

MEN'S & WOMEN'S



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# GARDEN CLUB

## OF MINNEAPOLIS

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## Plant Sale Committee

Gary Geister, Chair

### **ONLY DAYS AWAY! THE ANNUAL MWGCM PLANT SALE**

**Tuesday, May 7**  
**Noon - 6:30 p.m.**

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

#### **Things to know:**

**One-time 25% discount for members.** Members will be able to get 25% off plant purchases one time only anytime during the sale. Make sure you have all the plants you would like before you check out.

**Holding area for club member purchases.** We will have a designated holding area to put your plants until you are ready to check out. Make sure you put your plants in this area or they might possibly be resold.

**4-packs annuals.** Mary Maynard is nervous because she ordered many 4-pack bedding plants. They will be competitively priced, so plan to shop for your marigolds, snap dragons and other fun annuals first.

**Containers and baskets.** We will have more ready-made containers and baskets of shade- or sun-loving plants, a large selection of containers bearing succulents plus containers of a variety of herbs. Great choices for Mother's Day.

**Popular plants from past years.** Instead of a pre-order sale, Mary has compiled a list of most-ordered plants from previous years and we have many coming from Chastek's Greenhouse and Rush Creek Growers (also a supplier for the Friends sale). Plants will be delivered directly to the church Monday, May 6 as will native plants from Glacial Ridge Growers.

**New plants.** Again this year we will have a large number of plants new to the sale and new ones out on the market.

**Reminder:** We will open an hour earlier than last year, and there will be no dinner or meeting.

### You can still help:

**Tables** If you have a 5 - 6' long rectangular "craft" table we can borrow for the sale, please email [Gary Geister](#) or call him at (651) 683-9136.

**Volunteers** are still needed to assist on the day of the sale in various roles. Please email [Mary Maynard](#) or call her at (952) 926-7506, if you can provide assistance.

**Post copies** of the [plant sale flyer](#) in your neighborhood, at your workplace (if allowed), and anywhere gardeners hang out.

### PLANTS OF NOTE



2019 Perennial of the Year, *Stachys Monieri Hummelo*  
A pollinator plant that blooms most of the summer when deadheaded. Normal to sandy soil. Also deer-resistant.

#### Colocasia Coffee Cups

Featured in the May-June *Northern Gardener*. Large green leaves with nearly black stems. Use in a container with no drainage, in a water garden or in the garden using lots of water and fertilizer.



#### Zinnias

Choose from a variety of zinnias, the 2019 FFF flower of the year. Great for attracting butterflies and bees



Back by popular demand, 'Night Sky' and 'Pink Sky' petunias are joined by 'Starry Sky Burgundy.'

2019 Hosta of the Year, Lakeside Paisley Print (Featured in the April Garden Spray.)

Native Plants The native Plant Committee has chosen a large



variety of natives--past favorites and some new ones

As requested, more vegetables have been added.

[View or download the complete plant list.](#)

*Every effort has been made to provide an accurate list but due to crop failure or unavailability the final selection may vary.*

Members of the Plant Sale, Native and Shade Garden, and Marketing and Publicity committees plus many other volunteers have been working to make this another great sale. Come support your club. Please mention this sale to friends, co-workers, relatives, neighbors, plant lovers and total strangers who you happen to strike up a conversation with. There will be more plants than ever this year. See you there!

-- Gary Geister, Mary Maynard, Becky DeLaCruz

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## Volunteer Opportunities

### **VOLUNTEERING IN PUBLIC GARDENS**

The MWGCM community service projects are gearing up for the planting season. It's a great way to learn about new plants or learn new gardening skills. And what a joy to work with fun-loving garden club friends.

Here is a list of members who lead these projects and their proposed garden work day schedules. Contact them for more information or to offer your help.

[Kay Wolfe](#), Lyndale Park Mixed Border  
Work days: Tuesday and Saturday morning

[Kirky Otto](#) and [Carol Schreier](#), Lyndale Park Native & Shade Garden  
Work day: Wednesday morning

[Robert Kean](#), Lyndale Park Winter Interest Border and Arbor Day

[Paul Waytz](#), Lake Harriet Garden (Deane Fund Grant)  
Ground prep in April and planting in May. Probably Saturdays.

[Steve Shubick](#), Veterans Home Garden (Deane Fund Grant)

Let's share our gardening gifts with our community.

-- Kay Wolfe

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## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR MWGCM TABLE AT FRIENDS SCHOOL PLANT SALE, FRIDAY & SATURDAY, MAY 10 & 11**

The MWGCM will have an exhibition table at the Friends School Plant Sale to promote our club's July 20 Public Garden Tour. We need of a few more volunteers to staff our table in the Garden Fair area. Responsibilities include passing out "save-the-date" cards for the tour, selling tickets for the tour and general promotion of our club.

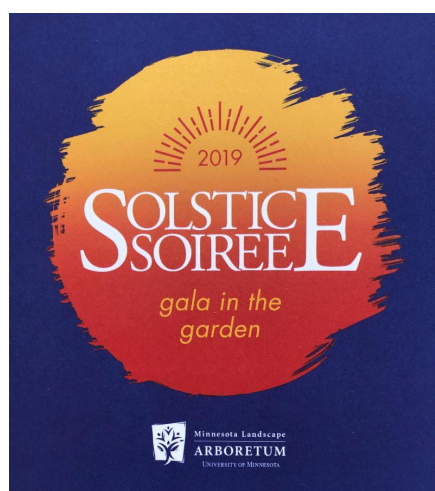
Volunteers will be able to shop during the pre-sale Thursday evening, May 9 from 6 to 9 p.m. and any time during the public hours Friday and Saturday. Email [Becky DeLaCruz](#) or call (727) 644-0176, if you would be willing to take part in this event.

-- Becky DeLaCruz

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## Minnesota Landscape Arboretum "Solstice Soiree: Gala in the Gardens"

### **ANNUAL ARBORETUM GALA TO HONOR MWGCM**



On Thursday, June 20, the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum will celebrate the longest day of the year by hosting the "Solstice Soiree: Gala in the Gardens." This is the Arboretum's major annual fundraiser and will include a reception, dinner, program hosted by Belinda Jensen from Kare 11, silent auction and after party. (A separate Patron Party will be held May 9.) The Men's and Women's Garden Club of Minneapolis will be honored guests, as our club was instrumental in establishing the Arboretum.

In 1956, the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis approached the Minnesota State Horticultural Society with an idea for an arboretum. An option was taken on 160 acres of land near the U of M Fruit Breeding Farm, west of the Twin Cities. As a gift from the Minnetonka Garden Club, the land was purchased in 1958, and given to the

University. Today, the Arboretum is more than 1,200 acres of gardens, tree collections, prairie and woods. Many members of the MWGCM are Arboretum members and/or volunteer their services at the Arboretum. Every August, the Arboretum co-hosts the MWGCM Flower, Food and Foto Show in the Snyder Building.

For more information visit "[Solstice Soiree: Gala in the Gardens.](#)" [Individual tickets may also be purchased online.](#)

-- *Becky DeLaCruz*

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## Tour Committee

Robert Kean, Chair

### **PUBLIC TOUR OF SEVEN GARDENS SET FOR SATURDAY, JULY 20**

The Tour Committee is pleased to announce that the garden list is finalized for this year's public tour. Since the last announcement, we have added a "bonus" garden, so there will now be seven gardens on the bus and self-drive tours.

Tickets for the bus tour will be \$35, which includes lunch and bottled water. For the self-drive tour, tickets will be \$15 in advance, \$20 on the day of the tour. Proceeds will be dedicated to the MWGCM Scholarship Fund.

Ticket sales will begin May 7, with a table at our Annual Plant Sale. Also, look for the MWGCM table at the Friends School Plant Sale Garden Fair on Friday and Saturday, May 10 and 11. We will be promoting the tour and selling tickets there also. Additional details will be published in the June and July *Garden Spray* and on the club website.

Also, mark your calendar for our Club Progressive Tour the evening of Tuesday, June 25. We will visit two member gardens in St. Paul for an evening of food, drink, socializing, and (of course) touring gardens. Details and registration information will be published in the June *Spray*. This event is open to MWGCM members and their guests.

-- *Robert Kean, Becky DeLaCruz*

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## Flower, Food & Foto Show

Judy Berglund, Chair

## 2019 FFF SHOW AUGUST 10 & 11 AT THE MINNESOTA LANDSCAPE ARBORTEUM



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 all of the entry classes including the floral design classes that we hope many of you will try. There is also an example of how to fill out your entry tags. If websites are not your thing, please pick up a lavender FFF Show booklet at our June 11 meeting.

Our featured flower is the zinnia, which may be exhibited as three small uniform blooms (0.5 to 2"), one medium bloom (2.5 to 4") or one giant bloom (over 4").

Beets are our featured vegetable, which may be exhibit as three that are uniform in size, color, and quality. Tops should be trimmed off to 1½ - 2" above the crown. Side roots should be carefully trimmed off but not the tap root. Trim tap root to 2." Beets may be carefully washed but not scrubbed so that outer skin is injured.

You will find many new and exciting zinnias at our Annual Plant Sale. We encourage everyone to get on the bandwagon and enjoy the fun and camaraderie of showing off the best of what we all enjoy--gardening!

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## Lyndale Park Gardens/Mixed Border Garden

Kay Wolfe, Chair

### MEMORIAL PLANTINGS

May is the month for Memorial Day and time to remember club members who are no longer with us. At the end of the 2018 planting season, our committee planted memorials to members who passed in 2017 and 2018.

### BOB REDMOND

Bob, a longtime member of the MGCM Perennial Trial Garden and Park Garden Committee, died in 2017. In his later years, Bob could no longer work in the garden, so every Saturday he brought the treats, fresh donut holes from Cub Bakery. He took inventory of the flavors we liked best--the chocolate drizzled ones were the favorites. He also brought juice and coffee and set up his coffee pot under an old ash tree on the lawn. The ash tree was removed a few years ago. So, in Bob's memory, we planted a Kentucky coffee tree close to the spot where the old ash tree stood (too bad there is not some kind of donut-hole tree).

## **ADA HEGION**

Ada passed away in May 2018. Ada loved the park garden and was a committee member for years. After retiring, she worked on both the weekday and Saturday crews. Ada was a psychologist, and she would always say she could feel her blood pressure dropping as we gathered at the garden. In Ada's memory we planted a new variety of crab apple tree named 'Royal Raindrops.' It has deep pink blossoms and unusual serrated burgundy leaves. Ada was from Canada, and the leaves almost look like the Canadian maple leaf. It is a unique and beautiful tree--just like Ada--a unique and beautiful person.

## **MARION CARLSON**

Chuck Carlson lost his wife Marion last year also. Chuck was one of the founding members of the MGCM Perennial Trial project. In Marion's memory we planted a redbud in the back of the garden in the shade of the old trees. Under the redbud I planted some tating fern. In the 1990's I was on the MGCM Board with Chuck, and we took turns meeting at each other's homes. Marion was so lively--always with a twinkle in her eye--standing to the side watching us all. Her memorial tree is in a perfect location watching from the back of the garden. Her home was filled with many crafted items that she made, so I thought the tating ferns were perfect.

Thank you to all who donated memorials to the Lyndale Park Garden Fund enabling us to plant memorials in honor of these colleagues and friends. We miss them all.

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## **Lyndale Park Gardens/Native & Shade Gardens**

Kirky Otto, Carol Schreier, Co-chairs

## **WORK IN THE GARDENS HAS BEGUN**

Our work in the Native and Shade Gardens at Lyndale Park began with a survey of the gardens on April 24 and continues on our first official workday, May 1. In the shade garden, Carol Schreier and Mary Helebrant have plans to clean up debris from last year. They will also plan future development and planting in the first couple weeks.

Judy Berglund also plans to have the group clean up winter debris in the native garden, tuck in plant labels near new plants so that people can learn their names, and cut down tall stems and grasses for the coming season.

The two sides to the garden are separated by a



foot path which starts at the front edge of the bed and runs behind the main beds toward the west, and is covered with wood chips applied by Boy Scout troops. One focal point is a "bee hotel" built by an Eagle Scout. It provides nesting sites for native bees.



Hollow stems which may harbor insect larva waiting to mature into pollinating insects will be bundled and stacked in an out-of-the-way corner of the gardens. This will allow the insects to break out of their stems when the weather is appropriate. Stems can be cut nearly to the ground and handled carefully so that resident insects are not disturbed before they're ready to hatch into the world.

*The Geum triflorum (Prairie Smoke) edging the native garden had only a single blossom open on the first day of garden work, April 24, but each of the clumps will look like this soon.*

Stop any Wednesday morning, 9 -11 a.m, to view the gardens located behind two huge white pine trees on the north edge of Lyndale Park's border gardens. The garden backs up to Lakewood Cemetery. You'll see 6 to 10 club members working, chatting, and having great fun there.

-- Kirky Otto

**Save the Date:** "An Evening in the Garden" Wednesday, August 21, 6 p.m. and following. View the gardens which run from King's Highway toward the Peace Garden, and hear from club members who work in them about plants and plans. More details to come.

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## Deane Fund Grants

### UPDATE ON "THE HUMPS"

Before too long the eyesore near the Lake Harriet bandstand will be transformed into a much more esthetically appealing area. A wonderful plan including shrubs, evergreens, grasses, and perennials has been developed, and we now await the Park Board doing a little superficial tilling. Once



this occurs, and the weather cooperates, a cadre of volunteers will do some hardcore digging, planting, and watering in hopes of getting things in as quickly as possible. Prior to now, we've referred to the area as "the humps" but stay tuned for a more appropriate name and image.

-- Paul Waytz

## Marketing & Publicity Committee

Becky DeLaCruz, Chair

### MWGCM MEMBERS FEATURED AT DUNDEE NURSERY SPRING KICK-OFF



Five MWGCM mentor gardeners shared their expertise with customers at Dundee Nursery's annual Spring Kick-off April 13.

Judy Berglund shared her love of veggie gardening by presenting "How to Grow Veggies in Small Spaces."

Andy Marlow and Steve Shubick provided an in-depth presentation of "Everything You Need to Know about Hostas."



M.T. Pulley demoed a three-step process for "Composting" that intrigued the audience.

Larry Larson's segment on "All-things Dahlias" included photos of his award-winning specimens.



Each presentation was attended by 15-20 customers hoping to increase their horticultural knowledge.

Kathy Lenarz manned our exhibit table in the greenhouse receiving quite a bit of interest from potential members.



# Membership Corner

Kathy Lenarz, Chair

Our membership grew again in April, with new members **Denis Bakke**, **Patricia Rae Gerber**, and **Susan Kennedy**. Full introductions will be coming in the near future. Also, **Zan Tomko**, a previous member, has renewed her membership.

## WELCOME PHOENIX HELLER

Phoenix joined MWGCM in February. She and her husband, Oz, moved here from the Chicago area last fall. Currently renting in South Minneapolis, she has their landlord's permission to utilize the yard, so she is looking forward to trying out some vegetables, herbs, and ornamentals.

She grew up in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, and first learned about the joy of gardening from her parents. When she was young, they had fresh honey from their own bees who fed on their own flowers. How sweet is that!

Phoenix lived in the Chicago area for the last 15 years working in marketing and graphic design. When she got rather burned out, she followed her passion for environmental problem solving, and now works from home as a customer service rep for a recycling company helping run routes and set up services. She once interned at an aquaponics firm. She is always eager to learn and looks forward to expanding her gardening skills to our growing zone.

Join me in welcoming all our new members. We are pleased to have you with us.

*-- Every member bring a member. --*

## Treasurer's Snapshot

Alan Gallaher, Bill Clark, Co-treasurers

### AS OF APRIL 25, 2019

<b>Checking Balance</b>	<b>\$ 55,223</b>
<b>Designated Funds</b>	
Lyndale Park/Mixed Border Garden	\$ 2,286
Scholarship	\$ 3,691
Deane Fund at RCU	\$ 59,113

<b>Working Balance</b>	<b>\$ 49,246</b>
<b>Petty Cash</b>	<b>\$ 100</b>
<b>MWGCM 19-month CD at US Bank</b>	<b>\$ 5,481</b>

## 2019 Meeting & Event Calendar

### **May 7**

Annual Plant Sale  
St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church

### **June 11**

Lilacs in Minnesota  
Peter Moe  
Lakewood Cemetery Mausoleum

### **July 25**

Club Progressive Tour

### **July 20**

Public Tour of 7 Gardens

### **August 10 & 11**

Flower, Food & Foto Show  
Minnesota Landscape Arboretum

### **August 21**

An Evening in the Garden  
Lyndale Park Gardens (Lake Harriet)

### **September 10**

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

### **Club Officers**

**President**

### **Directors**

John Cooke

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Minneapolis

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Linda Wilkins  
Richfield

**Membership Secretary**

Kathy Lenarz  
Richfield

**Recording Secretary**

Sue Clark  
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**Co-treasurers**

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Bill Clark  
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**Past President**

Mary Barsness  
Prior Lake

St. Louis Park

Suzanne Holt  
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Minneapolis

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