

1942-2017



MEN'S & WOMEN'S

GARDEN CLUB

OF MINNEAPOLIS

May 2018

The Garden Spray

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2018 MWGCM Plant Sale

Gary Geister, Chair

BEGIN THE COUNTDOWN!

FIFTH ANNUAL MWGCM PLANT SALE, TUESDAY, MAY 8

Open to members and the general public from 1:00 to 6:30 p.m.

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

Schedule

1:00 Doors open

1:00 Members can pick up preorders

Sale goes as advertised until 6:30 but will officially close at 7:00, or earlier if everyone is finished shopping

7:00 Doors close and cleanup begins

Important changes this year

- Instead of a ½-price sale at the end of the night, all members can get **25 percent off** plant purchases **one time only** any time during the plant sale. Make sure you have all the plants you would like before you check out.
- There will be a **designated holding area** for members to put their plants until ready to check out. (Please don't stash them in corners, they might get resold!)
- Also there will be **no** dinner or live auction as in the past.

Plants of Note

Petunia 'Pink Sky' A sister to the 'Night Sky' that immediately sold out last year. A deep pink petunia with a variety of white specks.

Pansy 'Cool Wave® Raspberry' From the same people that introduced us to the family of Wave petunias.

Sweet Potato Vine 'SolarPower™' A climbing sweet potato vine



*Petunia 'Pink Sky' and 'Night Sky'
by Gary Geister*

2018 Hosta of the year, 'World Cup'

2018 Perennial plant of the year, Allium 'Millennium'

Plant List*

Annuals

Begonias: Angel Falls, Bada Boom, BIG™ Rose, Frivola, Illumination, Megawatt™, Morocco, Pink Charm, Vermillion, Vodka
Chenille Plant
Cosmos Cupcake, Daydream
Craspedia
Dichondra Silver Falls
Dipladenia Bella Grande
Eucalyptus Steel Towers
Euphorbia Breathless
Flowering Maple
Geranium: Neon Purple, Wilhelm Langguth, Calliope® large burgundy, Tango™, Zonal Patriot Bright Red
Gerbera Daisy: Mega Revolution™ mix, Eye Catcher Purple
Grass Live Wire
Impatiens: Royal Magenta, Spreading Salmon
Jewels-of-Opar
Lophospermum: compact rose, compact white
Mexican Sunflower
Muelenbeckia Wire Vine
Origanum Amethyst Falls
Ostia OSTICA™
Papyrus King Tut
Pentas Red Velvet
Persian Shields
Petunias: Blackberry Cheese Cake,

Perennials

Allium Millennium
Ansonia Storm Cloud
Anemone: Curtain Call Pink, Honorine Jobert
Angelica Gigas
Astilbe Delft Lace
Bergenia
Echinacea Hot Papaya
Brunnera: Emerald Mist, Jack Frost
Cimifuga: Hillside Black Beauty
Clematis: Violet Stardust, Asao, Bees Jubilee, Purple Plina Elegans, Polish Spirit, Henry II, Vyvyan Pennel
Columbine Leprechaun Gold
Creeping Phlox: Coral Eyes, Red Wing, Violet Pinwheels, Candy Stripes, Sublata Red
Dianthus Constant Beauty Pink
Eryngium Blue Glitter
Geranium Biokova 2015 Perennial Plant of The Year
Hellebores: Blushing Bride, True Love, Rome In Red
Hen and Chicks Silver King
Heucherella: Plum Cascade, Red Stone Falls
Hibiscus Starry, Starry Night
Heuchera: Blackberry Ice, Midnight Rose
Japanese Painted Fern
Karl Foerster Grass
Monarda: Pardon My Purple, Bubblegum

Constellation Aries, Constellation Gemini, Crazytunia® Kermit Purple, Night Sky, Pink Sky, Purple Wave, Supertunia® Bermuda Beach, Supertunia® Violet Star Charm, Supertunia® Vista
Bubblenum®, Surfinia® Summer Double™ Salmon, Tidal Wave™ Silver
Pink Pinheads
Plectranthus Zulu Wonder
Purslane: Samba Hot Rose, Samba Pink bi-color
Rex Begonias: Fireworks, St. Nick, Nautilus, Cool Breeze
Ribbons and Curls
Rudbeckia Cherry Brandy
Salvia: Black and Blue, Black and Bloom, Victoria Blue
Setcreasea
Shrimp Plant
Sweet Potato: Blackie, Bewitched, Margarita
Verbena: Homestead Purple, Twister Red, peach, lilac
Zinnias: Cactus, Senorita Pink, Forecast, Fruit Smoothie mix, Burpees Big Tetra mix

Annual Vines

Cardinal Vine
Hyacinth Bean
Moonflower
Morning Glory: Grandpa Otts, Sunrise Serenade, Pearly Gates, Heavenly Blue, Scarlett O'Hara, Carnival of Venice
Pretzel Bean
Red Noodle Bean
Spanish Flag
Sweet Potato Vine Solar Tower
Thunbergia Blue Sky

Hostas

[Find a list of this year's specialty hostas in the April Garden Spray.](#)

Blast
Pansy Cool Wave Raspberry
Ptilotus Joey
Pulmonaria Raspberry Splash
Salvia May Night
Scabiosa Mongolian Mist
Sedum: Little Miss Sunshine, Pure Joy
Sweet Pea Red Pearl

Native Plants

Blue Gramma Grass
Blue Wild Indigo
Butterfly Weed
Common Oak Sedge Grass
Early Meadow Rue
Foxglove Beard Tongue
Indian Grass
Jacobs Ladder
Lady Fern
Maidenhair Fern
New England Aster
Northern Dropseed Grass
Orange Coneflower
Pale Purple Coneflower
Prairie Blazing Star
Prairie Smoke
Rue Anemone
Swamp Milkweed
Virginia Blue Bells
Wild Blue Phlox
Wild Geranium
Wild Ginger
Wild Petunia

Herbs & Vegetables

African Blue Basil
Chive
Combination Herb Containers of Marjoram, Sage, Garlic Chives, Parsley, African Blue Basil, Thyme, Basil
Dwarf Basil
Golden Oregano
Indian Mint
Mint Mojito
Peppers: California Wonder, Jalapeno
Stevia
Thyme Silver Queen
Tomatoes: Brandy Wine, Early Girl, Sungold, Sweet 100, Roma
Trailing Rosemary

due to crop failure or unavailability.

Many club members (including from the Plant Sale, Native & Shade Garden, and Marketing and Publicity Committees) have been working beforehand to make this a fantastic plant sale. Come join us, support your club and get your hands on some fun, great, interesting plants.

See you at the sale.

-- Gary Geister

HELP PROMOTE THE PLANT SALE

The Plant Sale is almost here! We ask our members to please help advertise this major club event. In addition to word-of-mouth, here's how you can help:

- Forward the Plant Sale emails, including the [Plant Sale Flyer](#), to your family, friends, neighbors, co-workers, etc.
- Print the flyer and post it on bulletin boards at your local grocery stores, garden centers, libraries, etc. (Please ask the business' permission prior to posting.)
- Share the flyer on your Facebook page
- Post the flyer in the "Events" area on NextDoor.

Plant Sale Yard Signs will be in place beginning Wednesday, May 2. If you know of major intersections that would be ideal for a sign, please email [Becky DeLaCruz](#) or call (727) 644-0176.

-- Becky DeLaCruz



From the President

Mary Barsness

Let's hope the May weather will be better for gardening than our record-breaking snowy April. Like you, I'm anxious to get outside .

The flowers for May are the lily of the valley and the hawthorn plant. These two are quite a contrast: the lily of the valley is a perennial with bell-shaped flowers and a beautiful scent while the hawthorn is a tree with thorns.



The lily of the valley (*Convallaria majalis*) is a sweetly scented, highly poisonous woodland flowering plant native throughout the cool, temperate Northern Hemisphere. Other names include May bells, Our Lady's tears, and Mary's tears. Its French name, muguet, sometimes appears in the names of perfumes that imitate the flower's scent. Legend has it when Eve was kicked out of the

Garden of Eden, where her tears fell, lily of the valley bloomed. The Victorians chose it to represent May because of its delicate scent and curving stems and associated it with vitality and peace. Since this flower doesn't emerge from the ground until all threats of frost and snow are over, it is also considered a sign that happiness is here to stay.

Hawthorn (*Crataegus*) from the Greek *kratos* (strength) and *akis* (sharp) is a large genus of shrubs and trees in the family Rosaceae, native to temperate regions of the Northern Hemisphere. The hawthorn represents hope and supreme happiness. The blossom is similar to both cherry and dogwood blossoms. After the flower drops, small red fruits called haws develop to feed birds and animals. According to the Celts, the hawthorn is full of symbolism dealing with duality and balance. Although the blooms are gorgeous, bringing a cut branch into the home is said to be a bad omen. A cut branch gives off a smell similar to decaying flesh! This is quite a contrast to the smell of its beautiful blossoms. It is the symbol of the union of opposites, which is apparent in the beautiful blossoms surrounded by sharp thorns.



Cheers to a happy gardening season.
Mary

2018 Flower, Food & Foto Show

Judy Berglund, Chair

2018 Food, Flower & Foto Show
Saturday, August 18 & Sunday, August 19
Minnesota Landscape Arboretum

We hope all club members will consider bringing a few of their favorite flowers and



vegetables to this year's show. [The general rules are on the club website](#) along with the entry classes including the floral design classes that we hope many of you will try this year. There is



also an example of how to fill out your entry tags. You can also pick up one of the green FFF Show booklets at our regular club meeting Tuesday, June 12.

The annual sunflower is our featured flower and may be exhibited as 3 small uniform blooms (under 3"), 1 medium bloom (3 to 6"), or 1 large bloom (over 6"). Onions are our featured vegetable, which may be exhibit as 3 that are uniform in size, color, and quality and thoroughly cured. Small basal roots should be left intact but trimmed to a uniform ½." Trim dried, twisted tops to a uniform length of 1 to 2."

We encourage everyone to get on the bandwagon and enjoy the fun and camaraderie of showing off the best of the best of what we all enjoy: gardening.

Photography Committee

Lloyd Wittstock, Chair

TIPS ON CHOOSING PHOTOS FOR THE FFF PHOTO CONTEST

For examples of winning contest photos, see the [2017 Photo Show](#) winners on the club website. You'll see everything from tulip fields at Keukenhof Gardens to exotic hats at our 75th anniversary gathering. Find ideas and techniques to help you choose your entries for this year's contests.

Open to everyone: The Juried Contest

[Complete rules are available online.](#) Briefly, each contestant can submit up to 20 digital images (no more than three in any one category). Send your labeled files (see rules) to: lwmpis@centurylink.net, or mail a CD-ROM or flash drive to: Lloyd Wittstock, 91319th Avenue SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414 by July 31. Anyone, club member or not, can enter this portion of the contest.

Open to club members only: The People's Choice

For examples of winners in this contest, you can view the [People's Choice winners](#) for the last four years. Big, colorful and bold compositions do well here. Mail up to three

5 x 7" prints to the address above. Winners are chosen by ballot at the FFF show.

Prizes are minimal but a source of satisfaction. We welcome your choicest, most inspired photos, so click away.

-- Chuck Carlson, Andy Marlow, Lloyd Wittstock, and the Photo Committee

Lyndale Park Gardens/Mixed Border Garden

Kay Wolf, Chair

The Lyndale Park Mixed Border Committee will be busy planting annuals on Tuesday, May 22. We expect a delivery of 250 annuals for the mixed border area and 575 for Tim Rosener's "carpet bed."

We wish everyone happy planting!

Lyndale Garden/Native & Shade Garden

Kirky Otto, Carol Schreier, Co-chairs

If you have Wednesday mornings open (even occasionally) and are interested in native plants or shade plants, drop in any time from 8:30 till 11 a.m. at Lyndale Park near Lake Harriet. You'll find us across the street from the Rose Gardens and near the Peace Garden. Unless the weather cancels us, a group of eight to a dozen enthusiastic gardeners from the MWGCM meet to plant, weed, learn, design, dream and have a bite to eat during the break.

This year co-chair Carol Schreier and Mary Helebrant will direct shade garden work. They plan to begin at 8-8:30 a.m. each Wednesday. Judy Berglund will direct work in the native garden starting about 9:30.

New projects this year include trying out the "Chelsea Chop" method of pruning tall native plants so that they bloom longer and flop less. We also plan to learn more about native bee habitat, so we can maintain the Bee Hotel placed along the path as an Eagle Scout project, and prune hollow-stemmed plants (Joe Pye weed) and pithy ones to provide nesting places for solitary, tube-dwelling bees, which are not aggressive.

Our group has a lot of fun working and learning together. If you'd like to be notified of our activities, email co-chair



In the off season we keep busy with events like attending the Bachman's Flower Show...

[Kirky Otto](#) to be added to the contact list. You can have your name taken off the list the same way -- no commitments need to be made.

We looking forward to seeing you in the gardens.

-- Kirky Otto & Nancy Felice (photos)



...and making bench cards for the plant sale at our monthly coffee meetings.

Marketing & Publicity Committee

Becky DeLaCruz, Chair

On April 7, the MWGCM had a vendor table at Dundee Nursery's Annual Spring Expo. Although the weather did not cooperate, there was a great turnout for Bob Olson and Andy Marlow's "Everything Hostas" presentation and Judy Berglund's "Small Space Gardening for Veggies" presentation.

We will be the solo vendor at Sunnyside Gardens in Linden Hills on Saturday, June 9. We plan to offer seminars/presentations throughout the day. All MWGCM members are encouraged share your special gardening expertise with Sunnyside's customers. Please email [Becky DeLaCruz](#) or call (727) 644-0176 if you would be willing to be a presenter at this event. Other details TBD.

Challenges of the Geister Greenhouse 2018

This year the greenhouse endured record-breaking cold temperatures losing some plants to below freezing temperatures even though I had a heater working in the greenhouse. Then after the first April storm, the sun was out with a fresh 1/2 foot of snow. Around 11 a.m. I thought I should check the greenhouse to make sure it wasn't too hot. I should have check earlier because it was 120 degrees (maybe hotter since that's as high as the thermometer goes). Fortunately the plants handle the heat better than the bone-chilling cold. You can literally say these plants have been hardened off. If they can survive the Geister Greenhouse, with a little bit of tender care they should flourish in your garden or container.

After 15 inches of snow on April 14 and 15, I shoveled off the greenhouse roof so it did not cave in, and I had to shovel to get to and out of the greenhouse. It was only appropriate during this blizzard to be transplanting a hosta called 'Winter Snow.'

Now that the inclement weather is behind us, I'm dealing with furry critters. Last week I noticed a few leaves on the greenhouse floor. No big deal until I came upon a flat of brunnera that was half chewed off. Upon closer inspection I found a mouse nest among the heuchera. Took care of that problem.

Next episode: I had a woodchuck that had two flats of sweet potato vine plants and a flat of 'Easter Egg' eggplant for lunch. Nothing left. Took care of that problem.
Final episode: the heuchera, 'Cherry Brandy,' rudbeckia, 'Night Sky' and 'Pink Sky' petunia and the craspedia have been chewed. The culprit, a rabbit, is still at large.

Enough whining. Even though I have lost some plants to the weather and critters there is still a boatload of plants coming to the sale.

-- Gary Geister

Membership Corner

Kathy Lenarz, Chair

So much is happening with spring (finally) and MWGCM, including new members! Please welcome:

MUR KLINGNER

Mur learned about MWGCM through her friend and co-worker Andra Hall. Having lived in a townhouse for about 25 years, she has developed skills in container gardening. On her 18 x 25' deck, she has had up to 45 pots, but now limits it to 15 to 20. She grows annuals, perennials, veggies and herbs.

In addition to gardening, Mur is interested in art. She is currently taking art history classes at North Hennepin Community College, and hopes to become a docent at the Minneapolis Institute of Art.

Mur and Andra have often talked about taking a trip to England. Now that Mur is retired, the big trip is being planned for spring of 2019. In addition to touring Highclere Castle ("the real Downton Abbey"), they are planning to see the Chelsea Flower Show. Mur hopes that being a member of MWGCM will help her brush up on all her flowering plant names.

SHARRI HARMEL

Sharri discovered MWGCM through everyone's friend, Google Search. She grew up

in Southwest Minneapolis, and recently moved back to the state after 15 years in Boston. While there, she worked in career counseling for institutions of higher education (including MIT and Northeastern) before starting her own business. She now works in career coaching primarily with millennials, and mostly over the phone or online. The big priority for moving back to Minnesota is being able to spend time with her five grandchildren, who range in age from 4 to 12 years.

Sharri has purchased a new home, which is undergoing major renovations. With heavy equipment and work crews stomping through the yard until November, now is her time for planning the 2019 garden. She hopes that as a member of the MWGCM she will be inspired with lots of ideas and knowledge about gardening in the Minnesota climate.

Also a previous member, Mary Lee Hanson, has rejoined. Two other new members, Tracy Sanders and Beth Ann Nylander, will be introduced in the next *Garden Spray*.

Every member bring a member.

In Memoriam

MARION CARLSON



We extend our condolences to Chuck Carlson on the death of Marion Carlson, his wife of 59 years, who passed away on March 27. Chuck was the club's Rookie of the Year in 1989, and Marion was at his side for many club events through the years until health problems kept her home. Chuck was Marion's full-time caregiver for the past few years, so we haven't seen him often, but he and Marion have been in our thoughts. Rest well, Marion. We hope to see you soon, Chuck.

-- Mary Maynard & Lloyd Wittstock (photo)

AS OF APRIL 25, 2018

Checking Balance	\$ 27,431
Designated Funds	
Lyndale Park/Mixed Border Garden	\$ 1,551
Scholarship	\$ 4,413
Deane Fund at RCU	\$ 62,088
Working Balance	\$ 21,467
Petty Cash	\$ 100
MWGCM 19-month CD at US Bank	\$ 5,385

Meeting & Event Calendar

May 8

Annual Plant Sale
St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church

June 12

Jan Welsh: Butterfly Bootcamp:
Gardening to Attract Butterflies
Lakewood Cemetery Mausoleum

July

Garden Tours TBA

August 18 & 19

Flower, Food & Foto Show

September 11

Barbara Ronningen: Overwintering
Ornamental Plants
Lakewood Cemetery Mausoleum

October 9

Fiona Lennox: Native Plants
Lakewood Cemetery Mausoleum

November 13

Mary Meyer: Minnesota Landscape
Arboretum Grasses
Lake Harriet United Methodist Church

December 11

2018 Officers & Directors

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