahle - [smoki1@smartfella.com](mailto:smoki1@smartfella.com)

**Hidden Hollow**  
1165 East Wilmington

Charlene Homan - [mhcharlene@yahoo.com](mailto:mhcharlene@yahoo.com).

**Magna Elementary**  
8500 West 3100 South

Peg Sudbury-Crowley - [crowbaby@xmission.com](mailto:crowbaby@xmission.com)  
Mark Hurst

**Murray Park**  
5000-5300 South State

Becky Hansen - [hansenpollei@mstar2metro.net](mailto:hansenpollei@mstar2metro.net)

**Pioneer Park Farmer's Market**  
400 South 300 West

Karen Crook - [garykarencrook@comcast.net](mailto:garykarencrook@comcast.net)

**Utah State Fair Park**  
200 North 1000 West

**Utah AIDS Foundation**  
1408 South 1100 East

Jeff Asay - [Jeffrey.asay@comcast.net](mailto:Jeffrey.asay@comcast.net)  
Kay Packard - [kaypackard@comcast.net](mailto:kaypackard@comcast.net)  
Mike and Ann Cullis - [andandmikecullis@comcast.net](mailto:andandmikecullis@comcast.net)

**Volunteer Coordinator**

Barbara Larsen - [endlesspromos1@msn.com](mailto:endlesspromos1@msn.com)

**Web Site**

Amy Hargreaves Judzis - [webwench@slmg.org](mailto:webwench@slmg.org)

**Wheeler Farm**  
6300 South 900 East  
Wheeler Farm Vegetable Garden  
Wheeler Farm Herb Garden  
Wheeler Farm Pumpkin Patch  
Wheeler Farm House Garden

LaWana Kosel - [lawanak\\_01@msn.com](mailto:lawanak_01@msn.com)  
Golden Reeves - [greeves28@msn.com](mailto:greeves28@msn.com)  
Sandy Burgess - [sandy.burgess@Questar.com](mailto:sandy.burgess@Questar.com)

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Also for sale are SLGMA logo canvas bags in four different colors for \$12.00. You can order from Barbara at [endlesspromos1@msn.com](mailto:endlesspromos1@msn.com)

**GET SOME FUN VOLUNTEER HOURS  
AT HIDDEN HOLLOW!**

Saturday, April 7 from 9 - 11 a.m. the Kiwanis Club and children from local elementary schools are meeting at Hidden Hollow to weed. They will provide the willing labor, but they need the guidance of Master Gardeners to tell them what is a weed and what is a wildflower. Charlene Homan will provide you with pictures of weeds common to Hidden Hollow, so you can supervise with confidence. Contact her if you are able to help. [mhcharlene@yahoo.com](mailto:mhcharlene@yahoo.com)

Hidden Hollow is located at 1165 East Wilmington. Just park in the shopping center parking lot and go to the northeast corner.

# Calendar

Thursday, April 19  
Plant Exchange and  
Projects Night

Thursday, May 17

State Master Gardener Mini-College  
Open to all MG's and Students

Thanksgiving Point

**June 8-9**

more info. to come

Looking Ahead:

July 19 - Summer Picnic  
Murray Park

To see the latest issue of The Garden Patch online, plus past issues, go to:

<http://www.slmg.org/>

We have had a request for the recipe for a sesame seed hummus that was served at our February meeting. Could the Master Gardener who brought that please contact us at [gardenpatch2@juno.com](mailto:gardenpatch2@juno.com) with the recipe.

Thanks!!!

***THE GARDEN PATCH***  
***is ON THE WEB at***  
[www.slmg.org](http://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](mailto:webwench@slmg.org)

You can access the Web Bulletin Board at [www.utahmastergardeners.org/forum/index.php](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](mailto:gardenpatch2@juno.com)



Download, fill out and send in your  
**Master Gardener Volunteer Hours Report**  
<http://www.slmg.org/hours/>

*Remember the annual plant exchange coming up April 19 in the classroom. Be sure to, mark your plants with the variety if it has a name plus the kind of plant it is.*

*You can cut up cottage cheese cartons and pop cans to make plant markers. Use a grease pencil or permanent marker on the plastic ones, a ball point pen on the aluminum can ones. Another idea is to write with permanent marker on a plastic spoon.*

*This is a fun event. Come even if you have nothing to bring. Do bring a box, tray, or something to carry your new plants away in.*

Golden Reeves and Bart Anderson will be holding a **fruit grafting workshop** on Saturday, April 21. The workshop is free, but please call the USU Extension office to reserve a spot 468-3179 9:00 am at Bart's home, 5340 West 3500 South, West Valley