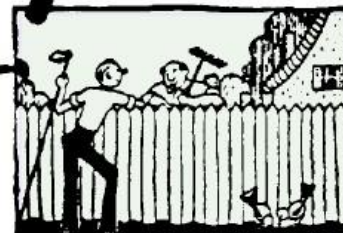




The Garden Spray

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

2011, Volume 69, Number 10



Upcoming Events



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

October Program

Minnesota Apples

Larry Enter

Apple Tasting: 6:00 to 6:30 p.m.

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

October Dinner Menu

Champagne Chicken
Wild Rice Pilaf
Tossed Salad
Green Beans
Dinner Rolls
Dessert

Larry's talk will cover the basics of growing apples in MN, including:

- Selection of apple trees
- Planting
- Pollination
- Disease and pest control,
- Pruning and Maintenance
- Top varieties.



Larry is a Master Gardener with the University of Minnesota. Larry is retired from education having been the principal at Watertown Mayer High School for 29 years.

Together with his wife, Dee, they own and operate Apple Ridge Orchard at Watertown.

Larry has also been making wine for the past 40 years. In addition to growing apples and grapes, he has a garden filled with roses, dahlias, gladiolus, perennials and a variety of trees.

When Larry is not busy with the hobby of gardening, he likes to volunteer at church with landscape maintenance and church finance/ fundraising and travel with his wife. Larry and Dee have five children and fifteen grandchildren.

Note: Permanent reservations are

in effect. Dinner is \$12.

Reservations or cancellations are required by Friday, Oct. 7 – **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.



Notes from the Prez:

-- Kay Wolfe

It is with heavy heart that I sit down to write this month. We have lost one of the greatest members of all time, Howard Berg. I first served on the Board as Director in 1995. Howard was the Treasurer, and kept the office for at least 7 years. He ran everything and kept all the rest of us on track. We ran public tours together, and one year had 4 buses going to gardens, netting \$8000. Howard earned numerous club awards and trophies—just look in the directory. Howard was so kind, thoughtful, gentle, and helpful. I was so honored to know him, and will miss him greatly.

I want to extend a big thank you to Kristina Hughes. Kristina represented MGCM on the Dog Park Citizens Advisory Council to the MPRB. MGCM got a seat on the council due to our work maintaining the gardens at Lyndale Park, one of the possible sites for a dog park. Her report is summarized in this issue.

Want to change the club? Want to make decisions and have more input? Now is your chance! The Nominating Committee begins their work for 2012. There are at least 4 spaces on the Board. Please help lead our club. I'll still be Past -Pres—no one else runs for that office! Join up--we'll have fun. Just contact MT Pulley—he's the chair of the Nominating Committee.

Is anyone interested in the Minnesota Horticultural Society's 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. Let me know—there is an RSVP date of October 11.

We are always talking about how we can grow our club. Join me and let's see what we can learn.

And BRING A VASE OF FLOWERS from your garden to the October meeting! Let's fill the tables with flowers—make an indoor garden. The bouquets can serve as our table talk—what you have been growing. Harvest items would work too—gourds and little pumpkins. And no hats this month. Howard did not wear hats—so in his memory we won't either. See you at the October meeting!

Editor's Note

-- Mary Maynard

Another full issue this month. Each month I worry that there won't be enough material to fill the space, and then I'm fiddling around with the margins trying to fit everything in. My apologies for the lack of white space in this issue.

Thanks to Lloyd Weber for his article on mulch and compost and to Kristina Hughes for representing MGCM at 12 committee meetings about a prospective dog park in South Minneapolis.

It's member renewal time, and holiday party planning is in full swing. And the nominating committee is looking for people interested in serving on the board. Never a dull moment!

**Coming in November
"Winter Containers"
with Duane Otto**

**Please note that our November meeting is on
November 15, one week later than usual.**



Treasurer's Snapshot

As of 9-20-11

Checking balance	\$12,833.88
CD	\$5,233.83
Designated Funds	
Memorials/Park Garden	\$1,510.47
Scholarship	<u>\$2,303.43</u>
Working Balance	\$9,019.98

Membership Corner

Welcome to New Member

Pat Kessler

4469 Gaywood Drive

Minnetonka, MN 55345

H: 952-932-0720

C: 952-484-7799

patikedee@comcast.net

Committee: Lyndale Park Garden

More Membership News:

-Sharla Aaseng, Membership Secretary

- **RENEWAL TIME:** It's that time again-- time to renew our club membership. The membership committee will be taking renewals at the October and November meetings. To help make this process easier, there is a renewal application on Page 11 of this month's Spray. You can fill it out and mail it to me with your dues; fill it out ahead of time and bring it to one of those meetings; or we will have forms at the meetings. Please fill out the forms, especially any directory changes since last year. If you have no changes, just put your name at the top and mark no changes and turn that in with your dues. The deadline for all renewals is November 20th.
- **Pat Kessler** is our newest member. She joined to learn more about her interests and to "network" with other gardeners. She is interested in container gardening, flowers, trees, shrubs, lawns and landscaping. Welcome, Pat! We all look forward to sharing our love of gardening with you.
- **Would you like to get to know members better?** Then help the membership committee create an up-to-date photo directory by having your photo taken at the October or November meeting. There will be a few photographers there to take a couple of pictures of you. If you would rather send us a favorite photo by email that is okay, too. (Send them to nsaaseng@comcast.net) Then for you "longtime" members, track down the white photo album somewhere on your shelves at home. Newer members will receive a copy of the old directory. In the next year the Membership Committee will compile a newer loose-leaf version for you to add to that notebook. Our goal is to help new members get to know the club and older members to welcome the newer ones. Over the years as membership secretary, I have enjoyed getting to know the faces that go with the names of all the members. It has been a great way to become a part of a wonderful club.



Remembering Howard Berg

October 4, 1930 – September 18, 2011

We said goodbye to one of the people at the heart of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis in September. Howard joined the club in 1980, and served on many committees over the years. He also served on the MGCM Board and as Treasurer and Club Historian for a number of years. The Club chose him to be an Honorary Member, and in 1995 he was awarded the Bronze Medal (now the Bachman Award for Distinguished Service) and also earned the President's Trophy for outstanding support of the president. Howard was a kind and gentle man. In the 22 years that I knew him, I don't remember a single unkind word. (The closest he'd get would be the twinkle in his eye that suggested that he'd like to say something, but his principles wouldn't let him!) He was also a meticulous gardener. I remember him cleaning up after me when we worked at ValleyFair, and Ruth's assurance that he cleans up after everybody – not just me!

I think we are only beginning to realize how much we will miss him. We send our support and sympathy to Ruth at this difficult time. Rest in peace, Howard.

Photos by Chuck Carlson, Andy Marlow, Mary Maynard, Lloyd Wittstock



"And what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and walk humbly with your God?"
--- Micah 6:8



Memo from the Nominating Committee

-- M.T. Pulley, Chair

The bedrock of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis has always been the Board of Directors. These nine members guide the activities and direction of our club. We cannot operate without them.

Now is the time for you to step up and offer your skills, talent and vision to our club as a member of the Board of Directors. The MGCM Nominating Committee is now looking for members to serve in several important Board of Directors positions for 2012. Yes, we want you to call us (before we call you) and "Come On Board."

For more information contact: M.T. Pulley (612)822-0172 rustydebris@yahoo.com
Or: Mollie Dean (612) 825-2771 molliedean@msn.com

Cordially,
M.T. Pulley, Chair
For the Nominating Committee,
Carole Ann Brekke Mollie Dean
David McKeen Carol Schreier

Sixth District Dog Park Update

-- Kristina Hughes

On Monday, Sept 12 the Sixth District Dog Park Citizens Action Committee (CAC) had its twelfth and final meeting. The CAC had its first meeting March 21 and was charged by the Park Board Commissioners to recommend a preferred location and design for an off-leash recreational area on the Eastern side of the 6th District.

The final recommendation of the CAC to the Commissioners was as follows: The Operations Center parking lot was recommended as long as the Park Board implements *at least* the design that was presented to the CAC. The draft design mitigated some serious problems with the site including water run-off and the undesirable asphalt surface. The Lyndale Farmstead park area was recommended as a backup site.

The CAC's recommendation will be presented to the Park Board Commissioners and they will decide how to proceed. Going forward, interested members of the public can contact the Commissioners and participate in the Park Board's public comment process. The Park Board Dog Park website (<http://www.minneapolisparcs.org/default.asp?PageID=1266>) is still up and has detailed information, maps, and meeting notes. Kristina Hughes was MGCM's representative on the CAC and is happy to answer questions from MGCM members at kristina_hughes@hotmail.com.

This is only part of Kristina's report. The full report is posted on our website. Click on "Dog Park Update" in the upper left-hand corner of the home page. Thanks, Kristina, for representing MGCM on this committee.



September's Meeting

Photos by Lloyd Wittstock



Thanks to Shirley Mah Kooyman for her presentation on "Moonlight Gardens". The moon was nearly full the night of the meeting, and I took a walk through my gardens at home after the meeting to see what showed up in low light. Mercifully, the weeds were invisible! Here are a few things I noticed in my September garden at about 9:00 p.m.

Chrysanthemum 'Baby Tears' (white)
Double feverfew (white)
Turtlehead (light pink)
Garlic chives (white)
Petunia 'Tidal Wave Silver'
Variegated plectranthus
Sedum 'Autumn Joy', others
Sweet Potato Vine 'Marguerite'

Dahlia 'All Triumph' (white)
Golden Feverfew (white flowers, chartreuse leaves)
Rose 'Morden Blush'
Variegated hibiscus (green/white leaves)
Gaura Lindheimeri 'Whirling Butterflies'
Hosta plantaginea (white)
Digitalis grandiflora (pale yellow)

What do you see in your gardens in the evening?



People's Choice Photo Contest Winners

Each year attendees at the Flower, Food and Foto Show vote for their favorite photograph. This year, we had 236 votes, and the top three vote-getters are shown below.

It's not too soon to start thinking about next year's photo contest. This year, we only had six people entering photos for the People's Choice, and nine people entering photos for the regular contest. If I can win a first now and then, anybody can!



1st Place: *Frog on Culver's root*
--Gary DeGrande



2nd Place: *Lilium Citronella & Visitor*
-- Gary DeGrande



3rd Place: *Mendenhall Glacier, Alaska*
-- Judy Berglund



MGCM Holiday Party December 13: Save the Date!

-- Jane Sheedy

The 2011 holiday party is just around the corner. This year the theme is "Life- Live it, Celebrate it!" Relax, mingle, and share memories of this year's interesting season. It will take place on December 13 from 5:00 to 9:00 pm at Lake Harriet Church. There will be time for socializing and silent auction bidding, punch and appetizer. Catered dinner is to be served at 6:40 pm. There will be entertainment and an awards ceremony followed by the results of the silent auction.

Watch for more information and the reservation form in the November Garden Spray. Also, it is never too early to start to think about donations for the silent auction. Here are a few ideas and suggestions:

- Tickets (movies, theater, opera, or sporting events)
- Homemade items (crafts, baked goods, note cards, decorations)
- Tools, plants, books, or membership in a specialty garden club or society
- Gift certificates (for hotel, resort, garden center, bookstore, or restaurant)
- Time, talent or services (garden consultation, custom art/craft, teaching a recipe, craft or skill, make a meal or host a special party)

Randi Larson is the new Holiday Party Committee Chair this year. Elaine Spiegel will act as Co-Chair for the party and serve as Chair of Silent Auction. If you have questions or this is your first year attending the MGCM Holiday Party contact Randi Larson. Contact Elaine Spiegel for information about Silent Auction Items or how to handle multiples of the same items.

Randi: Phone: 952-949-9668 leave a message

Elaine: E-mail: E858L@comcast.net preferred. Phone: 952-927-9539

Holiday Party Committee Meeting

The meeting will take place following the Club meeting on Tuesday October 11th and last 30-40 minutes. The committee is looking for additional members to help with the party. The following is a partial list of tasks:

- Several people to arrive early on the day of the party to set-up before the party
- Several people to arrive early on the day of the party to set-up before the Silent Auction
- Three people to collect payment for Silent Auction Items at the end of the Auction

If you plan to attend Committee Meeting or have questions, please contact either Randi Larson or Elaine Spiegel (see contact information above).



Weber Garden Mulch and Weber Compost

-- Lloyd Weber

Some of our garden visitors have asked if I would write about the mulch and compost I make for our garden.

The reasons for using a mulch on your garden after the ground has warmed sufficiently are these: prevents moisture loss, prevents weed growth, keeps the root zone cooler on very hot days, and stops soil splash-up on the base of plants that fosters diseases.

I developed this mixture when the price of cocoa beans doubled, and also because I disliked the way cocoa beans developed a slippery mold for two weeks after a rain. Also, dogs will not eat this mix after it has been composted. Another plus is you are recycling the lawn waste and adding some nitrogen back to your garden. The grass will decompose in about a month leaving a nice layer of cocoa beans behind.

The **Weber Garden Mulch** is just a 50/50 ratio of grass clippings and cocoa beans. I usually wet the mixture down as I mix it and when adding new layers after I mow. I turn it over every couple days and kind of fluff it up. I like to let it compost for at least two weeks before I spread it around the plants.

I think about 1 to 2 inches is a good level and I also try to keep it away from the plant stems, about 2 to 3 inches. If you don't have a shredder, just fluff it with a garden fork when you are about to spread it

The way I make the **Weber Compost** is to start with a foot of leaves then I add a handful of 10-10-10 fertilizer, shovelful of soil, spread both on top, then wet it well and repeat the layers to the height of the pile I want. I usually compost 50 to 75 bags of leaves in the fall, and then in the spring add to pile the leaves I used to cover cold sensitive plants over winter. I let the pile sit till the next September, when I shred it. If you want to turn the pile that is great and it will help it compost more evenly and be easier to shred. I also throw all the left over mulch into the compost pile along with fresh grass clippings.

I place about a gallon of compost on every daylily crown in November and I feel this has helped diminish "Leaf Streaking" in our daylilies.

-- Originally written for Region 1 Daylily Magazine. Thanks, Lloyd!



Getting to Know Your Board Member: Maury Lindblom

-- Maury Lindblom



I joined the MGCM in 1991. Kent Petterson was my sponsor. At that time the meetings were held at the Burroughs School Community Room. After several years at different places we settled at the Lake Harriet Methodist Church.

I was not new to gardening, having started at about age 10, under the tutelage of my Uncle. He taught me the basics that I still remember whenever I am doing gardening

I quickly became enamored of Flower Shows. First at the State Fair, then the MGCM shows and also others like the TriCity show (Bloomington, Richfield and Edina). I enjoyed winning ribbons and didn't mind not doing so well. During those years I lived in three different houses with different types of yard and soils.

In 1992 I was asked to be the Vice President of MGCM and planned the Programs for that year. In 1993 I became the President of the club and the next year was the past President and still on the board. I enjoyed all those offices.

I have served on various committees -- The Perennial Garden, Scholarship Committee, The Flower Show committee (when the name was changed to FFF) and was chair of that committee one year

In my own gardens I always sought to have some flowers blooming every month April through October. I enjoyed growing both annuals and perennials and trying to work with new flowers as often as I could. If I were asked which flowers were my favorite I would have to name several - Daylilies, any from the Liliium genus, shade tolerant plants, and native plants.

Five years ago I moved into a condominium and began container gardening. I have a nice screened porch and have learned which plants can tolerate the southern exposure. Coleus, grasses, begonias (fibrous), petunias and geraniums seem to be the best.

I have learned a lot by being a member of MGCM and hope to continue for several more years at least.



--Snapshots by Mary Maynard



MGCM NEW MEMBER/ RENEWAL FORM for 2012

Name _____ Spouse _____

Address _____ Date _____

City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____

Phone:

Hm _____ Cell _____ Wk _____

Email address _____ Occupation _____

Please check here if you are a Master Gardener _____

I am a mentor for _____

I am willing to share and/or trade these plants: _____

What would you most like to learn about this year?

Please consider joining a committee. It is a good way to learn and get to know other members.
(Circle committees you wish to work on in 2011.)

- | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Arbor Day | 6. Hospitality | 13. Scholarship |
| 2. Awards/Trophies | 7. Lyndale Park Garden | 14. Sunshine |
| 3. Flower, Food & Foto (FFF) | 8. Membership | 15. Tours (Club/Public) |
| 4. Garden Spray (newsletter) | 9. MGCM-TV | 16. On committee as needed |
| 5. Holiday Party | 10. Photography | |
| | 11. Plant Auction | |
| | 12. Programs | |

I am willing to chair the _____ committee.

Annual dues are \$20.00. Make your check payable to **MGCM**. Please mail or return this **form** to the membership secretary: **Sharla Aaseng**
1025 20th Ave SE
Mpls, MN 55414

If you wish to make an **additional donation** to the club, make check payable to MGCM or add the amount to your dues check and **indicate the amount and the fund below.**

_____ \$20 _____ \$30 _____ \$40 _____ Other \$ _____

Circle the designated fund(s): **General** **Scholarship** **Memorial**

MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.



Inside:

Page 1	2011 Events, Oct. Prog.
Page 2	From the Pres. & Editor
Page 3	Treas., Mbrship.
Page 4	Howard Berg Memories
Page 5	Nom. Comm, Dog Park
Page 6	Sept. Meeting.
Page 7	People's Choice Photos
Page 8	Holiday Party Preview
Page 9	Weber Mulch & Compost
Page 10	Bd Mbr Maury Lindblom
Page 11	Member Renewal Form

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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2011