

The Garden Patch

Salt Lake County Gardening Association

February 2018

From the President

Happy 2018! We've finally got some much needed snow, but I can't help having mixed feelings about it. After Christmas I'm ready for the gardening season to start. In fact, Groundhog Day is an important holiday at our house. The joke is that we'll have "groundhog" stew for dinner if he predicts 6 more weeks of winter. Of course we almost always have stew, but a girl can dream! The kids thought it was a lot of fun guessing what would happen and then watching Mom's reaction when they were little. Now my family sends me funny Groundhog Day cartoons when things don't go my way.

This year I have a few more things to be excited about. First, we'll be ordering the new name badges soon! (Be sure to get your dues paid ASAP so we know who to order for. We have less than 30 paid memberships so far.) Second, we're also in the process of getting some business cards and flyers printed up to help spread the word about our group. (Be sure to invite fellow gardeners to join us at our monthly meetings.) And third, we've put a gardening calendar on our website. (<http://slmg.org/>) We'll list classes, sales and other gardening events in the community there. If you hear of anything be sure to let me or another member of the board know so we can get it on the calendar.

I'm also looking forward to seeing you all again this month!

Wendy



Upcoming Meetings

February 2018

Interiorscaping

Kathy Harmon from Cactus & Tropicals

Date: Thursday, February 15, 2018
6:30 PM Social / 7:00 Meeting

March 2018

'What's new for 2018?'

Loren Nielsen from Wasatch Shadows Nursery will talk about new plant varieties and the latest in gardening trends for this year.

Date: Thursday, March 15, 2018
6:30 PM Social / 7:00 Meeting

Location for Both Meetings:

Salt Lake County (North Building) 2100 S State. Room 4N850

** remember to sign in/out with security in north building **

Association News:

I hope you will put it on your calendar to support one of our association projects this year. The outdoor garden projects will be starting as soon as the weather warms up, probably beginning in March. Check in next month's Garden Patch for details.

Come once to check them out, you don't have to be there every week. Also if you have an idea for new project that might generate some interest for our members, please let us know.

The association welcomes anyone who is an avid garden, interested in increasing their gardening knowledge, or willing to share their expertise with others.

Is there a topic you are interested in learning about or that you would like to share with our group? Please contact a member of the board.

Projects

Gilgal Garden	Judi Short judi.short@gmail.com 801-487-7387	Tuesday mornings at 8:00	Maintenance and education
YMCA	Wendy Brown 1savvyshopper2@gmail.com 801-870-5222	Thursday mornings 8:00 - 9:00	Maintenance and education
Garden Patch Newsletter	Terry Curling terryc@digis.net 801-967-1807	Varies	Writing articles, assist with production & mailing
Little Confluence Open Space	Jerry Milne jerrymilne@comcast.net 801-268-4163	Tuesday Mornings at 8:00	Maintenance and education



Gilgal Garden: Judy Short

It is nearly time for the gardening season to begin at Gilgal Garden! How can that be? I probably should be ordering my seeds for the home garden about now. The former Wonder Bread factory is being reborn as a humongous apartment building, coming right along, and it is HUGE. Next month I will have some photos for the newsletter.

As soon as we think the weather is reliable, we need to add some top soil to the west area of the garden where the trees were planted last year. We ran out of time to have that completed before winter set in. My biggest fear is that the row of 13 trees (Frans Fontaine Hornbeam) plus a Burr Oak planted along the west wall in the spring of 2017 did not survive the winter.

We learned late last year that the city had turned the water off after the big storm we had in September, and didn't turn it back on. By the time we discovered that, it was around Halloween. So, our fingers are crossed that they made it in spite of the lack of water and the VERY dry winter we are having now.

The best news is that I have recruited a new gardener to the Gilgal Team, Erika Wiggins Seliger, and she is anxious to help us this next year! We can always use help, if you know people who live near the garden and would be interested, please let me know.

judi.short@gmail.com

801.487.7387 h

801.864.7387 c

Annual Fall Banquet and Awards Ceremony:

We enjoyed a potluck dinner and celebrated the hard work and accomplishments of the outstanding volunteers at our Salt Lake County Gardening Association Banquet on November 17th 2017 at the Taylorsville-Bennion Heritage Center. The following volunteers were recognized for their great work:

Volunteer Recognition:

Awards

- Gardener of the Year - Jerry Milne
- Unsung Heroes -
Cheri Schulzke & Mark Hurst

Hours

- Peggy Call 2000 hours
- Judi Short 1000 hours
- Amy Hargreaves Judzis 800 hours
- Gigi Brandt 400 hours
- Elaine Nordberg 400 hours
- Alexa Baxter 300 hours
- Wendy Brown 200 hours
- Richard Norris 200 hours

We are pleased to honor our volunteers for their outstanding dedication to the Salt Lake County Gardening Association. Thanks for going above and beyond as outstanding volunteers and sharing your extensive gardening knowledge with others in our community.



2018-2019 Board Members

President – Wendy Brown

1savvyshopper2@gmail.com

Vice-President – Marlene Johnson

marlenemg1936@yahoo.com

Past President – Peggy Call -

pccall@comcast.net

Secretary – Gigi Brandt

gigibrandt@xmission.com

Treasurer – Amy Hargreaves Judzis

cliz@juno.com

Historian – Open

January Meeting

Invasive Insects 'Watch out for those Bad Bugs' by Terry Curling

We started off the night learning about some nasty invasive pests making their way across the country. If you think you've seen one of these bad bugs you're asked to collect a sample and contact the Pest Diagnostic Lab. The most wanted list includes:

- Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (has been found in Salt Lake & Utah counties)
- Asian Longhorned Beetle (problem on the East Coast. Lack of suitable host plants in the West)
- Japanese Beetle (has been found in Cache, Salt Lake and Utah counties)
- Emerald Ash Borer (Colorado is the closest this has come to Utah - found in 2013)
- Gypsy Moth (European variety first detected in 1988. Asian variety has not been detected in Utah)

To find out more, you can download the First Detector Guide to Invasive Insects (2016)

<https://utahpests.usu.edu/caps/ou-files/first-detector-guide-2016.pdf>

Next, we talked about some familiar garden pests and how to control them including:

- Aphids
 - Greater Peach Borer
 - Peach Twig Borer
 - Codling Moth
 - Army Worms, Cut Worms and Ear Worms
 - Billbugs and White Grubs
 - Raspberry Horntail Borer
 - Canker Worms
 - Root Weevils
- Be sure to sign up for the USU pest advisories to stay on top of these garden marauders:



<https://pestadvisories.usu.edu/>



A Short-Term Teaching Project:

Kay Packard was at Mount Olympus Senior Center when she was approached about teaching a four week gardening class in March at the Senior Center. One of her favorite subjects! How could she say no?

She has already found instructors for the first three classes, but needs an instructor, or two, for the March 29th class on house plants. Would anyone like to volunteer? Teaching is lots of fun and explaining a subject helps the teacher understand his subject more thoroughly than he might otherwise.

Wednesday	Topic	Presenter(s)
March 8	Healthy Soil (general) and Container Gardening	Suzzane & Kay
March 15	Vegetable Gardening	Terry Curling
March 22	Annuals & Perennials	Suzzane
March 29	House Plants	Instructor Needed

Mount Olympus Senior Center, Location: 1635 E. Murray-Holladay Road, Millcreek UT, 84117
Time to be determined.

Golden's Garden

by Wm. Golden Reeves



Well, as the old saying goes [time flies when you're having fun] but as the old frog says [time fun when you're having flies]. Yes, another new year has come and the seed catalogs are piling up. I have found over the last few years which ones to keep and which ones to relegate to the trash bin. I placed my order for tomato seeds in December and had them before Christmas. I took an inventory of the seeds I had, and threw a lot of the older seeds out, and the ones I did not want to try to grow again.

Last year as I planted the Glacier seeds. I found that some of the new plants had regular tomato leaves. I had, over the years, just pulled them out, however, last year I saved two plants just to see what they would produce. As I went to pull the water walls off them I broke one of them off, so I just took it back into the green house and put it into a pot of soil and it grew. So I was able to see how those plants produce. At the end of the season, I found that they had the same taste as the regular Glacier tomatoes but were larger. Needless to say, I saved a lot of seeds from them. This year in planting those seeds, out of 30 plants I have only 7 that came back with the potato leaf the regular Glacier tomato seed had originally. So I will see how they perform this year.

Last summer I bought a hibiscus plant on a whim knowing that it would not survive the winter cold. As fall came I moved it into the house. It has continued to bloom through the fall and winter by being placed in the front window so it could get the sun. I found that it had a problem with some type of aphids. On a warm day I took it outside and sprayed it with some Dawn soap and water solution. I then took the garden hose and sprayed it off real good. That seemed to take care of the problem for a while. Then I discovered they came back. Other times when I have found this same problem on some plants, I have mixed up some solution, but it normally kills the plant. I got some Safer insect killing soap and that took care of the plant for a short time. With it being cold outside, I decided to give it a shower in the house again. I sprayed it with a solution of dish soap and let it dry. This time I covered it all over with the Safer soap and let it dry. Then a week later I covered it again with the Safer soap. I hope I got rid of those pesky bugs. So far it is working. I needed to get ahead of the life cycle the aphids had and I think I accomplished that. Only time will tell.

With the winter being so mild, I was able to put some more mulch on the Murray Park Iris Garden. It had a lot of leaves on it, but I covered them up also. I was able to pull my 5 weeds the same day, but the group was frozen. With the warm weather it was great to get outside and do some gardening.

In February Bart and I are going to get scion wood for grafting. This is something we have done for the last 16 years or so. We go to an orchard in Erda, Utah, which is Larry Sager's old home town. We have a map of the orchard so we can identify the wood we are collecting. This may be the last time we make the trip because there is not much interest in it anymore.

March 3rd is the date that I will be teaching the tomato propagation class at Red Butte Garden. I have lost count of how many times I have taught this class. There are a number of people that come every year to the same class and I teach the same things. It is a little pricy, but well worth it. Hey, check for those winter weeds, they do grow in cold weather.





Member Spotlight: **Marlene Johnson**

Marlene Johnson, our new Vice President, has loved flowers since she can remember. As a kid, she was active in 4-H. When she and Dick got married, they rented a little house out in the desert. She planted flowers all around it. Later, they bought the house she still lives in. It was new, in a new subdivision, in Granger, now West Valley City. The builder had taken out all the rocks and scraped off all the top soil, so Marlene and her next door neighbor got together, hauled in topsoil and landscaped their yards from the hardpan up. Today, you can stick your arm into rich soft topsoil almost up to your elbow.

Many years later, the Utah State Fair, she admired the demonstration garden, especially the pond, so much that she asked around until she found out that Larry Sagars, Salt Lake County Extension Agent and Master Gardener teacher, was in charge of it. She decided she would get into the program herself.

Back then (not long after the invention of dirt) a person had to fill out an application to get into the class. (You have to wonder what Golden had to do to get in; he's been a Master Gardener since *before* dirt.) There were a couple of hundred applications in 1998, but Larry Sagars was smart enough to choose Marlene along with about twenty others.

Marlene will be celebrating her 20th anniversary as a Master Gardener next December.

She threw herself into Master Gardening wholeheartedly, put in 100 hours her first year, and the next year won Master Gardener of the Year. Her husband, Dick, decided she was having entirely too much fun and took the course in 1999. Marlene and Dick became fast friends with Don and Bev Sudbury, Golden Reeves, Bart Anderson, and Kay Packard, and formed the nucleus of the group. Marlene went on the board in 1999. Her first job was rounding up speakers. She has served in every office except President. She has won most every award the group gives out, especially treasuring the Don & Bev Sudbury Award presented to her in 2004. In 2004, she headed up an extremely successful, statewide Master Gardener Mini College.

And she did get her chance to work at the demonstration garden at the State Fair Park. Her very favorite part of it was wading in each spring and cleaning the fish pond. She got tired of putting in new fish every year, so she went to Walmart and bought a bunch of cheap comet goldfish. They survived the winters, outlasting all of the official fish.

We are very lucky that she has continued on with the Salt Lake Community Gardening Association. She brings us a wealth of gardening history and experience, not to mention, she's a darn nice person.



2018 SLCGA Membership Renewal

If you have not yet renewed for 2018, please send this form with \$24.00 payment to:

Amy Hargreaves Judzis
1123 Vista View Drive
Salt Lake City, UT 84108

Provide your name and any changes to your home address, phone, or email address below.

Name

Home Address

City, State, Zip Code

Preferred Phone Number

Preferred Email address

Checks should be made payable to: SLCGA
Please send your payment as soon as possible to retain your SLMCA membership status for 2018!

To pay your dues on-line using PayPal, please go to: <http://slmg.org/join-us/>



The Garden Patch

Salt Lake County Gardening Association's monthly vibe.

We welcome comments, suggestions, ideas and garden articles.

Editor: Terry Curling terryc@digis.net

Latest blog and past issues of The Garden Patch may be found at SLMG.org

Salt Lake County Gardening Association

