

The Garden Spray

Bulletin of the Men's and Women's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc.

2013, Volume 71, Number 4

April

Upcoming Events

Date	Location	Event
Apr 2	Macy's Bachman's/Macy's Mpls	Flower Show
May 14	WLC	Plant Sale and Auction
June 11	LHC	IPM: Butterflies, Bees and Bugs
July TBD	TBD	Garden Tour
Aug TBD	TBD	Garden Tour
Aug 17-18	Arb	Flower, Food & Foto Show

LHC = Lake Harriet Church, 4901 Chowen Ave S.,
Mpls. (Lower level)

WLC = Westwood Lutheran Church, St. Louis Park

ARB = University of Minnesota Landscape
Arboretum

Full Calendar of Events on Page 10.

April 2 Schedule (Macy's Oak Grill)

5:00 – Gather, be seated, order beverages

5:30 – Dinner is served

6:20 – Dale Bachman will speak

6:50 – Proceed to 8th floor to view flower show

8:00 – Macy's store closes

(must exit store by 8:20)

Note: Permanent reservations are not in effect for April. See reservation form in March Spray for dinner at Macy's Oak Grill. Space is limited, and members and their guests have priority. Reservations due by **Monday, March 25!**

April 2 Program: Macy's Bachman's Flower Show and Dinner

Don't forget to send in your registration form to take part in Macy's flower show and dinner on Tuesday, **April 2** at the Oak Grill on the 12th floor at Macy's in downtown Minneapolis (reservation form in last month's Spray – due **March 25**). Please arrive around 5 p.m. Dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m.; Dale Bachman will speak at 6:20 p.m., followed by a tour of the flower show.

This year's flower show, titled 'The Painted Garden', takes its inspiration from the Middle Asian region, most notably India. The vast display reflects the elaborate architecture, lavish formal gardens, intense jewel tones and lively spice market colors so typical of that part of the world.

More info on Page 4

Looking Ahead May 14: Plant Sale and Auction

- Gary Geister

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Our annual Men's and Women's Garden Club of Minneapolis Plant Sale is around the corner.

Date: Tuesday May 14th, 2013

Location: Westwood Lutheran Church, 9001 Cedar Lake Road (between 100 & 169 in St Louis Park)

This event includes the "COUNTRY STORE" where people can purchase plants from members gardens, extra plants from the preorder sale and seed starting efforts.

More info on Page 5



Notes from the Prez:

-- Sandra Abraham

April is Not for Fools

As March 2013 goes out like a lion, we hope that April will bring us the showers we need without causing too much flooding. At the March MWGCM meeting Roger Koopmans asked me if my tulips were poking up yet. I laughed, but I thought about last March's record breaking highs of 70's -80's and how I actually sowed radishes and lettuce in my raised bed garden. Just two days later, as I was chipping ice from our sidewalk, I checked out some perennial pots on the south side of our house and I can report that, indeed, there are some signs of green plants emerging. There is hope!

On April 2, we will continue a time honored tradition of touring the Bachman's Flower Show on the 8th floor of Dayton's, oops, I mean Macy's. Because this event falls in early April and when we next meet, it will be for our May 14 Plant Sale and Auction, may I suggest that all committees of the MWGCM meet during this hiatus. There is a lot of work to be done and this six week break between our gatherings will afford us the time to get some of that work accomplished.

Programs for the 2014 season need to be planned and speakers should be contacted so they may get us on their calendars. The garden tours for 2013 should be firmed up and discussion should begin with relationship to possible public garden tours for 2014. Work should begin on any bylaws revisions that are needed in order to comply with our recent name change so that we can get them presented and voted on at our annual November business meeting.

This month the membership committee also has the added responsibility of continuing outreach to prospective members after our successful showing at the Home and Garden Show.

It isn't too early to start planning ahead for the FFF show. Get those seeds started for your gardens so you can show some award winning peppers and snapdragons at the Arboretum on August 17 and 18. Bring your camera to the Macy's Bachman's flower show...you may just get just the right "Foto" to enter into our photo contest. So, you see, April is not for fools, rather it is for industrious garden club members to forge ahead, get plans made, reach some goals and grow our club. Happy Spring!

From the Editor

-- Mary Maynard

Oh brother! Even though the Equinox is upon us, it's hard to see spring from here! I keep telling myself that winter cannot last forever. Maybe when my seed-starting operation commences I'll feel closer to summer. And, of course, our trip to Macy's this year will help, as it always does. I love the fragrance as we get off the elevator on the 8th Floor! Even if you don't plan to eat dinner at the Oak Grill, please consider a visit to the show on the evening of the 2nd. It's always fun to meet MWGCM members at the show.

Don't forget that order forms for pre-ordered plants need to get to me by Friday, March 29. Nona Johnson and I will be compiling the order for Gardenview Greenhouses on Saturday morning. See you in the spring!



Treasurer's Snapshot

As of 3-14-2013

Checking balance	\$17,773.00
Designated Funds	
Memorials/Park Garden	\$1,716.72
Scholarship	\$4,640.28
Working Balance	\$11,416.00
CD	\$5,210.22

Membership Corner

No news this month!

Marketing and Publicity Committee Update

-- Judy Brooke

Kudos to members who staffed our club's exhibit at the Minneapolis Home & Garden Show. They signed up 50 visitors who showed an interest in the club. These visitors are receiving the club's newsletter for 3 months. Committee members Tom McKusick and Kay Wolfe have continued to publicize the club's program schedule in the *Northern Gardener* and *Minneapolis Star Tribune*. This has generated a total of 25 visitors to the past three programs.

A current marketing project is enhancing the club's website, <http://www.mwqcm.org>. Check out what Web Master Andy Marlow has done to the site with the "Upcoming..." box on the front page to highlight events happening in the upcoming two months. The "Upcoming..." box will change every month to reflect coming events. The almost complete collection of the 1960s *Garden Sprays* are now available on the website, plus instructional and informative videos will be coming soon.

Additionally, club member Alan Gallaher will be taking over the MWCGM Facebook page. If you are on Facebook, be sure to like our page at <http://tinyurl.com/laasri63>. Finally, a new club logo is in the works. More on that in the upcoming weeks



Judy Berglund and Sandra Abraham at our table at the Home & Garden Show
-- Photo by Denise Rust

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<http://www.mwqcm.org>



Macy's Bachman's Flower Show and Dinner – Continued from Page 1

Spectators will be welcomed by a stunning multicolored 10-foot tall painted elephant centerpiece, which will have grand ornamentation in the ceremonial style of India, planted in brilliant hues via thousands of flowers, plants, organic button flowers, straw flowers, marrow, lavender and more.

Five of the show's designers will each bring to life a rotating flower show called the Bouquet of the Day. These one of a kind creations will be colorful centerpieces that will each convey the personal style of the designer.

Please fill out the reservation form in last month's *Spray* and send with payment of \$23 each to Carole Ann Brekke, 709 Rushmore Drive, Burnsville, MN 55306. **Reservations must be received by Monday, March 25.** A limited number of spaces are available, so don't wait until the last minute to send your registration in.

Remember: Our Macy's trip is the **first** Tuesday of April – one week earlier than our usual meeting date.

-- Larry Larson (for Randi, who has broken her ankle!)



Scholarship Challenge Met!

We are happy to report that Jan Johnson's \$500 scholarship challenge has been met! As of March 12, \$545 had been donated to support horticultural students.

Our thanks to Jan, who has so generously supported our scholarship program.

Remember: Your pre-orders for plants to be picked up at the May 14 Plant Sale need to get to Mary Maynard by **Friday, March 29.**

Order forms are on our website at http://mwqcm.org/MGCM/Welcome_files/MWGCM%20Order%20form%202013.pdf



May 14: Plant Sale and Auction – continued from Page 1

-- Gary Geister, Committee Chair

So far a few varieties I have going are Bright Pink Calibrachoa, Peach Diascia, Trailing Purple Petunia, Hot Rose Purslane, Carolina Watermelon Verbena, Trailing purple Homestead Verbena, Tri colored Sage and Orange mint (smells just like an orange)

On order coming soon is a variety of coleus---Silk Sunset, Tapestry, Sangria, Stormy Weather, Kiwi Fern, Pistachio Nightmare, Bright Ruffles, Fishnet Stockings, Jade, Solar Sunrise, Red Planet and Kingwood Carnival.

Also coming soon---- margarita sweet potato vine, Purple fountain grass, jacobiana, some New Guinea impatiens, Irene lantana, dischidia, bacopa, euphorbia, scaevola, angelonia, Springeri Fern and Persian Shields.

A variety of dahlias will be available from a local grower.

We will be starting the Plant Sale a little earlier this year starting at 4:00. The Marketing/Publicity Committee will be doing some promotion for this and we are opening it up to the public from 4:00 to 6:00.

If any club members have friends, relatives or neighbors interested in going to a plant sale please inform them of this event.

Also if members would be interested in purchasing a variety of plant that we have not carried in the past let me know. I can try to have them available by getting plugs, ordering from Ambergate Gardens, Eisle's or starting these plants from seed. Needless to say the sooner I have this information the sooner I will be able to get them going.

My e-mail address is garygeister@aol.com

There is a live auction and silent auction at this event. Any donations from your local nursery, favorite garden center or your very own garden would be greatly appreciated.

This is the day and event at which you pick up plants from your preorders. **Remember: Mary Maynard needs your plant orders by Friday, March 29!**

This is a large fund raising event for the club which helps keep the membership dues inline so we can continue to have the great programs and speakers throughout the year. Plan on attending, donating, bidding and participating in this event. May you have room in your vehicle for all your plants!!!!



Photo courtesy Park Seed



FFF SHOW FLORAL DESIGN DIVISION

Announcing the 2013 Floral Design Division Classes for our FFF Show on August 17 & 18, 2013.

--Judy Berglund

This years' design theme is "Fairy Tales". The design classes are as follows:

Snow White: floral design using white blooms

Little Red Riding Hood: floral design using warm colored or red blooms

Jack and the Bean Stalk: tall floral design

Cinderella: floral design using fall colors and/or pumpkin

Rumpelstiltskin: floral design featuring grains and/or grasses

Tom Thumb: miniature design less than 6"x6"x6"

The materials used in the design do not need to all come from only your garden. The materials used only need to be garden- grown and may come from a friend's garden or materials you might find at a farmers market.

This division usually has very few entries each year, so the **challenge for all of us this year is to get our creative juices flowing and bring a couple of floral arrangements to this year's FFF Show.**

We are eager to see all of your creative floral design!!!!

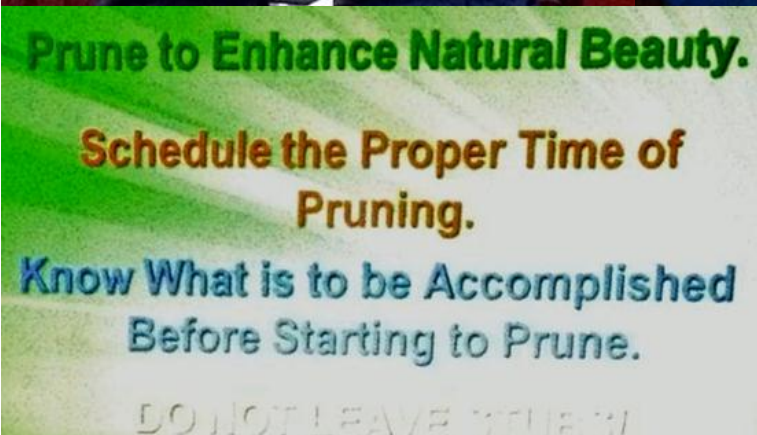


A few designs from the 2012 show.

-- Photos by Judy Berglund



Photos from March Meeting
Chuck Carlson, Lloyd Wittstock



We were happy to have Dr. Bert Swanson with us in March. In case you can't read the bottom line of the lower slide, it says "DO NOT LEAVE STUBS". Dr. Swanson has strong feelings about stubs.



More Photos from the March Meeting

Chuck Carlson, Lloyd Wittstock



Top row: Treasurers Nancy Bjerke and Margaret Hibberd; Chuck Carlson, former member Eldon Hugelen and Bob Livingston; Middle row: President Sandra herds cats; Judy Brooke updates us. Bottom Row: Alan Gallaher and Judy Berglund; The experts table: Steve Shubick, Tim Rosener, Rodger Sefelt, Dave McKeen, Ray Bauch.



MWGCM Board Meeting Highlights March 4, 2013

-- Laurie Levin, Recording Secretary

In attendance: Sandra Abraham, Laurie Levin, Margaret Hibberd, Jean Strande, Robert Kean, Don Trocke

Absent: Nancy Bjerke, Judy Brooke, Randi Larson

The Scholarship Fund matching grant has been met! Thanks to everyone who contributed, with special thanks to Jan Johnson for her generosity in supporting the scholarship program.

The Club had a successful experience sponsoring a table at the recent Home and Garden Show. Fifty people signed up to receive the Spray and other information about our programming.

The Marketing and Publicity Committee continues to focus its efforts on welcoming visitors and encouraging new members to join the Club. A welcome packet will be put together containing information about us that will be distributed to anyone who visits a monthly meeting.

New nametags for the monthly meetings are being produced.

Tours Committee is busy with planning summer tours and working with the Audubon Society on a joint gardening project for this summer, similar to the project that was successfully completed last summer. Anyone interested in hosting a tour should contact Robert Kean.

Three formal motions were passed at the Board meeting:

**Motion* was moved, seconded and approved that expenses in the amount of \$177.58 be paid to the Audubon Society to complete reimbursement for 2012 expenses.

This money has been held in our bank account for this purpose, and does not represent a new expenditure.

**Motion* was moved, seconded and approved that a new Designated Fund be created for Arbor Day projects.

Establishing this fund allows us to keep monies dedicated to Arbor Day projects separate from the Club's routine budget.

**Motion* was moved, seconded and approved to print only names of Board members and the cities in which they live in *The Spray*.

This motion goes into effect with the April 2013 issue of *The Spray*.



Calendar of Events for Rest of 2013

April 2

Tour of Macy-Bachman's Flower Show
Dale Bachman
Dinner 5:00 Macy's Downtown Minneapolis

May 14

Plant Sale & Auction
4 PM
Westwood Lutheran Church, St. Louis Park

June 11

"IPM: Butterflies, Bees, & Bugs"
Dr. Vera Krischik
Dinner 6:15, Speaker 7:30
Lake Harriet Methodist Church, Mpls.

July & August

Garden Tours TBD

August 17 & 18

Flower, Food & Foto Show
U of MN Landscape Arboretum

September 10

Tomato & Pepper Festival
MWGCM members
Lake Harriet Methodist Church, Mpls.

October 8

"Winter Hardy Cactus & Succulents"
Craig Johnson
Dinner 6:15, Speaker 7:30
Lake Harriet Methodist Church, Mpls.

November 12

"Planting for Fall and Winter Color in Your Garden"
Terry Yockey
Dinner 6:15, Speaker 7:30
Lake Harriet Methodist Church, Mpls.

December 10

Holiday Party
Lake Harriet Methodist Church, Mpls.

This Month's Contributors: Thank You!

Printed Content: Sandra Abraham, Judy Berglund, Nancy Bjerke, Judy Brooke, Gary Geister, Larry and Randi Larson, Laurie Levin, Mary Maynard

Photography: Judy Berglund, Chuck Carlson, Denise Rust, Lloyd Wittstock, Park Seed



Getting to Know Your Board Member: Nancy Bjerke



My interest in gardening came after a career in Human Resources Management with Control Data Corporation. The Minnesota Landscape Arboretum gave me a chance to learn gardening from experts as a volunteer tour guide, Learning Center instructor and eventually as one of the Tram Driver tour guides. In the late nineties I completed the Hennepin Master Gardener course work and went on to Tree Care Advisory training.

Gardening was a challenge for me as I had unwanted help from my deer friends, woodchucks and rabbits. I kept records on the plants the deer and rabbits didn't relish. The woodchucks were content to destroy plants.

Now I live in Minneapolis and enjoy planting the ones I avoided before. I no longer have to seek out grasses, prickly leaves, rough foliage or poisonous plants.

My large front yard rain garden is a changing scene each year with two underground drains entering the space it is perfect for plants who like to get their feet wet. Across the back of the yard is a 30 foot arbor which is supporting Clematis vines and a couple of Wisterias from Jerry Shannon's plants. Many of you know that I collect pigs and many of the outdoor ones are scattered around the flowers and foliage.

Once a month May through August another Master Gardener and I present gardening information to visitors on the Hennepin County Government Plaza. In the late winter, early spring months I plant flats of seeds under lights in my basement. The extra plants are give-aways at our May and June presentations. Next July the Hennepin County Master Gardeners are including my garden on their annual tour. I do hope the Japanese Beetles continue to stay away.

*Nancy is a former president of the club who has returned to the Board this year as Co-Treasurer.
-- Photo by Lloyd Wittstock*

MEN'S and WOMEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.



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Club Officers:

President: Sandra Abraham
Eagan

Vice President: Randi Larson
Minnetonka

Recording Secretary: Laurie Levin
Golden Valley

Membership Secretary: Jean Strande
Golden Valley

Treasurer: Nancy Bjerke/Margaret Hibberd
Minneapolis

Falcon Heights

Past President: Robert Kean
Minneapolis

Directors:

Judy Brooke
Minnetonka

Don Trocke

Bloomington

(Nancy Bjerke/Margaret Hibberd)

The Spray

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.

Return To:

The Garden Spray

Men's and Women's Garden Club of Mpls., Inc.

Mary Maynard, Editor

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First Class Mail

April
2013