



# Over the Garden Gate

A Monthly Publication Prepared by Sandie Scherer

June

2008



Wicker furniture and rocking chairs are porch classics. Keep the grouping lively with contrast: white wicker and dark rockers. Fabric choices set the style. The plaids and stripes here give a decidedly modern feel to the traditional pieces.

*'Tis the season to be outside*

## Fashion for Porches



Narrow porches require careful furniture choice and placement. The large wicker rocker sits in the corner, out of the path of foot traffic and with room to rock. A straight-back settee provides additional seating in a stationary form, and the small red rocker is both an accent and a place for a child to sit. The narrow bench anchors the grouping and provides a place to set down a glass of iced tea.



Screened-in porches provide some protection from the elements, but they're still essentially outside spaces. Emphasize the outdoor connection, especially when the furniture faces the interior. Here, an antique birdhouse is the base for a corner table. The dark wicker furniture visually recedes, giving the outdoorsy-print fabric due emphasis.



Just a step up from the ground, the fine line where this porch ends and the cottage garden begins is blurred by greenery. A few architectural points — the home's siding, picket fence, and rooflines of nearby homes — are the only indicators of nearby civilization. Create the look by using just a modest amount of furnishings and adding layers and layers of garden finery.

There is no psychiatrist in the world like a puppy licking your face.



# R e c i p e

## Strawberry Margarita Cake

- 3/4 cup bottled strawberry-flavored nonalcoholic margarita drink mix
- 1 box Betty Crocker® SuperMoist® white cake mix
- Vegetable oil and egg whites called for on cake mix box
- 1 tablespoon grated lime peel
- 1 container (8 oz) frozen whipped topping, thawed
- Strawberries, if desired



## Feature Flower



Angel's Trumpet

In full bloom, a good-size angel's trumpet is

absolutely arresting. The hanging flowers are indeed trumpet-shape and can reach more than 1 foot long, depending on variety.

Name: Brugmansia varieties

Size: To 6 feet or more

Growing Conditions: Full sun and moist, but well-drained soil

1. Heat oven to 350°F (325°F for dark or nonstick pan). Grease (or lightly spray with cooking spray) bottom only of 13x9-inch pan. Add enough water to drink mix to measure 1 1/4 cups.
2. In large bowl, beat cake mix, drink mix, oil and egg whites on low speed 2 minutes. Pour into pan. Bake and cool as directed on box.
3. Gently stir lime peel into whipped topping; spread over top of cake. Garnish with strawberries. Store covered in refrigerator.

## Handy Hints

**Ammonia as fertilizer.** Watering soil with a mixture of two tablespoons ammonia to each quart of water will not only enrich the nitrogen content of the soil but keep black flies away.

**Revive ailing houseplants with Geritol.** Give the plant two tablespoons of Geritol twice a week for three months. New leaves should begin to grow within the first month.



**I'M LISTENING.**

*It's a privilege to live and work in Maple Ridge.*

**Sandie Scherer**  
**604.290.5181**  
**sscherer@shaw.ca**



Macdonald Realty Ltd., 22718 Lougheed Hwy, Maple Ridge, B.C. V2X 2V6  
Ph: 604.467.3871 Fax: 604.467.2651