

THE GARDEN PATCH



January 2007

Salt Lake Master Gardener Association

Vol. 9, No.1

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR!

The barn at Wheeler Farm was the scene of a great Holiday Graduation/Awards dinner for SLMGA. Wonderful decorations, great food, and good friends filled the hall. We have 27 newly qualified Master Gardeners, most from this past year's class.

Master Gardener Certificate

Judy Anderson
Nola Anderton
Jerry Bergosh
Nikki Boyer
Corinne Cannon
Kathlyn Collins
Susan Croft
Karyn Douglas
Jacqui Fay
Erlyn Gould-Madsen
Lori Gillespie Hansen
Carmen Kaminski
Diana Kassavetis
Laura Kleman
Anita M. Krotz
Karen McCormick
Mary Ann Nauahi
Mary Nichols
Mridula Patel
Angie Pinna
Cheri Schulzke
Marie Scouler
Mary Jo Neal Tedesco
Kristen Walsh
Mary Ann Williams
Teri Wojcik
Marianne Young

50-Hour Pin

Jerry Bergosh
Nikki Boyer
Lee DeNiro
Ingra Draper

Carol A. Johnson
John Kalasky
Anita M. Krotz
Karen McCormick
Angie Pinna
Cheri Schultzke
Marcia Sherry
Robert Sudbury
Mary Ann Williams
Marianne Young

100-Hour Pin

Peg Crowley
Donna Drecksels
Lisa Harris
Karen McCormick
Jennifer Knight
LaWana Kosel
John Kalasky

250-Hour Pin

Howard Andrews
Jeffrey Asay
Andrea Berman
Eva Jensen
Ethel Olsen
Ann Scott

500-Hour Pin

Jodeanne Condrat
Karen Crook
Val Chatwin
Charlene Homan
Cathy Miller

1000-Hour Pin

Jenny Allgrunn

1250-Hour Pin

Karl Hauptfleisch
Golden Reeves

1750-Hour Pin

Bart Anderson
Marlene Johnson

Traci Dahle
Bev Sudbury

2000-Hour Pin

Bart Anderson

Silver Trowel Award

Alan Bettridge
Val Chatwin
Jim Davis
Eva Jensen
Pat Miller
Julie Myers
Ann Scott

Sudbury Award

Golden Reeves

Dale Hughes Award

Peggy Call

Board Award

Faythe and Kevin Adams

Master Gardener of the Year

Ron Jones

**CONGRATU-
LATIONS
TO
EVERYONE**

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT AND THE PAST PRESIDENT

By Stephen Le Cheminant

Well here it is, not only the beginning of a new year but also the beginning of a new era.

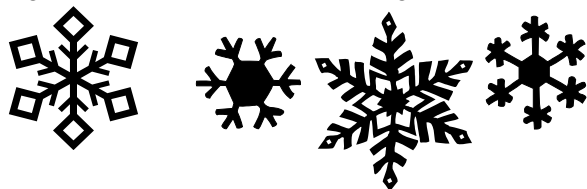
The past two years have gone by quickly, or at least it seems so now. I have been very fortunate to have worked with all of the past board members. They are wonderful people, and for the last two years they have had only the best intentions and interest of the association at heart. I consider them good friends and hope they will continue to be involved with the association for many years.

As much as I have enjoyed the camaraderie of the old board, I look forward to working with the new board members. Already, they are working to ensure that we will continue to have meetings that are educational and fun. I hope that you will all support us and continue to come to the meetings and other activities. If you haven't been out for awhile or even a long time, please come out and join us again. Let's reach out to welcome and encourage the newest members of the association to join us in all our activities.

As it is winter time and we are not able to spend as much time in our yards as we might like, I spend more time reading, usually about gardening. I'm currently reading "The Undaunted Garden" by Lauren Springer. I would like to share with you the opening paragraph from the preface of her book.

"I don't understand the concept of the low-maintenance garden. Landscape yes, but not garden. Gardening may be many things to many people, but it is always an active relationship between a person and a group of plants. Don't get me wrong - there are times when even the most devoted gardener wishes for the help of an energetic group of weeding elves. But to desire a garden that requires no time spent except the occasional stroll through in well-laundered clothes is like having the most beautiful and appetizing food laid out on a table before you and not wanting to take a bite."

I wanted to share that thought with you as something to think about during these long winter months. Do not despair. It won't be long before we are out working in our gardens in the warm sunshine again.



By Traci Dahle

We made it back down south safely to Arizona. There was snow on the ground all the way to St. George, then when we thought we were done we barely missed a storm in Search Light, AZ. They got a whole inch of snow and shut the roads down. I guess they only get snow once in a great while, and they don't know how to handle it.

I hope you all made it to our Graduation/Holiday party. I sure had a good time visiting with everyone. We had some wonderful food! Gardeners must know how to cook. We might think of putting a cook book together for a fundraiser.

I want to thank everyone who came and help set up and take everything down. Like Golden said in the past, gardeners are not afraid to get their hands dirty so when asked to help they don't hesitate to do so.

Thanks to my wonderful board for their dedication for the past two years, I enjoyed working with them. We have made some wonderful changes this past two years. Our web page is getting better and better. We have become a nonprofit organization. We have some wonderful shirts and bags for sale (which I love) so we can let people know who we are when we are at the projects or garden shows. We have some wonderful new signs at our projects so the public knows we are the ones working on the project.

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Thanks to everyone on my board also, for the wonderful, gorgeous, huge cement bird bath. I can't wait to find a place for it in my yard next year. They put a nice sign on it for me that had my name on it "Tracy Dahle", of course spelled wrong. If any one remembers, my name was

Continued on Page 6



The Value of Volunteering

By Maggie Shao

If you didn't make it to the Holiday Master Gardener Volunteer Recognition Dinner at Wheeler Farm, you missed a wonderful evening with good food, friends, and an opportunity to acknowledge all the folks who really make up the Master Gardener program. Special thanks go out to the Salt Lake Master Gardener Board for always putting in those extra hours setting up the beautiful tables and getting the dinner organized.

I want to give you some impressive numbers at the end of this year. I know that reporting hours can seem like an added chore, but I'll report these numbers to Utah State University and Salt Lake County, and hopefully the numbers will validate and promote continued support of the Master Gardener program. Thanks go to Sarah Petersen for helping analyze and summarizing your hours from the database. Take a look at these totals for 2006 (and I know that there were more volunteer hours that I couldn't count in because they weren't reported).

2006 Summary for Salt Lake County

Total number of volunteers = 80

Total number of hours volunteered = 5,233 hours

Average number of hours per volunteer = 65

Total number of contacts (people MG served) = 5476

Total number of pounds of fresh produce donated = 7,414 lbs

According to the Independent Sector that tracks volunteer statistics from 1989 to 2000, the percentage of the US population that volunteers dropped from 54% down to 44%; however the total number of volunteer hours is about the same at 15.5 billion hours. If you assign the current value of \$18.02 per volunteer hour and apply it to Salt Lake Master Gardeners in 2006, the assigned dollar value of your time equals \$94,299. Wow! That's amazing! Thank you for all your efforts.

The new year has lots to offer. Advanced Master Gardener training module in Fruits, Vegetables, and Turfgrass will be starting January 8, 2007. The Master Gardener training will begin Wednesday January 24, 2007. I will be holding an afternoon training class Wednesdays and Fridays from 1:30pm to 4:00pm and an evening class Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:00pm to 8:30pm. There are just about 70 new Master Gardener apprentices who will be in training. I will also send out some more information on minimum hour requirements to remain active as a volunteer. I will also ask for you to read and sign a volunteer agreement form for the county and USU to keep on file.

Best wishes for peace and joy for the coming year!

ADVANCED MASTER GARDENER CLASS OF 2006

The Advanced Master Gardener class of 2006 was recognized at the December Graduation and Awards party.

Doug Campbell

Peg Crowley

Donna Drecksel

Christina Gates

Lisa Harris

Carol Johnson

Ron Jones

Amy Hargreaves-Judzis

Jennifer Knight

LaWana Kosel

Dorothy Lee

Pat Miller

Julie Myers

Diane Nielson

Ethel Olsen

Teresa Rivera

Ann Scott

Marcia Sherry

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 sent 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

Do We Have Your Name and Address Right?

Every now and then we find out we've been sending *The Garden Patch* to a wrong or slightly inaccurate address or that we've been spelling a name incorrectly. If this is the case for you, please let us know. It's easy for us to correct it if we have the right information. gardenpatch2@juno.com



The Christmas party at the Barn was really fun. Lots of delicious food - I just kept eating the whole evening, and even when the awarding was going on I had a plate of goodies to munch on. How fattening. We really have some good cooks. It ran smoothly and well, thanks to our presidency that has been so terrific.

I had one of my very talented ladies on the Cub Scout Roundtable staff fill in for me at Roundtable. I knew I was getting my 500-hour pin, and besides I love to go to the meetings and see all you guys, and I've missed the Christmas party the last four years, because they change it to the date of the Roundtables in the whole Salt Lake Council. The first and second Thursdays have been in place for years. I think that as long as we are changing our date that we should not put it on a date that is established making any Master Gardener that is a scouting volunteer have to choose between the two. As long as we are changing why not put it on a Tuesday or Wednesday? Why make people choose between two good things?

I was thrilled to get the silver trowel award; thank you, Karen Crook. I haven't been to other award parties so hardly know what it is.

The beautiful snow came. When it lines each branch and twig it is really pretty. It is about 10 inches deep in our backyard. I wonder if chickens can remember it from last year. The first day they woke up and found it was too deep to walk in. They made paths here to the house, where I had the food. Now I have the food out in their coop so they go between it and the unsnowy spot under the trampoline. Last year they dug that spot up so bad that it took all summer to recover. We need to go and move the tramp between snow storms. These chickens are quite compatible despite their difference in sizes. This is unusual, especially with four roosters. I think it is because they have always been together. I complain about the Polish rooster that is the dominant one. He is so hard to catch and always flying out, but he is not mean to the others. They stand next to him and he doesn't pick them. I've had roosters that would nearly kill the other rooster. I had to separate them and give them away by putting a sign on the road. The eggs are huge. They lay large eggs as they age. I did get one tiny one recently, first time in two months, and it was when the weather warmed up and felt spring.

Bart Anderson told me he had some new chickens - in the winter?

I have a rock garden.

Once we had a Master Gardener class on Rock Gardening. I had no idea there was a society whose interest was land-

scaping with rocks. It was interesting and the pictures were beautiful.

I want to tell you how I got my rock garden. It wasn't a landscape plan for me. Actually, until I got in Master Gardening I didn't know you are suppose to have a plan.

We live on a rise from the Jordan River. Next to our neighbor's steep driveway we had planned to build a retaining wall at the top to match their retaining wall, and pave our dirt with cement to match theirs, and have a shared basketball court. The retaining wall is four feet tall. My husband started digging the area level, but when he got back to where the wall would have been, he exposed a huge electric cable. That stopped the project. A few weeks later the Utah Power and Light people came out for something else and spotted that exposed cable. They were dismayed, to say the least. "This was the wire that brought electricity to the whole subdivision" and it could "not be encased in cement" or "moved", and it had to be "recovered as fast as possible before some kid gets electrocuted!"

Well, that took care of the retaining wall and shared basketball court, and my husband reburied the wire and we had a lovely dirt hill.

A couple of years later we added a room onto the back of the house, making it necessary to break up a cement patio. The workers just dumped the broken pieces of cement on the hill that covered the cable. They were in big askew pieces that I couldn't move. One disadvantage of having your family do a project is that you can't tell them what to do. Paid people you can.

It looked pretty tacky so I tried to figure out a way to hide it. And that is when the rock garden started.

I started bringing rocks home, from any trip we would take. I hauled rocks from the field next door. The farmer didn't mind a bit. Those were round, granite, river rocks. When I took scouts up to Kennecott's mine overlook, we would stop and I'd put in a few of those sharp, clean, yellow rocks from their rubble pile. Once we stopped at the top of Donner's pass and got some black slate, and we brought some red sandstone rocks from St. George several times. Slowly but surely the cement disappeared and when I was the Webelos leader and we did "Geologist" badge, we didn't have to go far to find all different kind of rock.

I added a little bit of soil, and built a stone stair that went up to a gate in the fence at the top which is covered in grape vines. My daughter gave me some ground cover to plant in it that she got from her mother-in-law. Through the years I tried other ground cover plants, and pansies, geraniums, and perennials, but they died. You know how enthusiastic you are in the spring and then when the hot days of summer arrive it is hard to keep things watered? The rock garden is very hot in the summer and has very good drainage.

Then the neighbor let a Siberian Elm tree that blew in grow right next to their garage foundation. I thought they would have taken it out so the foundation would not buckle,

Continued on Page 5

The cartoon 'Hagar the Horrible' in the paper on December 20th was a classic. It depicts Hagar saying to Helga, "I have been out of town a lot lately but now that I'm home what was it you wanted me to do?" The next frame shows the home and yard covered with deep snow. Helga replies, "RAKE THE LEAVES!" Just before the snow hit, I was able to rake the leaves from the lawn in the back yard. The rose bushes are late shedding their leaves along with the apple trees. Then with the winds, a lot of the leaves I had packed in the walkways blew out of place.

I have taken an inventory of my seeds and with the new seed catalogs made two orders. Parks is offering free shipping until the 31st of January, so I took advantage of that. A lot of times, when you add the price of the seed and the shipping charges, it is not worth it. I order from the catalogs that I can find the most varieties I am looking for so I don't have a lot of shipping expenses.

The garden in the basement is growing great; I do have a little problem with some aphids. I have no idea how they got into the house, but I will keep a close watch on them and throw out some of the affected plants and treat the others. Yes, I did plant tomatoes just before Thanksgiving and another batch around the first of December. It was on the batch I planted in December that I found the aphids. The ice plant I moved in to the house along with the 'Silver Falls' dichondra seem to be growing okay. The bronze fountain grass looked like it was dead so I cut it close to the pot and gave it a good watering and now I have a lot of green shoots. The coleus I started from a cutting is doing great. I took a cutting out of the top of the plant and now it is starting to branch out much like the basil plant does when harvested.

With the cold weather that is here, it is fun to have a place to go where it is hot and lots of light, but only on a sunny day is the greenhouse that place. With the sun so far to the south by 2:30 pm the house shades the greenhouse and the heat goes down rapidly. It will be about two months before the sun returns to



By Wm. Golden Reeves

heat the greenhouse the full day. In placing a green house on your lot you need to take into account how much sun it will get. The only place on my lot was on the north side of the property against the neighbor's fence.

For a long time we have had little flies in the house. When I took the plants outside for the summer, we still had them. I have listened to Larry on "KSL Greenhouse" giving advice on how to get rid of them. My wife has been complaining about them for months and I didn't pay much attention to the problem. They would crawl through the smallest holes in the lid on the sour dough start and we would need to pick them out. They even would wake her up when she was asleep. She gave me the ultimatum - get rid of them. I narrowed it down to the Christmas cactus plants, so following Larry's suggestion I put five stacks each three high of pennies in the bottom of the tray and set the pots on top of them and within two weeks the flies seem to be gone.

The amaryllis I held over from last year by planting them in the garden are now starting to show signs of blooming. I took them out of the garden just before we had frost and laid them on their side on the floor of the greenhouse until the leaves turned brown. I then removed the leaves and stored them in the basement. When I see signs of growth I then pot them up and see if they will produce a blossom. I think it is easier to buy a bulb around Christmas time and throw it away after it has bloomed.

After a good storm and everything is covered with snow, you don't notice the neighbor's weeds and your own garden's imperfection. Mother Nature paints with a wide brush and we are all equal. What are not equal are the seed catalogs. I have gotten a lot. Hope you get your share.

Rock Garden, continued from page 4

but they didn't. It is 15 feet away from my rock garden. And so every year I get covered with a million seeds. We have to sweep them out of our garage, like snow when it is shedding. And I swear that half sprout over here. And they will grow anywhere. I found one living beautifully in a 2 X 4 deck railing crack. The rock garden was horrible; I have to pull them out with pliers. Then the morning glory found it could thrive in those harsh conditions and they would happily twine up the baby Elm trees. Apricot pits are a little less apt to grow, but do, it is also under the Apricot tree. Kentucky Blue grass didn't mind living there either. Did you know it can get foot and a half tall?

I hated that rock garden.

I would have to put it on my 'list' of tasks, to nag myself to get out there to weed a few times a summer. I felt sentimental about the ground cover my daughter gave me, which lived on, but finally four years ago, I sprayed the whole thing with Glyphosate. This last summer it sat out there in the sun and baked and I didn't worry about putting the sprinkler on it once. Any you know something else? It looks better than it has for years. I do have to keep spraying it though

Did you know that those big red rocks from St. George will disintegrate into a pile of red gravel after a couple of winters here? Biodegradable rocks?

Traci, continued from Page 2

We made it back down south safely to Arizona. There was snow on find a place for it in my yard next year. They put a nice sign on it for me that had my name on it "Tracy Dahle", of course spelled wrong. If any one remembers, my name was spelled wrong for two years on all my certificates and so that was my way of telling people to be patient with the office and we would make it right. So the board wanted me to go out the same way I went in, with my name spelled "Tracy"

Thanks to Bio Sod Farms for donating 150 bags of fertilizer to everyone who came to the party. We will use the left over ones for our different projects. Also thanks to Okubos Nursery for the Aloe Vera plants which we potted and gave away after using them for decorations. Thanks to Millcreek Gardens for their support throughout the years and the poinsettias and other give aways that night. Don't forget to support all the people who donated to us this year. We couldn't have the raffle items without them.

Thanks to all the people at USU Extension who help put this together. The programs were really well done. They are so wonderful to work with.

Well, by the time you get this, the Holidays will be over. I hope you had a great Holiday Season. I guess most of us will be ththe ground all the way to St. George, then when we thought we were done we barely missed a storm in Search Light, AZ. They got a whole inch of snow and shut the roads down. I guess they only get snow once in a great while, and they don't know how to handle it.

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Thanks to everyone on my board also, for the wonderful, gorgeous, huge cement bird bath. I can't wait to inking of what to do with our yards next year. I am trying to get a big raised bed put in

down here in Arizona, but we are waiting to take two palm trees out to be relocated to another park. Then we can start building a place for my vegetables that are in containers now.

We have five tomato pots growing down her, two we planted in September, and they are covered with tomatoes. Then Golden give me a 'Glacier' tomato plant in October and it didn't like the heat at first but now that it is getting a little colder it is bouncing back and it also had babies coming up. We got about 8 plants from him, so it will be interesting to see what they will turn out like. We have one pepper plant that we hope to get the two peppers and have stuffed green peppers using Howard Andrews' recipe, soon. I will attach the recipe at the bottom. I made it about three years ago, and Ken said it is the best meal I ever made. I guess it was either a compliment or it meant I don't cook very often. The latter is probably the truth.

We actually had to cover our plants to protect them from frost two days which doesn't happen very often. We had frost on the golf course and on our car, but I got lucky the first night when I didn't cover the tomatoes. They didn't even get a nip.

I hope all is well and you have a safe and Happy Holiday season!

Stuffed Green Peppers

Cook up in a pan one pound Italian sausage, hot or mild depending what you like. Clean out the peppers and fill them with the sausage. Top with Mozzarella cheese and cook at 325 degrees for about 40 to 45 minutes. Ken added a little to the recipe and puts Italian sauce on the sausage before you put the mozzarella cheese. You can cook extras and have them for another night of the week.

FAIR REPORT

Okay, we know there are more of you award winners out there who haven't reported in. So here is the rest of what we have:

Mark Hurst remains the Flower Champion of SLMGA with his Utah State Fair wins: He entered dahlias, roses, and lisianthus in all four shows and received two 4th place, nine 3rd place, 23 2nd place, and 38 1st place ribbons. In addition, he was awarded six rosettes for special awards and two trophies for Best of Show. Congratulations, Mark!

Clearing the Air: Houseplants

We have heard that certain houseplants are more beneficial than others for cleaning the air. A recent article in the Deseret Morning News quotes Martha Stewart as saying that they are an "ideal antidote to the minor contamination introduced into our environments through everyday household products and building materials. Plants produce oxygen, add precious moisture and remove toxins from the air through the tiny openings in their leaves." She says that as few as 15 indoor plants can have a significant effect.

She doesn't explain why certain plants seem to do this better than others, but does give a list of the ones that are supposed to be most effective. Following is a list of her recommendations:

To remove formaldehyde that comes into the home in particleboard, carpet backings, paper towels, some grocery bags and facial tissues, and permanent press clothing:

Philodendron
Chlorophytum (spider plant)
Pothos

To remove benzene, often found in inks, oils, gasoline, paints, plastics, and rubber:

Flowering plants such as gerbera and
Chrysanthemums

Other recommended plants include:

Chamaedorea (bamboo plant)
Aglaonema (Chinese Evergreen)
Hedera helix (English Ivy)
Draceanas
Sanseveria trifasciata laurentii (Mother-in-law's
tongue)
Spathiphyllum (Peace lily)

It would be interesting to find out the scientific basis of these claims. Meanwhile, we can enjoy the thought that our hobby is benefiting our health!

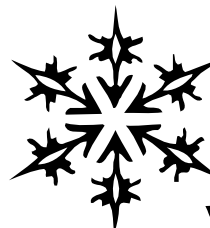
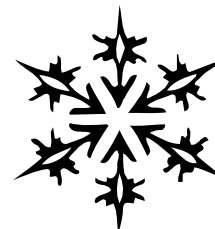


SMOOTH SAILING!

Our fellow Master Gardener, Carmon Hendrickson, sent us the following note:

"My husband and I will be fulfilling a life-long dream of cruising on our own sailboat starting the Spring of '07. It has been an honor becoming a Master Gardener, and I treasure the friends I have made. I hope to re-apply to SLMGA when (if) we return."

Good luck, Carmon. SLMGA and your garden will all welcome you back when you return!



P
R
O
J
E
C
T
S

Christmas Box House
236 South 300 East

Peggy Call - pcall@xmission.com
Virginia Sargeant

Fresh From the Heart

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

Gilgal Garden

749 East 500 South

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

Hidden Hollow

1165 East Wilmington

Charlene Homan - mhcharlene@yahoo.com.

Magna Elementary

8500 West 3100 South

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

Murray Park

5000-5300 South State

Becky Hansen - hansenpollei@mstar2.net

Pioneer Park Farmer's Market

400 South 300 West

Karen Crook - garykarencrook@comcast.net

Utah State Fair Park

200 North 1000 West

Trudy Guest - trudyg1@msn.com

Utah Aids Foundation

1408 South 1100 East

Jeff Asay - Jeffrey.asay@comcast.net
Kay Packard

Web Site

Amy Hargreaves Judzis - webwench@slmg.org

Wheeler Farm

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

Trudy Guest - trudyg1@msn.com
Golden Reeves - greeves28@msn.com
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, January 18, 2007

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

*Thursday, February 15
TBA*

*Thursday, March 15
TBA*

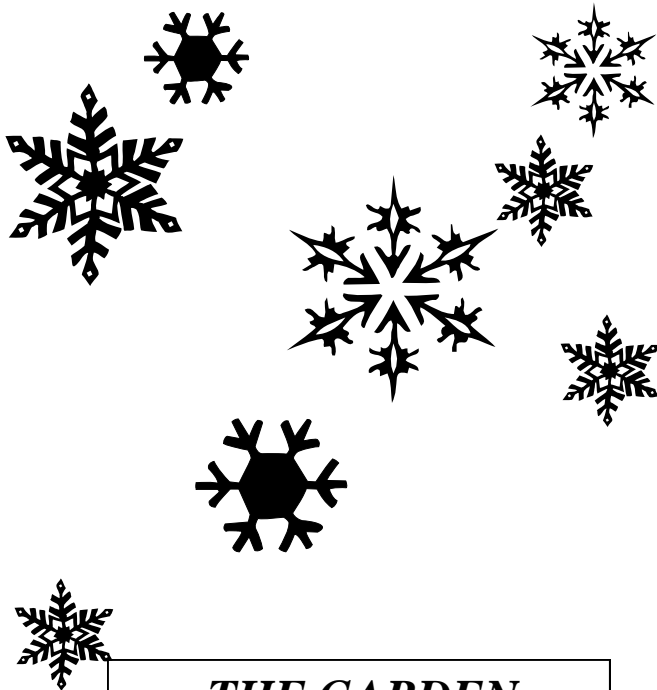
Bulletin Board



“Swap and Shop” and “Garden Talk” Bulletin Board On the SLMG Web Site

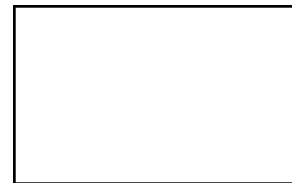
You can now connect to the "Garden Talk" bulletin board, where there are topics for General Discussion, Swaps, For Sale, For Free, and whatever else tickles your fancy. If you have any questions, feel free to drop your trusty WebWench an e-mail at: webwench@slmg.org

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