

# Friends of Burlington Gardens 2003 Annual Report

## Fulfilling Our Mission

Dear Friends,

My eighteen-month-old son, Silas, puts a positive spin on living hand-to-mouth: standing in the middle of our thriving thicket of Sungold cherry tomatoes, he pops one after the other from hand...to mouth. Ah, the joys of a summer garden!

For seven years, Zoe and I traveled across town to grow vegetables at the Tommy Thompson Community Garden; putting up enough winter squash and tomato sauce to last until spring was our goal. But with a baby in the family, we tried a different approach this year. Working together with two neighbors, we borrowed a side yard, built wooden raised beds, filled them with rich topsoil, and grew a small kitchen garden. In the evening, we'd walk down the street to cut a head of lettuce or dig a few fingerling potatoes for dinner.

There are so many ways to have a garden—and so many benefits to the community.

As you look over this annual report, I hope you'll agree with me that Friends of Burlington Gardens has done much to improve opportunities for gardening across the city—with a limited budget. I am deeply grateful to our staff, volunteers, and donors for these many successes. We steward our resources with care—and we also keep our eyes open to the changing needs and opportunities that each year brings.

Gardening is one way to make it possible for everyone to enjoy the bounties of the earth—while ensuring that no one in our city has to live hand-to-mouth. With your help and support, we can accomplish even more in 2004.

Joshua Brown  
Board President, Friends of Burlington Gardens



## Major Goals Achieved

### Gardens Created

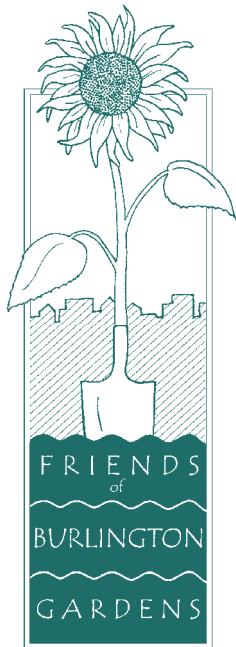
- The Community Teaching Garden opened at Ethan Allen Homestead and graduated its first class of organic gardeners.
- 20 community garden plots were restored to the BACG system, making a total of more than 400 plots city-wide.
- Grant support was secured to create a one-acre neighborhood garden behind the State Office Building on North Avenue.
- FBG launched an urban greening initiative to create community-based gardens in low-income Burlington neighborhoods.

### Gardens Enhanced

- FBG partnered with UVM's Master Gardeners to provide garden-based educational programs for children and seniors.
- The Tommy Thompson Community Garden received more than \$5000 in grant support for site improvements and tools.
- Starr Farm Community Garden and the VNA Family Room Garden received cash awards as winners in the Burlington Blooms Awards contest sponsored by Gardener's Supply Company.

### Gardens Preserved

- Burlington's Mayor and City Council approved funding for a part-time coordinator position for the BACG program.
- Potential community garden sites across Burlington were researched and catalogued in a FBG report to city planners.
- Burlington's community garden program was highlighted by Yankee Magazine and the Burlington Free Press.
- 2000+ people learned about community gardening in Burlington while visiting FBG's web site [www.burlingtongardens.org](http://www.burlingtongardens.org).



## Friends of Burlington Gardens

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Web site: [www.burlingtongardens.org](http://www.burlingtongardens.org)

Annual Report

### Major Funders 12/1/2002—11/30/2003

Americorps VISTA Program  
Champlain Valley Agency on Aging  
First United Methodist Church Thrift Shop  
Gardener's Supply Company  
General Dynamics Employee Action Council  
Harris and Frances Block Foundation  
Lake Champlain Sea Grant Program  
New England Grassroots Environment Fund  
Scotts Give Back to Grow Awards  
Sovernet  
Vermont Community Foundation

### Contributors 12/1/2002—11/30/2003

#### Renewing Donors (1 anonymous)

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#### New Donors (2 anonymous)

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Nam Tran  
FUMC United Methodist Women  
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Steve and Nina Warren  
Frank and June Way  
Sheila and Thomas Weaver  
Patrick and Mary Welch  
Margaret Welch  
Nancy Wood

## Statement of Financial Position

Fiscal Year 2003  
12/1/2002—11/30/2003

### Operating Revenues FY2003

Grants & Awards	11,501.00
Contributions	9,481.50
Sales & Events	6,691.60
Projects & Services	6,555.71
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>34,229.81</b>

### Operating Expenses FY2003

Payroll: full & part-time	21,050.76
Sales, Events	3,447.97
Projects, Programs	3,105.66
FICA, Medicare	1,610.38
Mileage	1,189.74
Equipment, Supplies	1,053.05
Phone, Internet, Utilities	582.48
Printing	576.13
Postage	484.82
Fees, Dues, Services	244.99
Volunteer Support	128.59
Photography	101.69
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>33,576.26</b>

### Balance Sheet FY2003

Beginning balance 12/01/02	730.46
Outstanding debt	0.00
Retained income from FY03	653.55
<b>Ending balance 11/30/03</b>	<b>1,384.01</b>

### 2003 Board Members

Joshua Brown, President  
Colleen O'Brien, Secretary  
Jules Fishelman, Treasurer  
Maureen Cannon Lisa Coven  
Huck Gutman Nancy Hulett

### 2003 Staff

Jim Flint, Executive Director  
Julia Melloni, Youth Gardens  
Linda Deliduka, Youth Gardens  
Maria Fredlund, Summer Intern  
Elizabeth Rogers, Americorps VISTA

Friends of Burlington Gardens is incorporated as Friends of Burlington Area Community Gardens.

FBG is a member of the Vermont Alliance of Nonprofit Organizations

