

MEN'S & WOMEN'S



GARDEN CLUB

OF MINNEAPOLIS

February 2019

The Garden Spray

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February 12 Meeting Preview

UPDATES AT THE MINNESOTA LANDSCAPE ARBORETUM with Peter Moe



Peter Moe, director of the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum and MWGCM member, will give us his unique perspective on what's new at the Arboretum and plans for the future.



Minnesota Landscape
ARBORETUM
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Directories and bookmarks available.

If you don't have your 2019 club directory, you can pick one up at the meeting. We also plan to have bookmarks for members to distribute at local garden centers, libraries and other places gardeners hang out.

Tuesday, February 12

Meeting location:

Lake Harriet Methodist Church, 4901 Chowen Ave. S., Minneapolis

6:00 Social Time
6:15 Dinner
7:00 Business Meeting
7:30 Program

Menu
Antipasto platter
Cupcakes

- Permanent reservations are in effect.
- Dinner is \$13.00.
- Reservations or cancellations are required no later than Friday, February 8.

- Email Sharla Aasang at resmwgcm@juno.com, or call (612) 623-9341 and leave a message.
- Note: for last-minute cancellations, contact Sharla. If she can sell it, you won't be billed.

Thoughts from the President

Anne Spenningsby

Happy February. Hopefully we are going to see some warmer weather and a groundhog that wants to come out and enjoy the warm sun!

I want to thank everyone who attended the January meeting, and a special thank you to our speakers Linda and Mike Thompson, Sue and Bill Clark, Andy Marlow and Katherine Schafer. I hope everyone enjoyed the Virtual Garden Tours as much as I did.

This month we will have Peter Moe as our speaker. He will update us on the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum with lots of great information on projects and new things. I would encourage everyone to attend.

Our board and committee chairs are also working on a survey for March which will ask many questions about what types of things you would like to see the club do or change. This is a great time to contribute your input into the future direction of the club. I am hoping to have it online and on paper at our March meeting. If you have any comments or questions you think we should address, please contact [Anne Spenningsby](#) or [Becky DeLaCruz](#) with your thoughts.

Until then stay warm and dream of warmer weather.

From the Editors

Nancy Felice, Tom McKusick, Co-editors

Even though we won't be digging in the dirt for a few months yet, it's obvious from this month's *Garden Spray* the MWGCM never goes dormant.

We're already getting a taste of what's in store for this year's plant sale thanks to Gary Geister's update. And it's never too early to start thinking about the FFF Show as Judy Berglund reveals this year's featured flower. We'll be following the progress of the first two Deane Fund Grants and plan to post updates as Steve Shubick and Paul Waytz move forward with their projects.

Good news also comes from Becky DeLaCruz: Bachman's Galleria Floral Experience is back for the second year, March 24 through April 7. Look for details in the March *Garden Spray*.

-- Nancy Felice

Deane Fund Grant

The first Deane Fund Grants were presented at the Holiday Party. This is a portion of the proposal presented by Steve Shubick along with some "before" photos.

Deane Fund Grant for the Minneapolis Veterans' Home

"This grant is going to be used for rejuvenation and refreshing of Veterans' Day Center Courtyard garden by replacing dead trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants with native and/or hardy low maintenance plant material and adding organic mulch to control weeds, preserve moisture and enhance visual appeal.



"This will reestablish the Veterans' Day Center Courtyard as an inviting and functional space for the veterans to enjoy socials, games, gardening, entertainment and special events.



"This project will be completed by volunteers from members of the MWGCM. This project also fulfills part of the mission statement of the MWGCM.

"When completed veterans will once again be able to enjoy the beauty of their courtyard."

-- Steve Shubick

Photos: Steve Shubick

SAVE THE DATE: TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2019

ANNUAL MWGCM PLANT SALE

St. Mary's Green Orthodox Church
3450 Irving Avenue South
Minneapolis

Please note these changes to this year's sale:

- The sale will begin at 12 noon and end at 6:30 p.m.
- Again this year, we will not have a monthly dinner and meeting.
- There will be **no pre-order sales**. (We will try to include many of the plants that were popular pre-orders in the regular sale.)
- Club members will continue to receive a **one-time 25% discount** on their purchases.
- We plan to have many baskets and container pots for sun or shade available and more vegetables for sale.
- We will be getting many plants from Rush Creek Growers out of Spring Valley, Wisconsin, one of the main suppliers for the Friends School Plant sale

At the February club meeting Mary Maynard will circulate sign-up sheets for many of the volunteer positions needed for our plant sale. Please sign up. Help from everyone makes for a successful sale.

Here's a small sample of plants to look for at the sale.



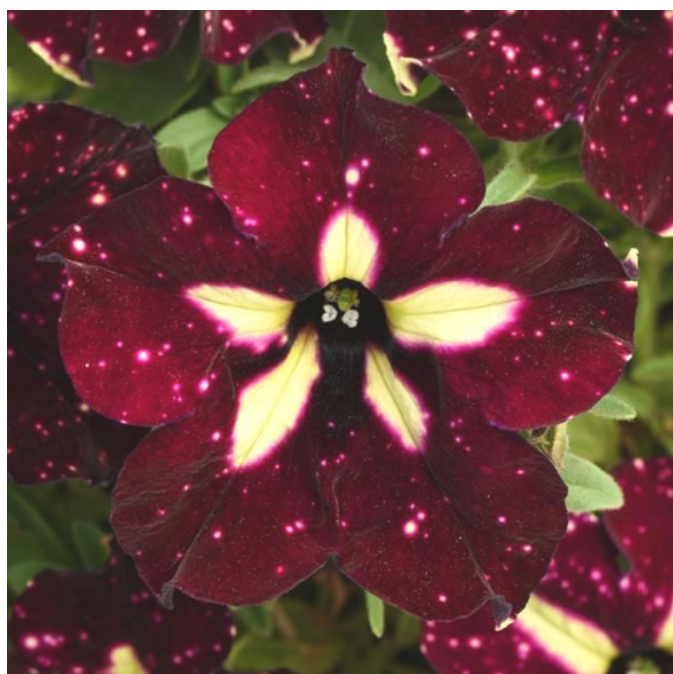
Vertigo Grass

This was at last year's plant sale. It had a lot of green leaves and looked pretty blah. However, I planted some in our garden and this ugly duckling turned in to a glowing swan, some getting four feet tall with wide, shiny, blackish-wine colored leaves with no seed heads. Best grown in the ground with plenty of water. The more you water it, the bigger it gets. A must

have.

Senecio Angel Wings

A large-leafed accent plant with silver-white leaves that will be a great filler in your containers suitable with any color scheme.



Headliner(TM) Starry Sky Burgundy Petunia

The same breeders who developed Night Sky and Pink Sky petunias have come out with another petunia.

Diamond Mountain(R) Euphorbia

A new euphorbia that gets BIG. A great filler for your containers



RECAP OF THE 2018 SALE

I was hoping for sales of \$20,000 last year, but we ended up with sales of \$18,724 after refunding \$1,291 for pre-ordered plants that did not arrive. (If this had not happened, we would have had sales of \$20,015, so I feel we did make our goal.) We had a profit of \$7,744 for 2018, even taking in to consideration club members who received a 25% discount.

Note: Over half of our sales (\$9,502) last year were paid by credit card.

How far over last year's goal of \$20,000 will this year's sale be? It takes a team to make a dream.

A big thanks to all the members who volunteered last year and those who have volunteered for many years with this sale.

Flower, Food & Foto Show Committee

Judy Berglund, Chair

ZINNIAS ARE THE FFF SHOW FEATURED FLOWER FOR 2019

Each year, MWGCM's Flower Food and Foto Show features one flower and one vegetable. Zinnias are our featured flower for 2019.



Zinnias come in many varieties, colors and sizes. They are easy to grow in containers or in the ground. They make a great cut flower and they are attractive to butterflies. The variety of options make zinnias a great choice for floral arrangement, too.

Start seeds indoors 6-8 weeks before last frost to transplant outdoors. Zinnias may also be planted directly into the garden after last frost. Sow seeds $\frac{1}{4}$ inch deep; choosing a location that get full sun is essential. Space the seeds several inches to a couple of feet apart, depending on the mature size. This allows for adequate air circulation around the plants as they grow. Powdery mildew and other diseases can attack flowers that are planted too close together or remain wet from overhead watering.

Zinnia plants benefit from deadheading and flower removal (use in cut flower bouquets). Clipping the plant back often results in more abundant blooms. Pinching back zinnia plants results in a bushier and more attractive plant.

The show schedule lists three categories of zinnias in Section A (annuals):

- Small size ranges from 0.5" to 2"; you would show three blooms of the same color in this category.
- Medium size, exhibit one bloom ranging from 2.5" to 4".
- Giant size, exhibit one bloom over 4".

The stems should be straight with at least one pair of leaves, but two pair of leaves are better.

Zinnias grown in containers may also be entered in the show under Section E.

Consider adding zinnias to your garden plan this year and entering your best blooms in the show either as cut flowers, container plants or in your creative arrangements.

Correction: Date Change for Flower, Food & Foto Show

The 2019 FFF Show will be held **Saturday and Sunday, August 10 and 11**. This is a correction from the original posting in last month's *Garden Spray*. The date change was necessary because the Arboretum had already booked the room we use for the show.

Lyndale Park/Native & Shade Gardens Committee

Kirky Otto, Carol Schreier, Co-chairs

Even when the earth is frozen, gardeners think about gardening, and that's good. What's even better is getting together with other gardeners to talk about gardening. If you miss chatting about plants (the good, the bad, the ugly), or asking another gardener about a problem (is it possible to move a...?) or comparing experiences with gardening techniques (have you ever tried...?), consider joining the club volunteers for the native and shade gardens at our winter coffee meetings.



August 7, 2018.

Note the successful planting of the red cardinal flower (center) in its third year.

The gang gathers at Turtle Bread, 44th and Beard in Linden Hills, usually on the third Wednesday of the winter months from 9:30 (or whenever people can arrive) to about 11. There's some business such as preparing for the May 7 club plant sale, but also lots of good conversation. Everyone buys their own coffee, breakfast, or baked treats. We meet in the side room, putting lots of small tables together into one long one, and everyone is welcome.

The next meetings are February 20 and March 20. Will we meet there in April? Or will we be in the gardens at Lyndale Park? The weather will decide! Drop in for a meeting or two this year. We'll enjoy having you there!

--Kirky Otto

Photo: Kirky Otto

2018 Bachman Award

NANCY BJERKE RECEIVES 2018 BACHMAN AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE



Gary Geister presented Nancy Bjerke with the 2018 Bachman Award at the January club meeting.

The Bachman Award goes to a person who has given outstanding service to the MWGCM over a long period of time. This decision is made by the previous recipients of the award.

The person chosen for 2018 is Nancy Bjerke.

Nancy has been a member since 2000. But even before that in 1999, she received the Certificate for Rookie of the Year (Could you classify her as an over achiever?)

By 2003, Nancy rose through the ranks and became our club president.

Nancy has been on the FFF committee filling many roles. As a member of the Plant Sale Committee, she has grown lots of seedlings and hostas for the sale in her basement. She has been on a number of club tours over the years, and in 2015 co-chaired with Margaret Hibberd as club treasurer. Over the years Nancy has also worked and volunteered at the Arboretum and is one of our knowledgeable Master Gardeners.

However, receiving this award is not a free ride--along with the award she automatically becomes Chairman of the Bachman Award Committee for 2019!

Congratulations Nancy.

-- Gary Geister, 2018 Bachman Award Chair

Photo: Andy Marlow

Photography Committee

Lloyd Wittstock, Chair

PHOTOS NEEDED FOR MWGCM PHOTO DIRECTORY

For new members: MWGCM has a photo directory of members available online in a password protected area of the club's website. It's a tool to help new members recognize older members, and vice versa. There has been a tremendous influx of

new members in the last several months and the directory is a bit out of date. Now that we are meeting on a regular basis again, we'd like to get up to date.

Below is a list of members for whom I do not have a photo. Please look me up either before or after the next meeting and I will take a head shot of you. It's very painless and I'll try to make you look your best. Or you can email me a photo that you like. It can be a selfie taken with a smart phone. Send it to webmaster@mwgcm.org.

Kathy Douglas
Dave Hanson
Mary Ann Hanson
JoEllen Haugo
Robert Heiberg
Mary Helebrant

Kathy Johannes
Theresa Rooney
Tracy Sanders
Ruth Schulz
Marsha Theis
Linda Wilkins

-- *Andy Marlow*

Membership Corner

Kathy Lenarz, Chair

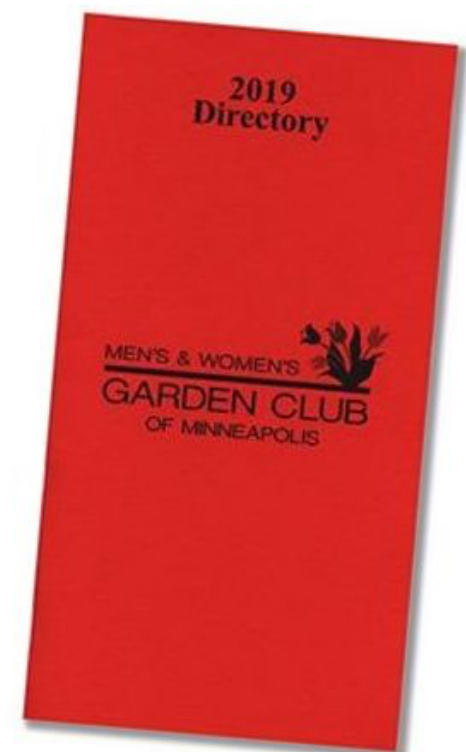
2019 CLUB DIRECTORIES ARE HERE

If you didn't get your new directory in January, they will be available again at the February meeting. If you would like to have one mailed to you, please contact [Kathy Lenarz](mailto:Kathy.Lenarz).

WELCOME KATE LADNER

Kate joined MWGCM in November after finding out about the club via Google. She moved back to Minnesota, and into her South Minneapolis home at the end of last August. She grew up in the area and attended Minnetonka schools. She returned to be closer to family, after living in several growing zones across the country, including time spent in California, North Carolina and Ohio.

Kate's home already had perennials in the front yard and raised beds in the back yard. Since a large tree has been removed in the front, eliminating most of the shade, she is working on adjustments and new plans. To help with this project she is taking a class on landscaping and design through the Arboretum.



Kate's gardening interests are mainly in landscaping and perennials, with just a touch of vegetables, like tomatoes and herbs. She is excited to know more about gardening in our region where the soil is sandier than Ohio, and the succulents don't grow like they do in California. Welcome, Kate.

Every member bring a member.

Treasurer's Snapshot

Alan Gallaher, Treasurer

AS OF JANUARY 25, 2019

Checking Balance	\$ 59,214
Designated Funds	
Lyndale Park/Mixed Border Garden	\$ 2,286
Scholarship	\$ 3,691
Deane Fund at RCU	\$ 58,728
Working Balance	\$ 53,237
Petty Cash	\$ 100
MWGCM 19-month CD at US Bank	\$ 5,448

2019 Meeting & Event Calendar

February 12

Updates at the Minnesota
Landscape Arboretum
Peter Moe
Lake Harriet Methodist Church

March 12

Art & Science of Perennial

July

Garden Tours TBA

August 10 & 11

Flower, Food & Foto Show
Minnesota Landscape Arboretum

September 10

Gardening
Heidi Heiland
Lakewood Cemetery Mausoleum

April 9
Landscape Design
Matt Brooks
Lakewood Cemetery Mausoleum

May 7
Annual Plant Sale
St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church

June 11
Lilacs in Minnesota
Peter Moe
Lakewood Cemetery Mausoleum

Lillies
Forrest Peiper
Lakewood Cemetery Mausoleum

October 8
Program TBA
Lakewood Cemetery Mausoleum

November 12
The Most Toxic Plants & Fungi of
Minnesota
Laurie Willhite
Lake Harriet Methodist Church

December 10
Annual Holiday Party & Silent Auction

2019 Officers & Directors

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Minneapolis

Vice President
Linda Wilkins
Richfield

Membership Secretary
Kathy Lenarz
Richfield

Recording Secretary
Sue Clark
Minnetonka

Co-treasurers
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Edina

Bill Clark
Minnetonka

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St. Louis Park

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Past President
Mary Barsness
Prior Lake

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