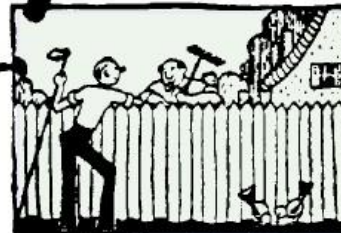




The Garden Spray

Bulletin of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc

2011, Volume 69, Number 9



Upcoming Events

Date	Location	Event
Sept 13	LHC	Moonlight Gardens <i>Shirley Mah Kooyman</i>
Oct 11	LHC	Apples (Talk, Tasting) <i>Larry Enter</i>
Nov 15	LHC	Winter Containers <i>Duane Otto</i>
Dec 13	LHC	Holiday Party

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

September Dinner Menu

Yankee Pot Roast
Garlic Mashed Potatoes
Strawberry Romaine Salad
Carrots
Biscuits
Brownies

Note: Permanent reservations are in effect. Dinner is \$12.

Reservations or cancellations are required by Friday, Sept. 9 – **no later!** Call or e-mail Carole Ann Brekke (952-435-6029, numsix24@comcast.net) for your reservation or cancellation. For last minute cancellations, call Andy Marlow at 952-933-5759. If he can sell it, you won't be billed.

September Program

The Moonlight Garden: Creating a Luminous Landscape

Shirley Mah Kooyman

Gain additional appreciation and enjoyment from your garden long after the sun has set. An evening moonlight garden is more than white flowers. Learn how texture, form, color, and variegation of leaves can add a special shimmer to the evening garden and help brighten a dark corner of the garden.

Shirley Mah Kooyman is a botanist with a specialty in plant taxonomy (plant names and identification), award-winning teacher, plant information specialist, and Vice-President of the MN Native Plant Society as well as Vice-President of The Wild Ones-Twin Cities Chapter.

In February 2009 she received the Bruce Beresford Horticulture Educators Award from the MN State Horticultural Society. She worked at the Arboretum for 25 years and was the Adult Education Manager there for 2 decades.

She has lectured on numerous botanical and horticultural topics for the University of Minnesota's Compleat Scholar program, Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Master Gardener programs, local community education program, Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden, the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, and the MN State Horticultural Society. She has traveled widely around the world to study the area's local flora and garden designs.



Notes from the Prez:

-- Kay Wolfe

The **August Club Tour** was great—a beautiful summer day. Thanks so much to M.T. Pulley, who was the only club member on the tour. And he hosted the supper too, and arranged for music while we dined—a very enjoyable end to a delightful day. The other gardens were great to see also. Thanks to the Tour Committee for their hard work organizing the event.

Thanks to the MGCM FaceBook page (Andy's effort), I see that the ladies of the club ran off with all of the big **FFF Trophies!** Congrats to Mary Maynard, Judy Berglund, and Denise Rust! And thanks to the committee for a great show.

September is coming fast. Our **September club meeting** is the first fall meeting back at Lake Harriet Church, and the Moonlight Garden program sounds very intriguing. Let's focus on new members for September! Everyone is to **BRING A GUEST** to the September meeting. And the Hat Theme is "Club Hats"!! Buy an MGCM hat from Sharla, our membership secretary, or wear a "historic"--not old--one. Or wear a hat that has MGCM significance. Some hats from the days when there was a Parade of Real Turkeys??!! Wow!

We will have a **new caterer for the September meeting**. After some arm twisting on my part, Judy Brooke, Bob Olson, and Lynda Carlson offered to find new caterers for us. They have been busy doing phone research, tasting food at farmer's markets, and having meetings (at Perkins where they can brainstorm while eating, of course.)

Mark Heder who owns "A la Carte Catering" has agreed to serve the September meal. Be nice to him, and maybe he will stay on! And give your thanks and feedback to Bob, Judy, and Lynda—our "Catering Committee"!

The club members continue to **set up the room for the dinner meetings**. If you get there in advance, please offer to help. We put up the tables and chairs, and set the tables with placemats and flatware. Check to see if the beverage table is ready. The job of the caterer is to focus on the food, not room set-up. Chairs and tables are taken down and put away after the meeting, and we take out the garbage. Leave the campground in a better condition than you found it—if the Boy Scouts can do it, so can MGCM. Thanks to Sharla who heads the Hospitality Committee and this effort.

The **Minnesota Horticultural Society** is having their **Fall District/Garden Club Meeting** on Saturday, October 15. The main meeting topic will be "Growing Your Garden Club; Maintain and Increase Membership," presented by MaryDon Beeson, the Treasurer of the Garden Club of Ramsey County. Is anyone interested in attending? Let me know—there is an RSVP date of October 11. They are also having an exhibiting and judging school, and a demonstration on fall decorating. If you want more information, contact me. I will send out the MSHS flyer via MGCM Email.

And a last hurrah—the **MGCM Lyndale Park Gardens** are in their late summer glory. Go take a walk in the park! Thanks to the Park Garden Committee who creates and maintains the garden.

Photos taken on August 16 are on Page 10.



Editor's Note

-- Mary Maynard

We have a full issue this month, with photos from our August Tour (thanks to M.T. Pulley and the tour committee for another fine tour) and photos and results from the FFF Show. I enjoyed both of these events very much! We also have more information about Japanese beetles from a Charter member of the MGCM Auxiliary. I wouldn't have expected Japanese beetles to be featured in *The Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, but what, after all, do I

know? That's one of the benefits of membership in MGCM. There's always something new to learn!

Coming in October: Apples with Larry Enter

Our October meeting will focus on Apples, with a planned apple tasting and a talk on MN apples by Master gardener and orchard owner Larry Enter.

Treasurer's Snapshot

As of 8-15-11

Checking balance	\$13,132.10
CD	\$5,233.83
Designated Funds	
Memorials/Park Garden	\$1,510.47
Scholarship	<u>\$2,303.43</u>
Working Balance	\$9,318.20

Membership Corner

Welcome to New Member

Bonnie Haehn
4834 Oakland Ave. S.
Minneapolis, MN 55417
H: 612-827-3952
C: 612-850-9708
W: 952-996-3120
Bonnie.Haehn@CIGNA.com

More Membership News:

- The October and November dinner meetings will be MGCM's renewal time for 2012. The dues will be the same as last year at \$20.00.
- Because we want new members to feel welcome and we want to get to know them, those who have joined in 2011 have a small ribbon attached to their nametags. So, please watch for the ribbons and introduce yourself.
- There are two new members who joined earlier in the year. I'm sorry we don't have a photo of each of them at this time.

Steve Gorman: When he retires in a few years, Steve wants to continue to pursue his interests in horticultural activities. His specialty is landscape design. Steve's interests are landscaping, perennials, trees, shrubs, lawns, vegetables, etc. He is also a member of MNLA. His contact info is in the April Spray.

Stephan Shubick: He has been a long time member of the Minnesota Hosta Society but also wants to broaden his gardening knowledge and meet other gardeners. In addition he is a member of MSHS and the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. Stephan's specialty is hostas and his interests extend to annuals, perennials, container gardening, environmental projects, house plants, landscaping, trees, shrubs, and vegetables.

28 Wheeler Street So.

St. Paul, MN 55105

H: 651-238-1480

W: 651-696-0546

Email: spshubick@aol.com

Welcome to you both. I hope you have enjoyed the club events so far!

-Sharla Aaseng, Membership Secretary



Flower, Food and Foto Results

Photography Awards

A slideshow of all the photography winners is on our website. Go to www.minneapolisgardenclub.org and click on "Photo Show Winners"

- Best Photo in Show: Denise Rust (Swiss Chard)
- Reserve champion Photos:
 - Judy Berglund (Hosta Leaf); Gary DeGrande (Bee in Flight); Andy Marlow (Cone on Weeping Spruce)
- Photo Sweepstakes Winner: Denise Rust.



"Swiss Chard" – Denise Rust



"Hosta Leaf" – Judy Berglund



"Bee approaching Campanula" -- Gary DeGrande



"Cone on Weeping Spruce" -- Andy Marlow

Flower and Vegetable Awards

Champion Vegetable and Best of Show: Herb Container, Judy Berglund
Champion Flower: Rose 'Polonaise', Jim McKee and Don Untiedt
Reserve Champion Vegetable: Cabbage 'Bravo', Judy Berglund
Reserve Champion Flower: Coleus 'Mocha Mint', Judy Berglund
Featured Vegetable – Beets: 'Burpee Golden', Judy Berglund
Featured Flower – Asters: 'Starlight Rose', Jerry Shannon
Best First-Time Exhibitor: Steve Shubick (Welcome to MGCM and FFF, Steve!)
Vegetable Sweepstakes: Judy Berglund
Flower Sweepstakes: Mary Maynard

FFF Photos on Page 6



Geranium Juice

By Gary Opperman (Husband of Kay Wolfe)

This story begins in January as I was perusing the latest edition of *The Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. You can imagine my excitement when I came across an article titled **Rare excitatory amino acid from flowers of zonal geranium responsible for paralyzing the Japanese beetle**. This article informed me that Japanese beetles are paralyzed when they feed on geranium petals. The authors described the process they used to isolate and identify the chemical that actually caused this effect. My interest was further piqued by one sentence from the introductory section of the article. They wrote “Paralyzed beetles held under laboratory conditions typically recover after 24 h, but symptomatic beetles exposed to field conditions usually succumb to predation or desiccation.” Could this be the magic bullet to rid me of my Japanese beetle headache? Could I spray a water extract of geranium petals onto our roses and get rid of our beetle problem for good?

I set about testing this hypothesis. In the spring I obtained geraniums and informed Kay, who does not normally allow geraniums in her garden design, that we needed to grow them for my experiment. She was very accommodating, and allowed me to include five pots of geraniums in the yard. I spent the month of June collecting petals and freezing them in preparation for the coming emergence.

Meanwhile, I consulted the eminent physician, Robert Olson, on how I might best perform my research. He suggested that I adhere to the guidelines of the nutraceutical industry in performing my investigation. We decide the first step in the process was to select the experimental and control subjects for the trial. Here we are flipping a coin to initiate our randomized double blind trial. The *rosa* ‘Nearly Wild’ on the right “won” the toss.



In early July the dreaded creatures started feeding on the roses. I had ended up collecting about a half pound of petals. I threw them in a blender with a couple of cups of water and pushed puree. After a pass through a coffee filter, I put the resulting solution in a sprayer and applied it to the lucky volunteer.

In adherence to the guidelines, all evidence will be anecdotal. Why let data get in the way of a good conclusion? The following observations were made:

- 1) Your mother won’t get mad at you. The resulting beautiful red juice is very water soluble. It did not leave any stains in the kitchen. The sprayed plant looked silly but it washed off in the rain.

(Continued on next page)



Geranium Juice – Continued from Page 5

- 2) It's safe. No humans or plants appeared to be harmed by the treatment.
- 3) It works. Beetles that fed on the treated plant were clearly paralyzed. Although, the death by predation and desiccation was not apparent. I spent three days watching one beetle very slowly feed on one leaf. My interpretation was that it would feed until it became paralyzed. When it recovered it would just start feeding again. Well it sure slowed the beetle down. Do they have time to lay eggs when they are in a continual drug induced haze? Here is a picture of a paralyzed beetle on the treated rose.



After two weeks the regulatory agency overseeing the trial (that that would be Kay) decided that the results were promising enough to spray all of the roses.

FFF Scenes This Year's Flower, Food and Foto Show

Photos by Lloyd Wittstock and Judy Berglund





Website Update

by Andy Marlow, MGCM webmaster

The MGCM website has reached a milestone! As of late June we have had over 1,000 unique visitors to our homepage since the site underwent a complete make-over about a year ago. (“Unique visitors” means each visitor is counted only once no matter how many times they visit.) The vast majority of visitors (955) are from the USA. Minnesota tops the list, with more than 800 visitors. Surprisingly California (20) and Illinois (14) come next, even before Wisconsin (10). We have had visitors from 31 states in all.

Most surprising to me are the number of foreign visitors who have clicked through. People from ten nations have come by for a look. And they literally are from all over the world; from Korea to India, Saudi Arabia, Romania, the UK and Canada. You might expect that Canada would supply the most visitors, but Russia tops the list with 19 followed by Mexico with 13 and then Canada and the UK with three each.






You can check the current totals for yourself.

Go to the home page (www.minneapolismensgardenclub.org), scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on the map at the right of the page. Click on the little arrow next to the US flag to see visitors by state. Thanks to Chuck Carlson for telling me about Cluster Maps, which is the software that collects this information.

The Men’s Garden Club of Minneapolis; an organization with a global reach!

Visitors by Country as of June 30, 2011.

-  United States (US) 955
-  Mexico (MX) 13
-  United Kingdom (GB) 3
-  Romania (RO) 1
-  Saudi Arabia (SA) 1
-  Korea, Republic of (KR) 1

-  Russian Federation (RU) 19
-  Canada (CA) 3
-  India (IN) 2
-  China (CN) 1
-  Malaysia (MY) 1



Andy's Award-Winning Hosta at FFF



Another of Andy's winners



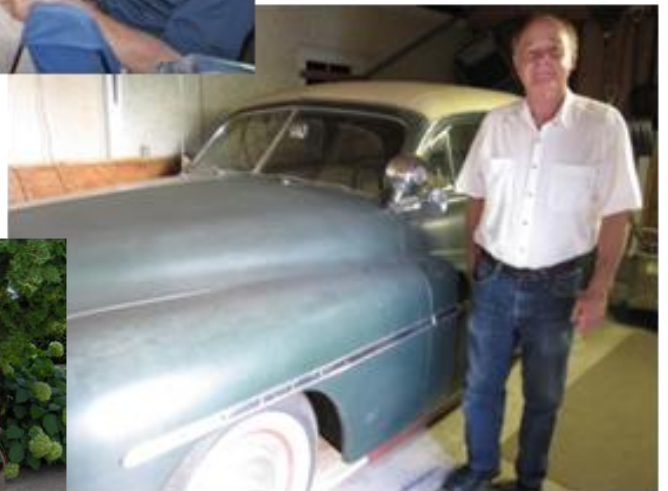
Photos from the August Tour

Photos by Chuck Carlson, Andy Marlow, Denise Rust





More Photos from the August Tour





Perennial and Trial Gardens at Lyndale Park

Photos by Kay Wolfe and Gary Opperman





Minutes of MGCM Board July 2, 2011

President Kay Wolfe called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

Membership secretary's report: Sharla reported 93 current members. Renewal applications will be available during October and November. The committee will survey new members to see if the Club has met their expectations.

Treasurer's report: Andy reported an approximate net from the May plant sale of \$3,550, the best in years. The year-to-date treasurers' report was received and filed.

President's report: Kay reminded the board that our caterers had resigned in May. They had suggested a replacement. A recommendation was made to try this person and a committee be formed to select a new permanent caterer.

Vice President's report: Programs are scheduled through December and the program committee will meet in July to complete next year's programs.

Committee reports:

- MGCM-TV: They have nearly completed segments on window boxes and vegetable planting.
- Club Tours: Tours are set for July 12 and August 7
- Arbor Day: Robert reported that they planted a weeping spruce at the Lyndale Garden.
- Lyndale Garden: Kay reported the project was going well. Small shrubs and trees have been planted

Old business:

- Growing Club: A marketing person on the board would be helpful. Now that programs are set for the year, it will be easier to get announcements in The Northern Gardener and other publications, e.g. Southwest Journal and StarTribune. It was agreed that the nominating committee should seek out a Director for 2012 who would have responsibility for seeing that Club activities are well publicized.
- Public tours: There was a discussion on whether to continue Public Tours. They are a lot of work and have become less remunerative. The President will ask the Scholarship committee to come forward with a concrete proposal for an alternative project.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Johnson, recording secretary

MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.



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Club Officers:

President: Kay Wolfe

2740 Florida Ave S, St. Louis Park

Vice President: Robert Kean

3136 James Ave. S, Minneapolis

Recording Secretary: Jan Johnson

3005 Scott Ave. N., Golden Valley

Membership Secretary: Sharla Aaseng

1025 20th Ave. SE, Minneapolis

Treasurer: Andy Marlow

10700 Minnetonka Blvd, Hopkins

Past President: Don Untiedt

12070 48th Ave. No, Plymouth

Directors:

Gary DeGrande

4100 Oakmede Lane, White Bear Twp.

Maury Lindblom

6105 Lincoln Dr. #332, Edina

Jason Rathe

116 Cedar Lake Rd. S, Mpls.

The Spray

The Garden Spray is published monthly by the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc. for its members.

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Return To:

The Garden Spray

Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc.

Mary Maynard, Editor

4375 Dart Avenue

St. Louis Park, MN 55424

First Class Mail

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