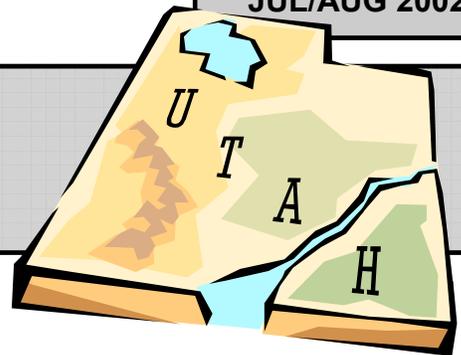




VOLUME 25, ISSUE 4

JUL/AUG 2002

Creating a Sense of Place



By David Salmon, High Country Gardens

While native plants have always had a small but devoted following, both the general gardening public and mainstream horticulture have overlooked our native flora for years. Why is this so? Perhaps because familiarity breeds contempt, and people equate the plants they see growing naturally in the fields and roadsides with "weeds". Perhaps it stems from our infatuation with the English garden--borrowing heavily from English plant lists has resulted in their overshadowing our own native species.

Whatever the reason for their omission, the past decade has seen an explosion of interest in native plants. As growers respond to this renewed interest by improving growing techniques and offering a larger variety of natives from all parts of the United States, these once-forgotten beauties are beginning to find their rightful home in our gardens and landscapes.

We should start by examining the term "native" more closely. For many purists, "native" is defined as any plant found growing naturally within an arbitrary distance of their home. Others would consider "native" plants to be any plant found growing naturally within their state. But narrow definitions are limiting. Because plants don't read maps, decisions as to "native" or "non-native" based on these criteria can be artificial. I like to define "native" as any plant growing in North America.

Now that we have gotten the "is it native?" decision out of the way, we can move on to more important information. I find that using natives in the garden works best by grouping plants according to the regions in which they are found and then into subgroups according to their specific habitat within that region. For example, a certain group of plants could be referred to as Short Grass prairie natives. Within the Short Grass prairie there are numerous plant habitats such as riparian (stream side), limestone hills and outcroppings, sand hills and many others. Data as to the place of origin



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(state, county and altitude) gives the collector of native plants additional important information. By using this broad definition as to what is native, geographic and habitat information can then be used to decide how to group native plants with compatible companions in the garden.

How we incorporate native plants into our home or commercial landscapes is open for interpretation. There are three predominant methods of landscaping with natives: "natural landscaping", "gardening with natives" and habitat restoration (which won't be discussed here). One increasing popular style is termed "natural landscaping." This style is championed in the Southwest by authors Judith Philips ("Natural by Design"), and the husband and wife team of Sally and Andy Wasowski ("Native Gardens for Dry Climates"). In the Mid West, Neil Diboll of Prairie Nursery in Wisconsin has long championed restoring tall grass prairie in commercial and residential settings.

Each region of the country has a certain look and feel to its native terrain. A natural landscape artfully incorporates the native trees, shrubs and wild flowers of the area in such a way that it enhances the beauty of the building or home while blending in with its natural surroundings. When you stand in that yard and look around, you should be able to identify the region in which you are standing based on the plants that have been used. This is what is often meant by "sense of place." On the other hand, the typical generic landscape of blue grass and clipped Yew hedges fails to convey a regional feel and seems more like a national franchise than something with regional flavor.

Because gardening with native plants means different things to different people, it is helpful to specify your aims. For native plant enthusiasts this could mean re-creating a native-only grouping of species from their immediate area. Re-creating regional groups of native plants from different areas of the country is also popular. For example, in my rock gardens I've planted small separate sections with groups of plants from UT, NV, eastern CA, and northern AZ. Gardeners with shady properties often love to garden with woodland native species. Serious plant collectors will collect all the species within a given genus, or use plants of the same species collected from different locations as a way to study a given genus or species in more detail. Other styles of gardening like xeriscaping use native plants as part of the larger objective, which is to achieve a regionally appropriate, low maintenance, low water use design. In xeriscaping, natives can be used exclusively or in combination with other

"adaptive plants" (plants from other parts of the world that grow equally well in their new home.)

However you decide to incorporate natives into your garden or landscape, their use has numerous benefits. Many native plants are incredibly beautiful and interesting to grow. Using them in our gardens helps us appreciate and understand our natural plant heritage. Native plants are adapted to difficult growing conditions and are genetically programmed to survive in their native habitats or similar environments. When well matched to their growing environment, their use will create a more sustainable landscape that requires less maintenance and uses fewer chemicals and fertilizers. Native plants also provide local birds, insects and other animals appropriate food and shelter. Gardening with native plants can also help sustain the populations of rare or threatened plants that may be disappearing in habitat due to human activities. This concept is known as "conservation through propagation". For example, the spectacular Texas native, *Salvia penstemonoides* was thought to be extinct, but the plant was recently re-discovered and introduced back into cultivation by the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center. It is now becoming more widespread as gardeners have anxiously welcomed this beauty into their gardens.

From the vast numbers of native species that can be found coast to coast, we need to distill out the most ornamental and adaptable species for use in our gardens and landscapes. This has been a focus of the High Country Gardens catalog since its inception. This search has been facilitated by our location in Santa Fe, located as it is at the intersection of three different regions: the short grass prairie of the Great Plains, the southern tip of the Rocky Mountains and just to the north of the vast Chihuahuan desert of Mexico, west Texas and southern New Mexico. Being located in a USDA zone 5/6 area, the attribute of cold hardiness has been at the top of our list of criteria when looking for outstanding plants from all three of these regions. We are also finding many excellent species from high altitude areas of northern Mexico, the Sierras of eastern California and the Great Basin area of Utah, Nevada and Arizona. Natives from the Midwest and eastern United States have demonstrated excellent adaptability to our local growing conditions as well.

High Country Gardens has a full catalog of drought-tolerant plants for the Western garden. Visit their site at <http://highcountrygardens.com>. To subscribe to the free e-zine "Xeriscape Gardening News," send blank e-mail to join-gardens@lists.highcountrygardens.com.

The Utah Heritage Gardens Come of Age!



By Susan Meyer and Bitsy Schultz

Back in the spring of 1998, the Heritage Garden Program was just a gleam in its mothers' eyes. We had a lot of very interesting plants that we'd never tried in a garden setting before, and a willing partner with a fine site for a native plant demonstration garden, teacher Darrin Johnson at Wasatch Elementary School in Provo. We planted the Wasatch garden four years ago this June, and just as the plants there have continued to grow and prosper, so has the Utah Heritage Garden Program that was founded with that first planting. The number of successful Utah Heritage Gardens has increased each year, and the reach of the program has extended now from Logan on the north to Hurricane and Bluff on the south, with a total of twenty-three gardens to be in place by summer's end. And, to cap off a busy spring this year, the Wasatch Heritage Garden itself has undergone a major expansion, from about 3,000 to almost 5,000 square feet.

As the Utah Heritage Garden Program has increased in size and complexity, the role of UNPS, and of these two garden moms particularly, has undergone a gradual change. We still provide some vital support services to incipient and existing gardens. These include design advice, plants, signage, and interpretive materials. But we can no longer personally oversee the planting and maintenance of so many gardens—we must rely on local 'gardening angels', usually the people who first came to us with their requests for help with gardens, to carry out the long term goals at each garden site. One of the real pleasures for us has been connecting up with so many great people who have been willing to take on the cause and make it their own. The result is a series of gardens that are very different from each other, as factors such as climate, site constraints, and intended function interact with the unique vision of particular individuals.

Once all these new gardens are actually in the ground, very soon now, it will be time for us to focus once more on the ultimate goal for these gardens, namely educating people about Utah native plants and their use in water-conserving landscaping. This means updating the Heritage Garden section of our website, not only with detailed information and plant lists for each garden, but also the plant database section, where people can see photos of the plants and get information on their use and culture. We have already posted our list of local suppliers of native plants and seeds, as well as our Beginner's Guide to Gardening

with Natives. This is just the beginning of our expanded Heritage Garden webpage. By the end of summer, we hope to post interactive materials on designing home landscapes using Utah native plants in combination with the principals of xeriscaping, complete with some 'virtual front yards' to show how these designs might actually look.

For now, though, our best examples of landscape designs using native plants are the heritage gardens themselves. Many of the older heritage gardens are definitely worth a visit this June—these include gardens at Wasatch Elementary School and at Rock Canyon Trailhead Park in Provo, on the University of Utah Mallway, and at 46 East 300 South in Price. There are also established heritage gardens at Jackson and Ensign Elementary Schools in Salt Lake, at the Layton Heritage Museum, and at Benson Grist Mill Historic Park in Stansbury Park, and in Park City. Gardens planted in 2001 at Vivian Park in Provo Canyon, at Iron Mission State Park in Cedar City, and at Three Falls Elementary School in Hurricane are also beginning to come into their own.

Now for the 2002 heritage gardens—there are eleven new gardens, almost doubling the size of the program. Two of these gardens have already been in existence for two years or more, but have chosen to affiliate formally with the program this year—these are at Utah Valley State College in Orem and at Canyon Rim Elementary School in Salt Lake. Several of the other new gardens are also located at schools: Escalante High School in Escalante, East Carbon High School in Sunnyside, Our Lady of Lourdes Elementary School in Salt Lake, Cache Valley Learning Center in Logan, and Bluff Elementary School in Bluff. This last garden is particularly interesting in that it will feature bilingual signage and ethnobotanical interpretive literature to honor the largely Navajo student body there. The other four new gardens are being sponsored by local government entities in Moab, Boulder, Tooele, and Sandy—see Doug Kilgren's article in this issue for more on the new heritage garden at Sego Lily Gardens.

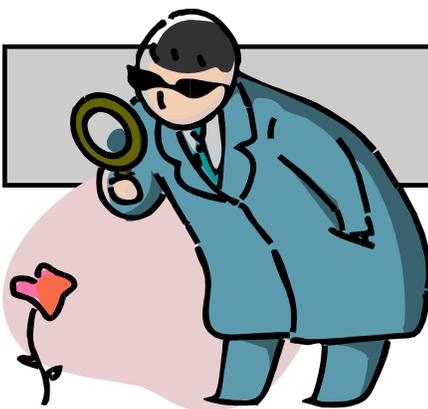
The Heritage Garden Program would never have grown so quickly or so well without the generous support of several people and organizations. A grant from the USDA Bureau of Reclamation has made it possible to provide signage and interpretive materials for each garden, as well as to develop various aspects of the website. The USDA Forest Service Shrub Sci-

Utah Heritage Gardens (cont.)

ences Laboratory in Provo has graciously provided excellent rearing facilities for the many thousands of plants grown for heritage garden projects over the years. Janett Warner (Wildland Nursery), Brent Collett (formerly of the Thanksgiving Point Production Greenhouses), and Roger Kjelgren (Center for Water Efficient Landscaping at USU) have also donated many fine plants for garden projects.

The program has received quite a bit of press coverage, including full page color spreads in the Salt Lake Tribune last summer and the Price Sun-Advocate a few weeks ago, as well as articles in the Moab Times, the Provo Herald, and other local papers. The program was honored earlier this spring for its role in promoting water conservation in the state in the form of a citizen award for Susan Meyer from the Utah Water Conservation Forum.

Where do we go from here? Some have suggested that perhaps we have enough native plant demonstration gardens now and could move on to a new phase, while still aiding and abetting existing heritage gardens to become the showplaces we need them to be. Some have suggested that perhaps these particular progenitors have produced enough of these progeny. As we move into the long, lazy days of high summer, we might be inclined to agree. But when winter comes, and the urge to propagate takes over, we will probably be looking for new homes for yet another crop of baby plants.



Plant Profile: Globemallow

By Susan Meyer

Looking for a native wildflower that will thank you for a little extra water every few weeks by

blooming all summer long? Globemallows (*Sphaeralcea*) fit that description, and offer several other nice features as well. They have flowers that are truly orange, a beautiful, bright red orange that some authors call grenadine. The flowers resemble miniature hollyhocks in form, but unlike hollyhocks, globemallow flowers are fragrant, with a delicate, sweet scent, somewhat reminiscent of cotton candy. Unlike many native perennials, globemallows often flower the first year from seed, and given appropriately lean conditions, they live for many years.

There are several species of globemallow native to the state of Utah, but they all have rather similar habitat preferences and cultural requirements. They are plants of dry, barren, usually stony ground at low to middle elevations, and they love heat and bright sunshine. Shade, high fertility, over-watering, and the close companionship of too many other plants are their worst enemies. Too much water and high fertility can lead to oversized globemallows with a lot of leaves but not many flowers and a tendency to flop over the first time the wind blows. Give these plants the sunniest, driest corner of your property, where the soil is rocky and poor, and you will be rewarded with intensely colorful, long-lived plants.

Choose your globemallow species with an eye to its final size and growth form, as well as considering where you live in the state. The most strong perennial of our species, becoming sub-shrubby in the wild, is desert globemallow (*S. ambigua*). It is characterized by very fuzzy, only slightly lobed leaves that are crinkly on the edges, as well as by a somewhat woody habit. Desert globemallow, also called apricot mallow, is a plant of the warm deserts of the Southwest, entering Utah only in the St. George area. It is questionably cold-hardy on the Wasatch Front, but would be a great choice for home landscapes in the warmer parts of southern Utah.

At the other extreme in size is cushion globemallow (*S. caespitosa*). This little plant has fuzzy, flat, wedge-shaped gray-green leaves and an abundance of relatively large, orange flowers, but rarely exceeds six inches in height. It is restricted in the wild to a small area in the cold desert country of western Utah, out west of Milford, but it is quite common in that area. It looks great in a rock garden setting, but has a tendency to be short-lived.

Our other diminutive globemallow is scarlet or common globemallow (*S. coccinea*). This plant is very widely distributed throughout the Intermountain West and the Great Plains. It is our only species that forms long-lived patches from creeping rootstocks. It is rather slow to spread, however, so its creeping habit is not a problem in the garden. It coexists well with short grasses in a dry meadow, and is often

found in this setting in our foothills and valleys. Scarlet globemallow has very attractive, deeply divided leaves that are usually bright green.

Another globemallow with strongly lobed leaves is gooseberryleaf globemallow (*S. grossulariaefolia*), but the 3-5 lobes are not so deeply cleft as in scarlet globemallow. This globemallow is found throughout the drier parts of the state and across the Intermountain West. It forms clumps to three feet in height, with most of the leaves concentrated in the lower third of the plant. This sets the masses of orange flowers off to nice advantage. Gooseberryleaf globemallow would be my first choice as a globemallow to integrate into a Wasatch Front xeriscape garden. It is tall enough to attract some attention, but rarely gets 'floppy' even when overfertilized.

The typical tall globemallow with shallowly lobed leaves throughout the northern half of the state is Munro Globemallow (*S. munroana*). It is replaced in the south by the very similar Nelson Globemallow (*S. parvifolia*). Both these species make excellent garden plants as long as conditions are lean. These species may hybridize with Gooseberryleaf Globemallow in the wild, making for some rather mixed up looking populations, but that should not be a worry for gardeners.

Globemallows are easily propagated from seed, and in fact tend to propagate themselves rather readily in a garden setting. The best cure for this is to clip the spent stalks after flowering; this also encourages the development of more flowering stalks. To harvest seeds, wait until the globe-shaped fruits are straw-colored, dry, and preferably beginning to split open. Strip them from the flowering stalks into a paper sack--it's good to wear gloves to do this, as their tiny, fiberglass-like hairs can be rather irritating. The seeds are small, maybe a sixteenth of an inch across, wedge-shaped, and dark gray or black. The fruit is built somewhat like a dry orange, in sections, with one seed in each. You can gently crush the fruits to release the seeds. This is easier for some species than others, with Scarlet Globemallow the most stubborn.

The seeds of globemallows are generally hard, which means that they do not take up water. They must somehow be scarified (scratched or nicked) on the sur-

face to overcome this hard-seededness. Once they take up water, there is no dormancy, and the seeds will germinate readily. Plant the scarified seeds in a coarse, fast-draining mix. The tiny seedlings should emerge in a few days. They grow quickly and will be ready to transplant outside in about three months. Alternatively, you can direct-seed globemallows into a relatively weed free seed bed. Cover very shallowly by gentle raking after broadcasting the seeds. If you plant in the fall, nature will take care of the scarifying for you. Avoid planting in seed mixes that will offer too much competition.

Globemallows are not fussy about their soil requirements, growing equally well in sandy or clay soils, as long as they are not over-watered. They have few pests. We know that they are virtually grasshopper-



proof, as determined in a planting trial where the hoppers actually ate everything else, including all the cheatgrass for miles around, but not the globemallow. Deer tend to disdain them too. They do sometimes have problems with a rust disease that causes black spots on the leaves and leads to reduced vigor or even death in extreme cases. But even then, the plants usually ripen some seeds, and are able to try again another year. The hard seeds can live in the soil for up to a decade.

New Heritage Garden at Segó Lily Gardens

By Doug Kilgren

At Segó Lily Gardens, Sandy City's low-water use demonstration gardens, between 3000 to 3500 square feet have been set aside for plants native to Utah. That section of the gardens will become a part of the Heritage Garden program. Segó Lily Gardens has been open since 1999, but until this year there has not been a major focus on native plants. This year there has been an increasing emphasis on showcasing native plants in various ways. With the drought in its fourth year there is more interest than ever in alternative plants, so now is the time to show the public what is possible.

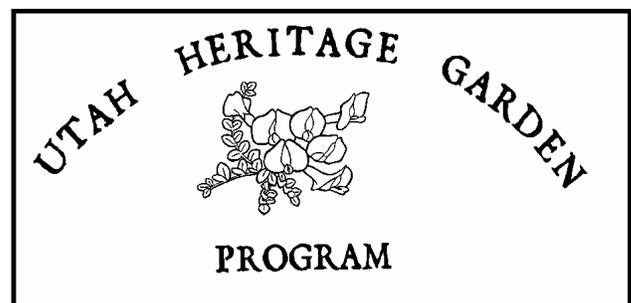
The goal with the Heritage Garden at Segó Lily Gardens is not just to show examples of plants native to Utah, but to show them as much as possible how they would be found in the wild. To that end, the Heritage Garden has been divided up into the different ecological zones found in Utah. Within the Heritage Garden is a section for plants found in wetter environments along streambeds. Another area is dedicated to plants that do well in sand (Segó Lily Gardens is essentially one large sandbox). A small section of the Heritage Garden will be set aside for plants that survive in the salt deserts of the Great Basin. Another section have plants that are characteristic of the Colorado Plateau. The largest section of the Heritage Garden will be for plants found within the Sagebrush and Pinyon-Juniper ecological zones. In a different location in Segó Lily Gardens there will be a small section for plants found in the high mountains such as Snowberry and White Fir.

One of the advantages of Segó Lily Gardens is that we have very well-drained soil, so many of these plants should do quite well. Segó

Lily Gardens is also fairly high up in the bench, so there are opportunities to try less cold-hardy plants found in areas like St. George, such as the Joshua Tree. Being high up in the bench, we also have a great view of the Salt Lake Valley.

Plants native to Utah will also be integrated in other sections of the garden to show their potential within more formal landscapes. The ultimate goal at Segó Lily Gardens is to diversify the turf-dominated landscapes found in Utah, by bringing in more drought-tolerant plants, especially natives. Other sections in the garden that feature native plants include: a fragrance garden, perennial beds, a section for plants on hill-sides, a southwest garden, and an area for plants that need no supplemental irrigation.

We are looking to having much of the Heritage Garden completed, including signs and trail, by early July. You are invited to come out and see the new Heritage Garden anytime but an open house will occur on Saturday, August 17th from 10 a.m. till 1 p.m. Segó Lily Gardens can be found in Sandy City at 1472 East Segó Lily Drive. If you have any questions call Doug Kilgren at 568-6048. At Segó Lily Gardens we look forward to providing an outstanding opportunity to experience the native plants of Utah in a large garden setting.



Weeding the Clay Phacelia

By Elaine York

From a distance it seems little grows on the steep Spanish Fork Canyon slope. There are millions of shale fragments, but only a few plants. A shrub here and there, and scattered herbs. The small group of volunteers who met there on June 4th know otherwise. This is the home of the endangered clay phacelia (*Phacelia argillacea*).

The volunteers gathered at The Nature Conservancy's Clay Phacelia Preserve at the urging of Dr. Kimball Harper - botanist, Brigham Young University professor emeritus and Nature Conservancy board member. As he's studied the phacelias through the years, he's noticed an increase in weeds. He gives a few simple weeding instructions to the volunteers. Then, cane in hand, he carefully walks up the unstable slope, finds a weed patch and begins weeding.

Dr. Harper's passion for Utah's native plants is obvious. His eyes light up when he speaks of several - dwarf bearclaw poppy, evening primrose, bitterroot, and clay phacelia. He saw few mature phacelias during the weeding project, but he was undisturbed by this. "It's a plant that produces few during dry years. In a wet year, this slope will be covered by a couple hundred phacelias." We all stopped to take a closer look at this botanical treasure. The clay phacelia stood about ten inches high. Leaves, both basal and cauline, are elongated ellipses with undulating margins; each flower a delicate, purple chalice with an explosion of exerted stamens.

The clay phacelia was discovered at this site in 1971 by Duane Atwood. At the time, the slopes were heavily used by sheep and deer. In 1990, after many years of negotiations, The Nature Conservancy purchased the 69 acre property and fenced it to prevent animals from browsing or disturbing the habitat. Meanwhile, Ben Franklin, Utah's Natural Heritage Program botanist, discovered another nearby population on private property. U.S. Fish and Wildlife is working to protect this population from current highway construction.

Horehound (*Marrubium vulgare*) and hound's tongue (*Cynoglossum officinale*) were the villains of the day. By evening, five large trash bags were filled with the weeds. Dr. Harper and the volunteers were pleased with the progress and have made plans to weed at the site annually.

Thank you to the clay phacelia weed warriors - Dr. Kimball Harper, Susan Garvin, Tom Cannon and Rick Van Wagenen!

Editor's note: Elaine is a botanist and a volunteer coordinator for The Nature Conservancy of Utah. She too is a clay phacelia weed warrior and has been coordinating public education projects relating to rare plants that occur in the St. George area for the past several years. You can reach her at 238-2320 or at eyork@tnc.org.

The Tomahawk

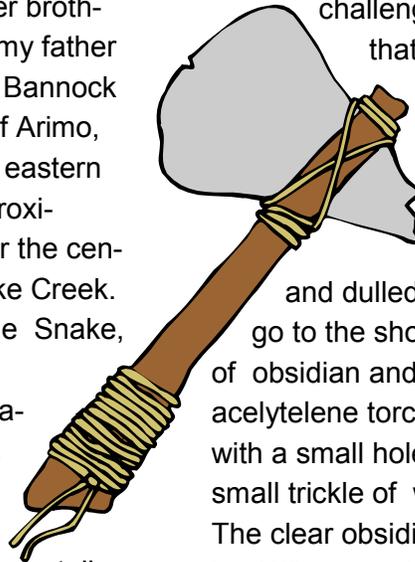
By Dennis Mason

To start with, my Father Wayne Nebeker Mason was born and raised in the small towns of Brigham City, Riverside, Garland, and Plymouth. His father, William Sterling Mason inherited a farm about 2 miles north of Plymouth, Utah, known as the Mound Springs Ranch. His father was George Sterling Mason, who homesteaded the Mound Springs Ranch which was a stage coach stop. With 9 living children and two older brothers intent on owning the whole ranch, my father bought a farm in Idaho, located on the Bannock and Power county line, 15 miles west of Arimo, 20 miles south of Pocatello, and in the eastern end of Arbon Valley. The farm had approximately 1400 acres. It had a spring near the center of the farm that headed Rattle Snake Creek. The spring was named after Chief Rattle Snake, who was a brother to Chief White Bear (Grisley Bear). Wilson was an Indian laborer, but was well known in the family. If he had any other name, I have not heard it. I was in my early teens when I first met Wilson, and he would never talk very much. His responsibility was to run one of the two D4 Caterpillar tractors at night in order to plant the spring wheat, and therefore he slept most of the day time, and I did not see much of him. I first became acquainted with him when he was working on a piece of obsidian which was plentiful around the farm. He was making an arrowhead. He was using a deer horn to chip the edges while wearing thick leather gloves, and holding the volcanic glass in another piece of leather. He gave me the arrowhead. I asked him where the obsidian came from that is all over the farm, and his simple answer was, "Yellowstone." I didn't understand until

many years later that the good obsidian always came from Yellowstone where they have enormous obsidian cliffs. I showed Wilson my numerous arrowheads, spear heads, stone knives, and a tomahawk head that I had found, on the farm. He inspected each and every one of them, and told me that they had mostly been made in a fire by dropping water on the edge of a hot piece of obsidian. I

challenged that comment by saying that I had seen him chip the edge of his arrowhead with a deer horn. He then showed me that his arrowhead was shiny and clear in some places, whereas, mine were clouded

and dulled by heat. We then decided to go to the shop on the farm with clear pieces of obsidian and heat them with the acetylene torch. Wilson rigged up a tin can with a small hole in the bottom that allowed a small trickle of water to flow out the bottom. The clear obsidian quickly clouded in the heat, but Wilson made some lovely arrowheads, after he learned how much water to put on the hot obsidian. Wilson asked me if I would like to make a throwing tomahawk out of the tomahawk head I had found. I thought it was a grand idea for the day. I soon learned that it would not be done in a day, a week or a month, and it took us most of the summer to finish the job. We started looking for the right kind of wood with the right kind of fork in a branch. I followed Wilson for miles as we went from willows to choke cherry to mountain maple groves all over the farm. He was not interested in quaking aspen or pine. We finally found a mountain maple branch, I think,

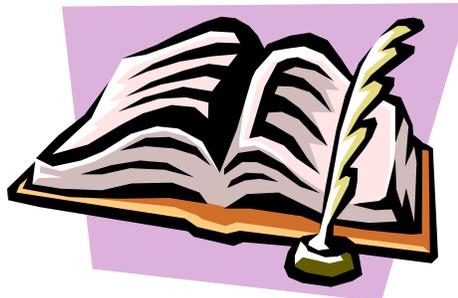


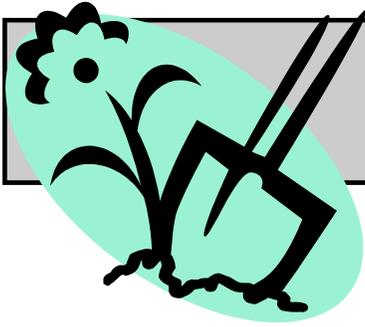
that appeared to be the right size, shape, and had an almost perfect branch on it. It took about a week to find it. Wilson cut it with a saw and placed it in the Rattle Snake Creek spring head. Many years later, I learned that the Vikings and other European ship builders would select a mast pole and place it in water formed by a spring head to have the cold water draw the sap out of the pole without cracking the wood. But at the time, I thought Wilson had marbles in his head. After about 10 days, we removed the branch from the water, but Wilson had been busy shaping a stone with a hammer and a chisel to match the size and shape of the tomahawk head. He also had been soaking a rawhide skin. He placed the branch in the barn and suspended it from the ceiling. He then had me moisten the top of the branch several times a day and rotate the branch that had the stone in the fork. He had wet, at first, rawhide strips pulling the branch forks around the stone as they dried. This took several days. In the mean time, Wilson had been collecting golden rod, sage, choke cherries, currents, and other items for coloring of the tomahawk handle. He also had found feathers from hawks and other

birds. The coloring plants were boiled in water, and a wax like color substance was collected from the surface of the water. He also cut rawhide which he continued to soak, and from somewhere he had long sinew cords. Finally, he assembled all his materials, and with files and rasps in the shop he worked on the handle, after removing the stone and rawhide strips. He singed the wood with the torch. I thought it was to color the stick, but I have since learned that it strengthens the wood. The head fit beautifully. he covered the handle in rawhide, then he colored it with the colored wax. Then he decorated it with feathers. It was beautiful. This process took several days. We waited again for everything to dry, and then we went and threw the tomahawk at a tree stump. He could throw it very well, but I couldn't. I kept the tomahawk for several years, but it disappeared or I lost track of it. I gave many items away including many perfect arrowheads. I still have many arrowheads, spear heads, a scraper, a sewing awl, and a few stone axe heads, but I do not have the tomahawk.

Book Signing

The Garden Niche and the Utah Native Plant Society will host a book signing on Monday, June 24 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. for the recently released book "How to Get Your Lawn Off Grass: a North American guide to turning off the tap and going native". The author, Canadian Carole Rubin, will give a slide show presentation. Her new book and other information on low-water-use landscaping with native plants will be available. There will be displays on low water turf, as well as shrubs, trees and perennials at the Garden Niche, located at 10650 South, 700 East, in Sandy, Utah. For more information call the Garden Niche: 523-5020.





Events and Chapter News

Garden Fair Days at Jordan Valley Water

July 13. 8:00 a.m. to noon. Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District Demonstration Garden. The Garden Fair includes "Ask an Expert" information booths such as the Utah Native Plant Society, Center for Water-Efficient Landscaping, and Utah Water Conservation Forum, food vendors, and Waterlout entertainment. This will also be a great opportunity to pick up some of our beautiful native plants, because ALL of Utah's native plant and seed sellers will be there: Wildland Nursery, Great Basin Natives, Utah Wildflower Seeds, High Desert Gardens, and Paul Ames' seeds. JWVCD, 8215 S 1300 W, West Jordan. For more information call Paula at 565-4300.

Waterwise Gardening Basics in the Demonstration Garden

June 20, Thursday 6-7:30. Paula Mohadjer, Conservation Horticulturist, JWVCD. This class will be held at the JWVCD Conservation Demonstration Gardens, 8215 S 1300 W, West Jordan, for hands-on learning about waterwise gardening. Topics will include irrigation technologies, waterwise design, and proper plant selection. Free. As space is limited, please register at 565-4300.

**Demonstration
Garden**
A Slow The Flow Program



Farmington Canyon Field Trip

July 13th- Wayne Padgett, Ecologist with the Wasatch-Cache National Forest, and the new botanist for the forest have enthusiastically agreed to lead a field trip up to the Farmington Canyon area. Wayne promises some wonderful flowers in many different ecotypes as we make our way up Farmington Canyon. Wayne suggests you bring a lunch, you never know how distracted a whole bunch of plant enthusiasts can get!! Meet at the parking lot of Salt Lake Community College (SLCC) at 9 am on the east side of the campus. Turn right off 17th South (heading East) at about 2nd East. If you have any questions please call Mindy Wheeler at 801-699-5459.

Albion Basin Field Trip

July 27th- Steve Jensen and Ann Crawley have also excitedly agreed to lead a field trip up to the gem of Little Cottonwood Canyon- Albion Basin. The end of July is the height of the wildflower season up there. Not only will we get our botanical interests satisfied, Steve and Ann will also share their extensive knowledge about the geology and hydrology of the area. Meet at 10 am in the parking lot of Gold Miner's Daughter at the base of Alta Ski Area. OR meet at 9:30 am at the park-and-ride at the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon to carpool up to Alta. If you have any questions please call Mindy Wheeler at 801-699-5459.

Great Perennials for Waterwise Landscaping

July 13, Saturday 10-noon. Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District. Lecturer: Franci DeLong, Xeriscape Design. Are you looking for some beautiful, long blooming, low-water and low maintenance perennials to use in your garden this year? This talk will give you a large palate to choose from and you'll see how they've been used in some of our local landscapes. Free. As space is limited, please register at 565-4300.

Overnight Field Trip

August 9-10th- Bill King is leading a joint overnight trip for the Utah Native Plant Society and the Rock Garden Society to Great Basin National Park. They plan to leave Salt Lake on Friday afternoon and hike to the Cirque Basin (or the glacier) on Saturday to view the unique Bristlecone Pine community in the area. If you are interested, give Bill King a call at 582-0432 for more information.

Ornamental Grasses Workshop

September 21, Saturday 10-noon. Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District. Lecturer: Julie Rotolo, Assistant Horticulturist. Learn about beautiful, drought tolerant ornamental grasses. This class will be held at the JWCD Conservation Demonstration Gardens so the grasses can be viewed in a garden setting. Free. As space is limited, please register at 565-4300.

Volunteers Needed for Wetland Sites

Red-winged blackbirds... Muskrats... Beaked sedge... Dragonfly larvae - committed Utah citizens are encountering and counting all these and more. Utah Division of Wildlife Resources is beginning its third season of wetland monitoring by citizen volunteers, and can use your help. People with interest and/or expertise in birding, water quality, macroinvertebrates, or vegetation are needed to help sample wetland sites in Cache Valley during the Summer 2002 (June through September) and Spring 2003 (March through June). The project includes training by wetland specialists and requires a commitment of 3 hours per month. For more information contact Brian Nicholson or Barbara Daniels at 435 797 8058 or wetlands@utah.gov.

Trees and Shrubs for Waterwise Landscaping

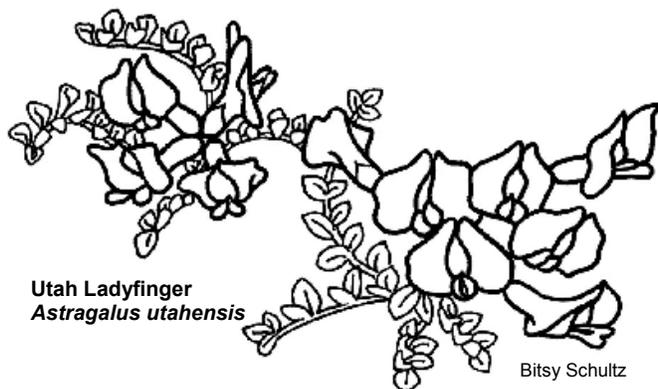
August 15, Thursday 7-8:30 p.m. Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District. Lecturer: Doug Kilgren, City of Sandy Water Conservation Coordinator. Different waterwise trees and shrubs that can be incorporated in residential landscapes; both hard to find natives and ones found at the local garden center. Free. As space is limited, please register at 565-4300.

The Garden Niche Update

The Garden Niche Continues to Educate and Show the Community the Beauty of Native and Drought Tolerant Plants. Salt Lake Valley's main source for native plants for urban landscaping needs has proved that water-wise landscaping is on the rise in our arid environment. Without much advertising, The Garden Niche has had to continually re-stock the nursery at 10650 South, 700 East (in the corner of the Ream's grocery store parking lot) to assure the public can get the plants of their choice for their water-wise landscapes. The staff at The Garden Niche has been enthusiastically educating the public about their potential plant choices, such as how to get them established, how often to water, and xeriscape maintenance. Several species of Penstemons, Sage, Salvias, and Veronicas have been big sellers for water-wise landscapes, as well as a wide variety of native evergreen trees such as Bristlecone Pine, Ponderosa Pine and Pinyon Pine.

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For more information about the Utah Native Plant Society call:

Bill King: 582-0432
 Susan Garvin: 356-5108
 Larry Meyer: 272-3275
 Or write to: unps@unps.org

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Check out our website!

www.unps.org

Many thanks to Xmission for sponsoring the Utah Native Plant Society website.

Please direct all suggestions, articles and events for the newsletter to Paula Mohadjer at paulam@jvwcd.org. **The deadline for next issue is August 15.**

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