



MEN'S & WOMEN'S
GARDEN CLUB
OF MINNEAPOLIS

February 2016

The Garden Spray

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2

IN THIS ISSUE

[Coming Up](#)

[Meeting Notes](#)

[From the Editors](#)

[Awards & Recognition](#)

[Board Meeting Highlights](#)

[Meet Your Board Members](#)

[2015 MWGCM Donors](#)

[FFF: 2016 Featured Flower](#)

[Lyndale Park Garden Committee](#)

[Native Garden Committee](#)

[Membership Corner](#)

[From the Archives](#)

[Treasurer's Snapshot](#)

[Meeting & Event Calendar](#)

[2016 Officers & Directors](#)

Coming Up

Next Regular Meeting



TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9 "LANDSCAPING WITH IRIS AND SIBERIAN IRIS"

Presenter: William Dogherty
Location: Lake Harriet Methodist Church,
4901 Chowen Ave. S. Minneapolis

Our February guest is a landscape designer, garden writer and past president of the Iris Society of Minnesota.

6:00 Social time
6:15 Dinner
7:00 Business meeting
7:30 Program

Menu
Champagne Chicken
Wild Rice Pilaf
Carrots
Tossed Salad
Bread
Valentine Cupcakes



- **Please note location: Lake Harriet Methodist Church.**
- Permanent reservations are in effect.
- Dinner is \$13.
- Reservations or cancellations are required no later than Friday, February 5.
- Email [Carole Ann Brekke](mailto:CaroleAnnBrekke@lhmch.org) or call (952) 435-6029.
- For last-minute cancellations, call Alan Gallaher at (952) 933-1713. If he can sell it, you won't be billed.

[View the 2016 Meeting & Event Calendar](#)

Meeting Notes

JANUARY PROGRAM REVIEW

Guest speaker Mary Yee of the [Minnesota Peony Society](#) enlightened us on the versatility of peonies and the characteristics that make them a welcome and long-lived addition to northern gardens. She invited those who want to learn more to attend the annual peony show at Bachman's June 11th and 12th.

MARCH PROGRAM PREVIEW

Debbie Lonnee of Bailey Nurseries and contributing writer to Northern Gardener magazine will present a program on "Flowering Shrubs."

2016 CLUB DIRECTORIES

The MWGCM 2016 Directory is now available. If you didn't pick up yours at the January meeting, they'll also be available at the February and March meetings.



January presenter Mary Yee

From the Editors

Tom McKusick, Nancy Felice

Tom's Editor's Note

As you may know, one of the duties of our club's vice president is to head up the Programs Committee. Because we have no VP for this year, I volunteered to continue leading the committee for the third year in a row, and I hope all of you have been enjoying the programs we've put together.

As we start planning for 2017, I'd like to ask for your help. Although we ask members about their ideas for programs when they submit their member renewal forms each year, many don't fill out that part. Yet I know you have opinions, and the Programs Committee would like to hear them! [Send me an email](#) or tell me at a club event what topics you'd like to see.

The committee meets in late spring or early summer, and we really do try to find speakers to cover the topics members suggest, especially if several have requested them. It helps if you're specific; when we see a suggestion like "Garden Design" for example, it doesn't give us much to go on. And if you've suggested a topic and it doesn't show up in the program schedule, it's probably because we either couldn't find a presenter on that topic (take note, all of you who've suggested dwarf/ornamental conifers) or we've already had a recent program on the same or a very similar topic. And when I say "recent" I mean within the last three years.

Another way you can help is by doing a program yourself. Many of you have gardening knowledge, experience and skills to share. Consider creating a program

on a subject you know well, or team up with another club member and present it together, as Judy Berglund and Mary Maynard will be doing in June when they present "Tips for Competing at Plant Shows."

A vibrant program schedule is a vital part of our club's identity, and helps us to recruit new members when people come to our meetings to see the presentation. Help us enrich our programs with your ideas and your talents.

Nancy's Editor's Note:

Because the MWGCM has a long, rich history, I thought it would be interesting to take advantage of our excellent *Garden Spray* archive for an occasional look back. This month we've included some highlights from 70 years ago, February 1946.

Awards & Recognition

At the January meeting, the following people were recognized:

Robert Kean was recognized for 25 years of membership in MWGCM.

The Green Thumb Award is given members who attended all meetings and events during the year where attendance was kept. 2015 recipients were Judy Brooke, Alan Gallaher, Robert Kean, Steve Shubick and Kay Wolfe

Flower, Food and Foto Show Awards



Gary Geister receiving award from Judy Berglund.

Gary Geister received the Robert L. Smith trophy for the first-time competitor who accumulates the most points in the horticulture competitions at the annual FFF Show.

Mary Barsness received the Photo Award trophy for accumulating the most points in the FFF photography competition.

Dave Johnson, having regained his voice, made a gracious acceptance speech on receiving the 2015 Bachman's Award for Outstanding Service.

Board Meeting Highlights

Laurie Levin

Highlights of the January board meeting included:

- Thanking Randi Larson for her service on the board as vice president, president, and past president.
- Review of a strong and well-defined budget for the coming year.
- Celebration of the continued growth of our membership.
- Changes in eligibility criteria for the Lehman Trophy.
- Clarification of the registration process for the dinner portion of the Macy's Bachman's Flower Show event.

The next board meeting is Monday, March 7. After approval by the Board, the full minutes are available to any member who would like more information. Contact [Laurie Levin](#) for a copy.

Meet Your Board Members

MEET RECORDING SECRETARY LAURIE LEVIN

Laurie has been a club member since 2012, and has served on the board as recording secretary since 2013.

"I have never thought of myself as a gardener, but rather as a gardener groupie, happily related to people who are true gardeners. My father belonged to a men's garden club in suburban Chicago, I believe won ribbons in competitions, and spent as much time as he could outside growing flowers, fruit trees and vegetables. My husband is responsible for the lovely gardens at our Golden Valley home, where I am but an occasional helper. I enjoy reading about gardening, and I continue to belong to our club because I learn so much from our talented presenters.

"I originally joined the Club because my neighbor Jean Strande brought me along to meetings. I joined the board because she was on the board. I continue to act as recording secretary because I like supporting an organization filled with interesting and friendly people who are dedicated to making gardens bloom."

2015 MWGCM Donors

The MWGCM deeply appreciates the generosity of donors to our club over the years. We are starting a tradition of acknowledging those who have been so generous. Below is the list of our supporters and, in the case of memorial donations, the people whom we remembered this year. We also plan to establish a

permanent list on our website. Thank you for your gracious gifts.

Memorial Donations

Donor	Recipient	In memory of
Estate of Betty Deane	MWGCM General Fund	Burton Dean
Elaine Spiegel	Scholarship Designated Fund	Carol Fuller
Mary Maynard	Scholarship Designated Fund	Russell Smith
Mary Maynard	Scholarship Designated Fund	Duane Reynolds

Supporting Donations

Anonymous	Lyndale Park Garden Designated Fund
Stephan Shubick	Lyndale Park Garden Designated Fund
Janice Johnson	Scholarship Designated Fund
Laurie Levin	Scholarship Designated Fund
Dale Bachman	MWGCM General Fund
Mary Maynard	MWGCM General Fund
David Zlesak	MWGCM General Fund
Judy Berglund	FFF Committee
Mary Maynard	FFF Committee

FFF: 2016 Featured Flower
Maynard

Mary

FEATURED FLOWER FOR THE
2016 FLOWER, FOOD AND FOTO SHOW
IS THE PETUNIA

Every year one flower and one vegetable are featured at our Flower, Food and Foto Show. Winners are awarded a special ribbon and have a spot at the front table. This year, the featured flower is the petunia. Petunias are generally easy to grow, preferring full sun and reasonably good drainage, and they are available in mounding, spreading and trailing varieties and in many exciting new colors.



Section A of the FFF Show Catalog divides Petunias into two sub-classes for cut flowers:

- Double: 3 sprays
- Single: 3 sprays

Petunias may also be exhibited in containers and hanging baskets (Section E of the FFF Catalog).



[*The Exhibiting and Judging Handbook*](#) by the Minnesota State Horticultural Society defines a "spray" as a "small branch bearing dependent branchlets or flowers." Fortunately for us, the current version of the handbook has been posted on line, and you can see a very nice illustration of the difference between a stem, branch and spray in the illustration on Page 125.

FEATURED VEGETABLE FOR THE 2016 FFF SHOW: TOMATOES
Look for more information in the March *Garden Spray*.

Photos courtesy of Park Seed

Lyndale Park Garden Committee
Wolfe

Kay

It is barely above zero outside. So what news can there be for the Lyndale Park Garden Committee? Like all gardeners, our committee takes a well-deserved rest in winter. But soon the planning will begin.



Lyndale Park all wrapped up for winter.

The order for annuals from Rush Creek Growers was turned in to the park gardeners at the end of 2015. (Check out the [Rush Creek Growers](#) website for great photos of the latest annuals and perennials.) A design and plant procurement meeting is planned for Tuesday, February 23 at 12:30 at Curran's Restaurant.

In April all of the MWGCM committees that work in Lyndale Park will have a Spring Kick-Off Meeting together. This will be at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 12 at the Bryant Square Park Recreational Center. It will include the Lyndale Park Garden (Mixed Border), Native Garden, and Arbor Day Committees. All club members are invited to join us. It is amazing how much gardening knowledge we all acquire while volunteering in this public garden.

If you are interested in any of the above, contact Kay Wolfe at mgcmgarden@q.com or (952) 922-0762. The chairs of these committees will also be making announcements at future club meetings and in the *Spray*.

Native Garden Committee

Otto

Kirky

Because the Native Garden committee has such a great time together during the gardening season, member Nancy Felice suggested that we meet monthly during non-gardening months to review, plan and dream. Anyone interested in the Native Garden is welcome to attend. This week new club member Zan Tomko attended and got a background on the garden and plans for the next season.

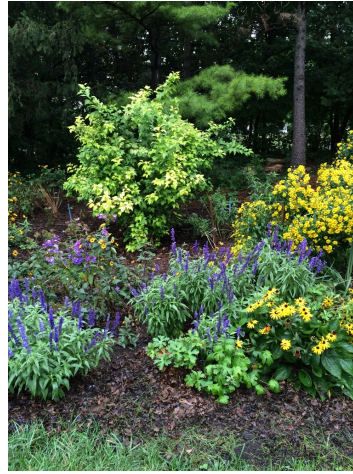
Last October the committee mapped all the plants in the garden on grid sheets. Those sheets have been transferred to a map which provides a color-coded view of what is there. The plans made in January include: gathering similar plants into large groupings for the benefit of pollinators; adding a collection of native grasses which will support the life cycles of specific butterflies (a research project Dan Conley is following); and adding a fenced area of bare earth where ground-dwelling bees can make their homes. Several more ideas will be checked out for possible implementation in the spring.

Feel free to join us Wednesday, February 17, at 9:00 a.m. at the Sparrow Café 50th and Penn Avenue. Everyone will bring a favorite gardening book to review, not limited to native garden plants.

What a difference a summer makes:



*The Native Garden
before...*



...and after

Membership Corner

"Every Member Bring a Member"

WELCOME BECKY DELACRUZ

Becky DeLaCruz lives in Minnetonka with her husband Rick. She moved to her current home in October not far from Larry and Randi Larson, who encouraged her to join MWGCM. "My yard needs some tender loving care, and I thought I could get some advice and guidance from the membership." Her main focus is planning the design for a steep terraced slope which partly borders a wooded area, with a combination of sun and shade. She would welcome suggestions for easy care perennials, annuals and shrubs.

Becky is retired and has a nursing and marketing background. She is interested in becoming involved in our marketing/publicity committee and the FFF Show. She is currently on a trip to Spain with her husband who was stationed there in the service.

WELCOME DIANE VANDIERENDONCK

More about Diane in the *March Spray*.

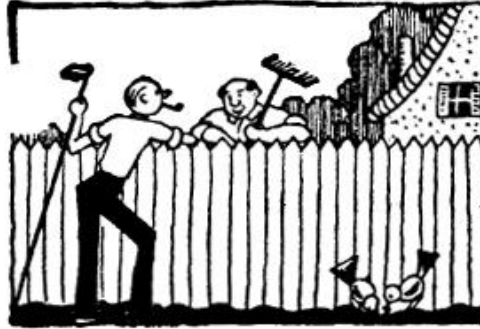
From the Archives

Excerpts from "The Garden Spray," Vol. 4, No. 2, February
1946
Jack Cohen, Editor

Ed Montgomery, Associate Editor

"Our active membership was maintained at the 70 permissible by the by-laws."

"A touch of nostalgia came with the repeat film showing of the 1944 garden tour which ended up with the grand picnic at Upsher Smith's."



From the outgoing secretary, Harold R. Kaufman: "I would like at this time to make the following suggestions for what they are worth: ... (3) that badges continue to be worn because they are conducive to good fellowship and a better personal acquaintance among the members..."

Financial Report:

Income:	\$210.00
70 members at \$3	
Expenses	\$198.84
Net left	\$11.16
Raffle and refund	\$19.34
1945 money	\$30.50

Treasurer's Snapshot

Alan Gallaher

AS OF JANUARY 20, 2016

Checking Balance	\$86,973
Designated Funds	
Lyndale Park Garden	\$2,983
Scholarship	\$3,796
Deane Fund	\$65,033
Working Balance	\$15,161
Petty Cash	\$100

Meeting & Event Calendar

February 9

Landscaping with Iris and Siberian Iris
William Dougherty
Lake Harriet Methodist Church

March 8

Flowering Shrubs
Debbie Lonnee
Lakewood Cemetery

March 29

Macy's Bachman's Flower Show
Macy's Downtown

May 10

Plant Sale and Auction
St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church,
Minneapolis

June 14

Tips for Competing in Plant Shows
Judy Berglund, Mary Maynard and
Friends
Lakewood Cemetery

July & August

Garden Tours
Dates and time TBA

August 20 & 21

Flower, Food and Foto Show
U of M Landscape Arboretum

September 13

Grow Native: Bringing Natural Beauty to
your Garden
Lakewood Cemetery

October 11

Hydroponic Gardening
Larry Cipolla
Lakewood Cemetery

November 8

Low Maintenance Lawn Care
Sam Bauer
Lake Harriet Methodist Church

December 13

Holiday Party
Location TBD

2016 Officers & Directors

Club Officers

President

Judy Brooke
Minnetonka

Vice President

Board shares

Directors

Judy Berglund
Minnetonka

Bonnie Haehn
Minneapolis

responsibilities

Dave McKeen
St. Louis Park

Membership Secretary

Judy Brooke

Steve Shubick
St. Paul

Recording Secretary

Laurie Levin
Golden Valley

Treasurer

Alan Gallaher
Edina

Past President

Tom McKusick
Minneapolis



At the January meeting, Mary Maynard administers the not-so-solemn oath of office to club officers and directors for 2016.

Photo credits: Iris Society of Minnesota (William Dougherty), Lloyd Wittsock (club photos), Park Seed (petunias), Kay Wolfe (Lyndale Park Garden), Nancy Felice (Native Garden).

The Garden Spray is published monthly by the Men's and Women's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc. for its members. The Men's and Women's Garden Club of Minneapolis is a not-for-profit, equal opportunity organization.