



The Garden Spray

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

2015, Volume 73, Number 9
September

Upcoming Events

Date	Location	Event
Sept. 8	LWC	Laura Schwarz, Tangletown Gardens
Oct. 13	LWC	David Zlesak, New Hardy Shrub Roses
Nov. 10	LWC	Bob Olson, Hostas
Dec. 8	TBD	Holiday Party

LWC= Lakewood Cemetery, 3600 Hennepin Ave. S,
Minneapolis

More calendar information on Page 11

Note: Permanent reservations are in effect. Dinner is \$13.

Reservations or cancellations are required by Friday, Sept. 4 – **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 Alan Gallaher at 952-933-1713. If he can sell it, you won't be billed.

Menu for September

Teriyaki Chicken and Vegetables
White Rice
Egg Rolls
Mandarin Orange Cake

September Program

Laura Schwarz: Tangletown Gardens and the Minneapolis Downtown Improvement District.

Laura is a former MWGCM Scholarship winner and is employed by Tangletown Gardens. She also writes regularly for the *Northern Gardener*.



More information on Page 3.

(Photo at last year's Holiday Party by Lloyd Wittstock)

Lyndale Park Garden Tours



Our Lyndale Park Garden is right around the corner from Lakewood Cemetery. Stop in before the formal club meeting for a tour – and some coleus cuttings.

Committee members will be on hand starting at 5:00.

More information on Page 4

Schedule for Tuesday, Sept. 8

5:00 Tour Lyndale Park Garden
6:00 Social time at Lakewood Reception Room
6:15 Dinner
7:00 Business meeting
7:30 Program

Notes from the Prez

-- Tom McKusick

The Minnesota State Fair will soon be underway, which for me always marks the approaching end of the gardening season. It also represents a lot of activity by the Minnesota State Horticultural Society, which exhibits throughout all twelve days of the Fair. This year the theme of our educational display is "Tomato Mania", and along with information about growing tomatoes and the problems one can encounter with them, we will have tomato plants grown in fabric bags on display as well. I myself have been growing ten varieties of the bag tomatoes – two of each kind – at my community garden, and over the last few months this has proved to be an interesting experiment. They are mostly heirloom varieties, selected for their unusual colors, and we hope to show fairgoers varieties of tomatoes that many of them have never seen.

When I first planted the tomatoes in the bags, a number of my fellow community gardeners expressed doubt that they would do very well. Then as the plants took off and grew big and lush and began to tower over the bags, their skepticism shifted to how I was going to get them to the fairgrounds. (In a panel van, and the bags are so light I can carry each of them myself.) All summer long I've watched their progress with cautious optimism, and later with dismay as a few of them started to show signs of blight or blossom end rot. Now, with two days left before they travel to the fair, I think I will have enough decent looking plants with fruit on them to display, and I'll bring along one or two that show problems so people can see that side of it as well. If you're going to the Fair I hope you'll stop in at the Ag/Hort building to have a look.

Editor's Note

-- Mary Maynard

I believe this year's Flower, Food and Foto Show was the best ever! It was thrilling to see so many wonderful entries come in throughout the morning. And Gary Geister was the most impressive First-Time Exhibitor in my memory. I still don't know how he got all of his exhibits back into his car after the show. His work boots planted with hens-and-chicks would have won a People's Choice Award if we had one in the flower division.

After winning the Best First-Time Exhibitor prize for flowers and vegetables last year, Mary Barsness took home the honors in photography this year. You can see her Champion photo on Page 7.

And next we come back "home" to our regular monthly meetings where we share a meal and try to learn something. I'm looking forward to Laura Schwarz's presentation. If Tangletown is managing all of the plantings in the Downtown Improvement District, that's a huge endeavor.

By the way, our President has a very cool article on tomatoes in the most recent issue of the *Northern Gardener*. I stole this photo from Tom's Facebook page. I think he'll be too busy at the State Fair to notice.



Treasurer's Snapshot

As of 8/23/2015

Checking balance	\$88,552
Designated Funds	
Lyndale Park Garden	\$ 4,152
Scholarship	<u>\$10,950</u>
Working Balance	\$ 73,450
Petty Cash	\$ 100
CD	\$ 5,260

Membership Corner

No new members to welcome this past month.

Looking forward to new members in September.

Every Member Bring a Member

September Program: Tangletown Gardens and the Minneapolis Downtown Improvement District.

– Continued from Page 1

Here's Laura's description of her presentation:

"One of Tangletown Gardens' largest clients is the Minneapolis Downtown Improvement District (DID), a non-profit entity that works to enhance the safety, commerce, and culture of a 120-block portion of downtown Minneapolis. Part of the DID's mission includes "greening," so Tangletown employees plant and maintain annual containers and perennial garden beds throughout downtown. This project includes both spring flower planting and winter greens installation, each of which involves months of planning and execution. This presentation will discuss this process, including its challenges and effects on the broader community."



Photos from www.minneapolisdid.com

Visit our Lyndale Park Garden and Take a Piece of the Garden Home with You

Mollie Dean



Come and see the Lyndale Park Garden in its summer splendor. Before the September dinner meeting at Lakewood, from 5:00 to 6:00 PM, the Lyndale Park Garden Committee will be at the garden to greet you and answer any questions.

The garden is located at the intersection of Dupont Ave S. and Roseway Road, not far from the gate into Lakewood Cemetery. The best spots for parking are 1. On Dupont Avenue South. Going north there are bays for parking. This is the closest parking to the garden. 2. Peace Garden Parking Lot. Go west on Roseway Road and turn right into the parking lot next to the Peace Garden. Pay at the automatic pay station – or use the free permit that will be emailed to all members--and then walk east to the garden. For handicapped access, please pull over on Roseway Road by the garden and let the passenger out and then the driver can park. Members of the committee can assist if necessary.

We will have coleus ready for you to cut, pot and take home. Many of you did coleus cuttings last September and we hope you over-wintered them successfully and have beautiful coleus plantings in your containers and yards this year.

We have seven new and shorter varieties available for you this year. We will again have pots, potting soil, and scissors available for you to do the cuttings to take home. We'll provide printed directions so you know what to do all winter. Members of the Lyndale Park Garden Committee will be on hand to help you identify the coleus varieties and share with you their struggles and successes. We will be happy to problem solve with you about your experiences, so you can successfully over-winter these beautiful coleus.

Try your hand at over-wintering other annuals in the garden. You can take cuttings of 'Mahogany Splendor' hibiscus and several begonias including 'Jurassic Rex' and 'Aurora.'



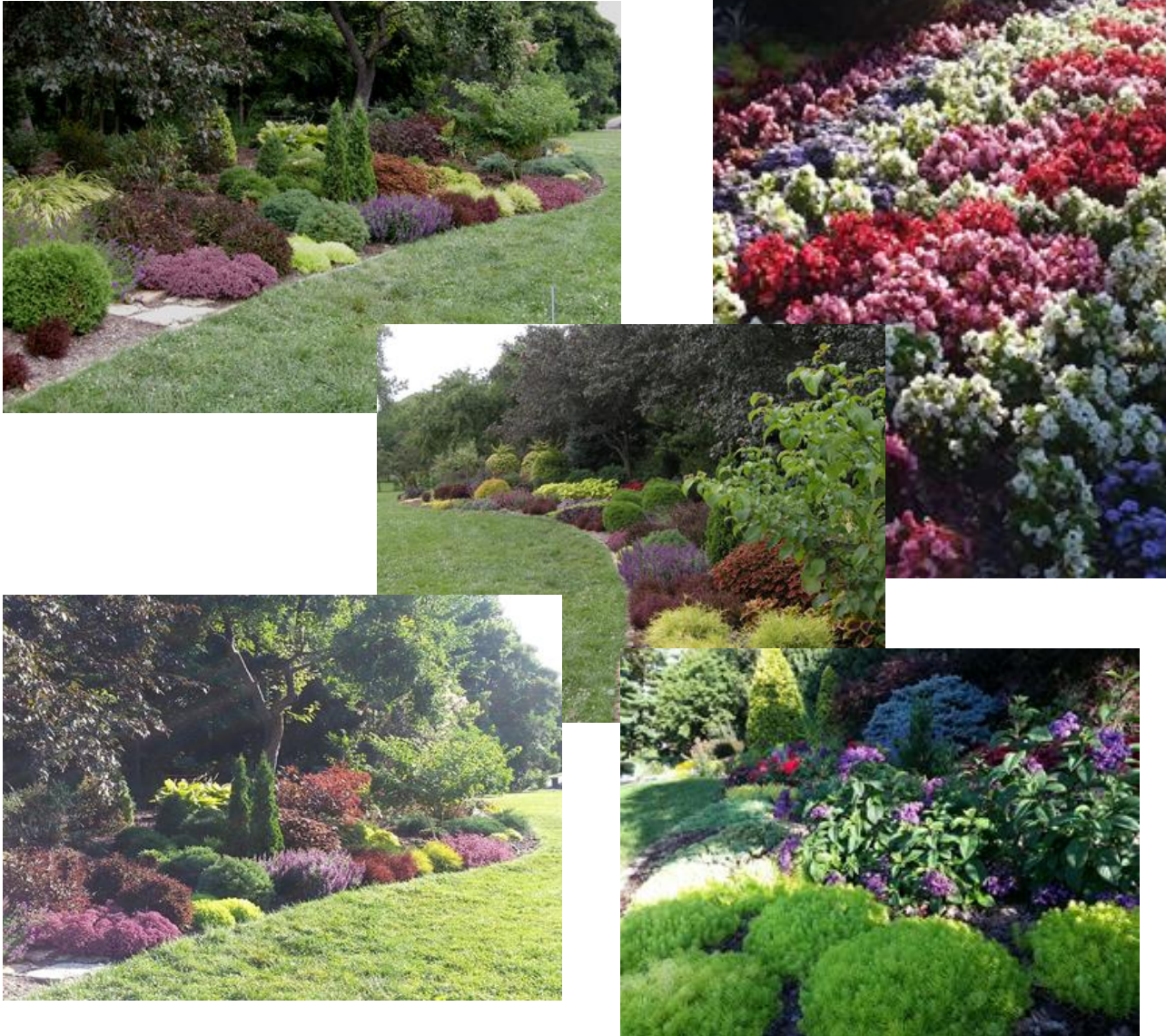
Email mgcmgarden@q.com with any questions. Or call Mollie Dean 612-825-2771 or Kay Wolfe 952-922-0762.

Photo at top left: Coleus over-wintered by Mollie Dean. Bottom right: Coleus over-wintered by Carol Schreier. Photos by Mollie and Carol.

More photos of the park garden on next page

Visit the MWGCM Border Garden before the Sept. 8 club meeting.

Here are recent photos – but it is best viewed in person! Hope to see you there!



Photos by Kay Wolfe and MPRB.

2015 FFF Show - One of Our Best Shows Ever

Judy Berglund, FFF Committee Chair

This year we had 24 exhibiting members, the most participation of any year that I have been involved with the FFF Show. Thank you to all the members who took the time to participate. I want to give a special thank you to all of the committee members who worked so hard to make the show come off seamlessly.

The judges commented several times about the high quality of the plant material exhibited at our show. Many visitors to the show were amazed at the wide variety of flowers, both annuals and perennials, on display. Visitors were amazed at Jim Dzandzara's Turkish eggplant that received "Best of Show"; they wanted to touch it to see if it was real. This year's show also had a multitude of wonderful potted plants of every variety from succulents, to a fabulous fern, to the tiniest hostas.

Thank you to all of you who brought outstanding floral designs this year. We had 26 wonderful designs in our amateur class plus 16 amazing designs in our advanced class. Visitors were impressed at the creativity and artisanship of the members floral designs.

I'm hoping to see even more of you at next year's show on August 20th and 21st, 2016. Save the dates and see you there.

Here's a summary of the big winners at FFF this year:

Champion Vegetable: Eggplant 'Turkish Orange', Jim Dzandzara

Reserve Champion Vegetable: Cucumber 'National Pickling', Judy Berglund

Featured Vegetable (Summer Squash): 'Baby Round' Zucchini, Judy Berglund

Vegetable Sweepstakes: Judy Berglund

Champion Flower: Begonia 'Whopper', David McKeen

Reserve Champion Flower: Papyrus 'King Tut', David McKeen

Featured Flower (Marigold): 'Mumsy', Judy Berglund

Flower Sweepstakes: Margaret Hibberd

Best First-Time Exhibitor: Gary Geister

Best in Show (Flower and Vegetable): Eggplant 'Turkish Orange', Jim Dzandzara



Photos by Mary Maynard. More FFF photos on Pages 9-10

Mary Barsness Cleans up in Juried Photo Contest!



Congratulations are in order! Photos by Mary Barsness won Champion Photo and one of the Reserve Champion awards. Mary also won the Sweepstakes trophy for the best overall showing in the contest. The other Reserve Champion ribbon was awarded to Mary Maynard. More information from the Photo Committee in future issues.



Top: Champion 'Pink Suspension'; Below: Reserve 'Sunflowers' by Mary Barsness and Reserve 'Morden Blush' by Mary Maynard

Summer in the Hummingbird Garden

--Kirky Otto

The Hummingbird gardeners have had a grand summer! This month's photo shows Jo Batty-George pausing for a moment among the native plants that have been planted, moved around, staked, and sometimes moved again.

True, due to earlier plantings, there are a few cultivars among the true natives, but they seem to blend and to attract pollinators very well.

A ninebark planted several years ago by those from the MWGCM working in the formal border to the east has been pruned and is looking less aggressive and more like a part of the garden.



The Chelone (turtlehead), Liatris (prairie blazingstar), Geum triflorum (prairie smoke), Asclepias (butterfly milkweed), Ruellia (wild petunia), and lots of others are taking hold and offering pollen and nectar to the bees, butterflies, and perhaps even some hummingbirds. Additional plants have been ordered to fill in some shady areas.

We invite you to stroll down to see what's going on at any time. We work most Wednesday mornings, and several of us will be present for the tour on Sept. 8 before the regular meeting, and we hope to see you there.

Photo by Kirky Otto



Photos from the FFF Show

Mary Maynard



More Photos from the FFF Show
Mary Maynard



Calendar of Events

September 8, 2015

Laura Schwarz of Tangletown Gardens
Gardening in the Minneapolis Downtown
Improvement District
Lakewood Cemetery

October 13, 2015

Roses Return: New Hardy Shrub Roses for the
North
David Zlesak
Lakewood Cemetery

November 10, 2015

Hostas
Bob Olson
Lakewood Cemetery

December 8, 2015

Holiday Party

This Month's Contributors: Thank You!

Printed Content: Judy Berglund, Judy Brooke, Mollie Dean, Alan Gallaher, Bonnie Haehn, Mary Maynard, Tom McKusick, Kirky Otto, Kay Wolfe.

Photography: Mary Barsness, Mollie Dean, Mary Maynard, Tom McKusick, Kirky Otto, Carol Schreier, Lloyd Wittstock, Kay Wolfe, Microsoft, MPRB, Minneapolis Downtown Improvement District

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



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Club Officers:

President: Tom McKusick

Minneapolis

Vice President & Membership Secretary:

Judy Brooke

Minnetonka

Recording Secretary: Laurie Levin

Golden Valley

Treasurer: Alan Gallaher

Edina

Past President: Randi Larson

Minnetonka

Directors:

Judy Berglund

Minnetonka

Bonnie Haehn

Minneapolis

David McKeen

St. Louis Park

Steve Shubick

St. Paul

The Spray

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The Garden Spray

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

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First Class Mail

***September
2015***