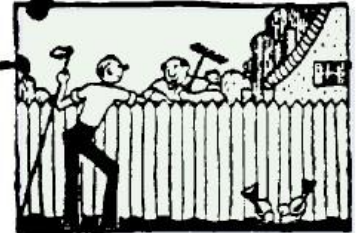




The Garden Spray

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

2012, Volume 70, Number 11



Upcoming Events

Date	Location	Event
Nov. 13	LHC	Gardening Books Kent Petterson And Book Swap
Dec. 11	LHC	Holiday Party

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

November Schedule

6:00 p.m.	Informal social hour
6:30 p.m.	Catered dinner
~7:15 p.m.	Annual Business Meeting
~7:30 p.m.	Program

November Dinner Menu

Pork Roast	Cheesy Potatoes
Salad	Baked Squash
Pumpkin Bars	

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

Reservations or cancellations are required by Friday, Nov. 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.

November Program Gardening Books: An Interactive Presentation

With MGCM Member Kent Petterson

Kent is inviting members to bring their favorite book or a collectible book to discuss during the presentation. Kent will offer his thoughts about the book and do a valuation of your collectible book. Kent is also bringing a guest, who happens to be a Minnesota botanist and author as his guest. Can anyone guess who it may be? If trees and shrubs (oh, and also hardy orchids) of Minnesota are of interest to you, you will want to visit with this guest.



Plus Book Swap! *More Details on Page 3*

Name Change Vote

We will be voting on a possible club name change at the November meeting. More information and letters to the Editor start on Page 4.



Holiday Party Coming Up! 'Make a Joyful Noise'

Details, reservation and silent auction form starting on Page 7.



Notes from the Prez:

-- Robert Kean

In celebration of annuals from Ageratum to Zinnias

It is the end of the gardening season. Our trees, shrubs, and perennials are going to sleep for the winter; but for the annuals, this is it; the end of the line, game over. So in celebration of their brief but cherished lives, I'm devoting this column to some of my favorite annuals (but don't worry; I'm not going to cover the entire alphabet).

Ageratum is such an easy plant to start from seed that I usually grow my own. I like the Blue Mink variety for the powdery blue flowers. One year I tried a different variety which was also blue, but it surprisingly grew to almost 3 feet tall. It was pretty, but I wish I hadn't planted it at the front of the flower border.

I like Cosmos because they remind me of my mother. She had cosmos re-seed freely in her back yard every year (and in every crack in the driveway). They are tall and pretty but look delicate with their feathery foliage. I usually grow the shorter bedding variety here in my yard (which is very prolific and tolerant) but I sometimes grow the taller varieties which I still think are much prettier.

I can hardly wait to plant Impatiens every year. I use the standard single flower types to light up my many shady areas. I keep a few of the double flower types (usually in pots or hanging baskets) for a touch of elegance. Their flowers remind me of tiny rose blooms.

Morning Glories are a great fill-in plant in my yard, adding vertical interest to anything that will support their weight. I used to plant several varieties every year. Then my neighbor planted the famous heirloom variety "Grandpa Ott" (dark purple, pink throat) one year. It now plants itself everywhere each year. My favorite variety is still the old classic "Heavenly Blue". No plant has ever been given a more accurate name; ever!!

Nasturtiums are exotic looking, tough, and edible; what's not to like.

My garden is just not complete without Pansies spreading joy through the spring/summer garden with their happy little faces. With a little shade, I can usually keep them blooming all summer and into the fall; except for this summer where they became toast about mid-July.

Salvias are a classic summer annual, but we have had some spectacular new options in recent years. My favorite is then new purple flowering version. Next year, I plan to try some of the humming bird friendly Salvias (Great October Program!).

Thunbergia (aka black eye Susan) is something that I always liked, but had trouble growing. Then I started growing them in pots and now have great success (one of those mysteries of gardening). I put a short trellis in the pot and they provide nice vertical interest without being too unruly.

I tried Vincas a few years ago out of desperation. I was looking annuals that could tolerate drought, neglect, and abuse, for some of my most difficult garden spots. Mission accomplished.

I didn't much care for Zinnias when I was growing up. I didn't like the flower shape of the standard varieties. Then I discovered that zinnias are really tough (read drought resistant) and there is a huge range of different sizes and flower types. My current favorites are Classic White (Z. angustifolia) which is covered with small single white flowers all summer, and the new profusion hybrids (also well named).

So let us once again bow our heads in silence, in remembrance of those annuals that have enriched our lives this summer; even as we live in hope of newer varieties and more glorious blooms next year.



Treasurer's Snapshot

As of 10-23-12

Checking balance	\$18,084.90
Designated Funds	
Memorials/Park Garden	\$1,666.72
Scholarship	\$5,310.96
Working Balance	\$11,107.22
CD	\$5,210.22

Membership Corner

Chet Groger, MGCM member since 1972 and long-time Honorary Member, passed away on October 18 at the age of 95. He was a kind and generous man. Our condolences to his family.

MGCM Master Gardeners recognized.
35 Years: Archie Caple and Stan Crist
Thank you for your years of service!!

Membership News

-- Jean Strande, Membership

The membership committee is in the midst of helping everybody renew their memberships for 2013. We will have the membership table set up again at the Nov. meeting. If you haven't signed up, please remember your checkbook, or if you prefer, signup forms are available on the club website (mgcm.org) and can be filled out online. We certainly do appreciate the good response we've gotten so far.

In other news, the committee is working with Tom McKusick to set up some publicity for our club. Tom has a lot of ideas and we are excited about the possibilities. It is our goal to add as many new members as possible this year and we are off to a good start!

Gardening Books with Kent Petterson – and Book Swap! -- continued from Page 1

Kent Peterson, MGCM member since 1986 and owner of Terrace Horticultural Books, located in St. Paul, Minnesota will be our presenter at the November meeting. Kent also served as president of the MGCM in 1990. Kent and his wife, Abby, have established the bookstore with the goal of offering it as a destination for those who love not only books but also gardens and everything related.

We will also be conducting a Book Swap of books which members want to offer to each other. Bring a book and add it to the table as you arrive, peruse other books on the swap table during the social time before the meeting and deal with your fellow members on a swap. Any books that are donated to the swap and left on the table at the end of the night will be given to Kent for his "Little Free Library" at the THB site. These tiny free libraries are part of a program throughout the country to help promote literacy through free book exchanges. (See tiny photo of Kent's library on Page 1).

Members can participate in this month's event on various levels so put on your reading glasses and come to the meeting ready to share. And ...bring a guest yourselves!



Shall We Change the Club Name?

The Club will be voting on whether to change the Club's name at the November meeting. Here is the official notification of the vote, followed by two Letters to the Editor submitted by club members.

OFFICIAL NOTICE OF VOTE TO AMEND THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS

At the regular monthly meeting of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis on October 9, 2012, 47 members participated in a preference poll to select a potential new name for the Club. They chose from three names selected by the Board of Directors from a list of 28 possible names suggested by members. The choices were:

Metro Garden Club of Minnesota
NorthStar Garden Club
Garden Club of Greater Minneapolis

The vote was as follows:

23 votes for Metro Garden Club of Minnesota
9 votes for NorthStar Garden Club
9 votes for Garden Club of Greater Minneapolis
6 ballots were returned with no choices checked and therefore not counted in the total. All six indicated that they were not in favor of changing the name.

23 votes being the majority of 41 valid votes cast, the following is the official notice of the resolution to amend the Articles of Incorporation of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis. It will be considered for adoption at the annual meeting of the members of this corporation to be held November 13, 2012, at Lake Harriet United Methodist Church, 4901 Chowen Avenue South, Minneapolis, Minnesota at approximately 7:15 p.m.:

RESOLVED, that Article I of the Articles of Incorporation of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc., a Minnesota non-profit corporation, be hereby amended to read as follows:

ARTICLE I

The name of this corporation is Metro Garden Club of Minnesota.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the President and Secretary of this corporation be hereby authorized to certify to this amendment to the Secretary of State of the State of Minnesota.

(Note: If the resolution passes the club's name will be changed. If the resolution does not pass, the name will remain as it is. Voting will be conducted according to Article II, Section 6 of the MGCM Bylaws, which says "... any motion before the membership shall carry when the greater of: two thirds of a quorum, or a majority of those present, votes for it.")



Letter to the Editor of the Spray

From: Kent Petterson, Past President

IS THIS REALLY NECESSARY?

It has been several years since we last asked the question about changing the club name, actually the third time we have checked with membership. Maybe we are sensitive to the specific gender association and revisit to make sure nobody is being offended. The newer members, men and women that have joined knowing and accepting the name must find some of this a little curious. Nevertheless the Board has raised the issue and it must be addressed. Perhaps the Board felt it necessary to follow up on the survey results, which showed some interest.

I was an officer and a part of the process during the time that brought our earliest women members. I recruited our first woman member and have supported and appreciate the full participation of women members through the years. I also am opposed to changing the name of the club that we have had for 70 years.

If I thought the name was offensive with the gender identification, I would say it should be gone, but I don't sense that is the case. We do have a specific flavor to the group and it is that difference that has defined us. I would like to think we could continue to embrace the difference and exploit it as a membership-marketing tool. I believe it is speculative and untrue that the word Men's or Minneapolis hurts our member recruitment or image.

I think the Minneapolis or the Men's parts of the name are less important than the last words, which are Garden Club.

In addition, setting aside the sentiments, I am not happy with this process, as it has played out. I would like to think that a significant change such as this could be examined over time seeking the correct decision. This process has me a little stunned at the speed with which the question is upon us and the lack of open discussion of reasons for and against.

I also find the decision to use an articles of incorporation voting rational rather than the bylaws rational as deserving of more discussion with the membership. When I was in leadership and in every past decision making process where guidance was needed we have always turned to our bylaws for help. I don't ever recall consulting the Articles of Incorporation for guidance. My fear is that if the decision process is not perceived as correct and fair, the result will not be respected going forward and will actually damage membership and the clubs future.

We have a history that we can proudly stand by and speak of with our existing name that identifies us uniquely from other garden clubs. For me, this change really isn't necessary.

I will always be grateful for Kent's invitation to join MGCM in 1989. – Editor (and senior woman MGCM member).



Letter to the Members

From Kay Wolfe, Past-President

We are again being asked to vote on a name change for our club. Many members have asked me to comment on the issues, since only one side has so far been represented.

There are two primary driving forces for this vote. They are the 2011 survey results and the belief that the club name is a deterrent to growing membership. A decidedly biased survey question resulted in 43% agreeing that the name should be changed, 28% were neutral, and 29% disagreed. These results did not give us a clear direction on which way to go. And an unbiased survey question might not have had even 43% in agreement.

As for the club name being a deterrent to membership, there is no data to substantiate this. Simply guessing that our name is holding us back is not the approach to take. We hear of examples of some recruits that decline to join, and then we hear of two that joined last year because they like the name. No market research has been done on this issue. We have not consulted or hired any professionals in publicity. We have club members who work in publicity or fund-raising, or volunteer for state horticultural groups, and none have even been consulted.

I joined the club to learn how to garden. I never thought the name of the club should state who I am—how vain is that? And if you look at the stats, 62% of the members are men, and 68% live in the 554XX zip code. And we do meet in Minneapolis, and historically have done most of our community service projects in Minneapolis. The Minneapolis Park and Recreation library archives are full of references to what the club has done for the parks over the years. The current club name has brand recognition. Changing the name might very well decrease the club size. We have not focused on publicity or new member recruitment for at least a decade. The Board has just now started forming a publicity committee. Our main recruitment efforts have been members bringing new members. Ask our friends at the State Horticultural Society--most garden clubs are also having a hard time recruiting new members. We should visit the ones that are growing and model what they do. Simply changing the club name will not grow the club.

And lastly, all this talk about how much the women are doing for the club leaves me empty. It does not feel like a compliment. When I first joined the club, we did not count how many of each sex were present. We all worked really hard together as a group, on huge projects such as raising thousands of dollars from garden tours. The mutual respect and admiration from the men as well as the women could easily be felt. The label of the organization will never create this reverence.

Changing the club name is a very serious matter. It should involve careful research, thoughtful discussion, and professional input, none of which have been obtained. The process has not been inclusive of the members.

Think about the future of the club before you vote. Our current club name has brand recognition, and deservedly so, due to our long history of accomplishments. Where is the club going, what is the future, how can we market the club? Do we really want a non-descript name that says we “represent” all the metro areas in the state of Minnesota?



MGCM Holiday Party and Silent Auction

Holiday party time is coming again! The holiday party and silent auction will take place on Tuesday, December 11 from 5:30 to 9:00 at Lake Harriet Church. Mark your calendars!

This year's theme for the party is "**Make a Joyful Noise**". We are happy to report that we are keeping the price at \$20 per person again this year.

We hope all of you are thinking about ideas and items for the silent auction. We want to make sure this year's auction is just as successful as the auction that took place last year.

There will be a Social Hour with Hors d'oeuvres from 5:30-6:30 p.m. that will also include the Silent Auction set-up and bidding. The catered dinner is at 6:40 pm. There will be entertainment by singer/acoustic guitarist Mary Hall. An awards ceremony and the results of the silent auction will follow.

We have sent a request to Santa to make an appearance at this year's event. One of his elves reported back that he was still mapping out a plan for his Christmas Eve sojourn (he's still low tech, you see) but he was pretty sure he could make it.

Need ideas for items to donate to the Silent Auction? There are lots of ideas for donation items on Page 9. Using the RSVP form on Page 8 to confirm your attendance, fill in the description; including the approximate size, and a minimum starting bid. Please include your contact information in case there are any questions. Deadline for the RSVP is **Thursday, Dec. 6**.

On the day of the party, it is preferred that you bring Silent Auction items to our room in the church between 9:30 and 11:30 that morning. Last minute donations are welcome too, just be sure to bring them between 5:00 and 5:30 that evening so there is time to fill out the auction forms.

Contact Elaine if you have any questions about the silent auction or Randi Larson if you have questions about the event.

Elaine Spiegel, Silent Auction Chair

E-mail: ELspiegs18@comcast.net. Phone: 952-927-9539

Randi Larson, Holiday Party Chair: 952-949-9668





RSVP Form for the MGCM Holiday Party and Silent Auction
“Make a Joyful Noise”

Tuesday, December 11, 2012 at 5:30 pm at Lake Harriet Church

To RSVP and to donate items for the silent auction, please fill out this reservation form and enclose a check made out to MGCM. Please send reservation form to ARRIVE BY Thursday, December 6, 2011.

Mail to: Larry Larson
 15225 Wild Wings
 Minnetonka, MN 55345

Phone: 952.949.9668
Email: daddu777@msn.com

*For questions about the Silent Auction please contact Elaine:
 E-mail: ELspiegs18@comcast.net (preferred) Phone: 952-927-9539*

Member & Guest	
Names: _____	
Total check enclosed (\$20 per person): _____	
Item(s) for the Silent Auction:	
Description: _____	
Size (space required for display): _____	Minimum Bid: _____
Submitter/contact: _____	
Description: _____	
Size (space required for display): _____	Minimum Bid: _____
Submitter/contact: _____	
Description: _____	
Size (space required for display): _____	Minimum Bid: _____
Submitter/contact: _____	

Need ideas or suggestions for the silent auction? See next page!



Suggestions for Silent Auction Contributions for Holiday Party:

- Tickets (movies, theater, opera, or sporting events)
- Homemade or hand crafted items (crafts, baked goods, note cards, embroidery, quilting)
- Tools, plants, note cards, statues, books, bird feeders, bird baths
- Gift certificates (for hotel, resort, garden center, bookstore, restaurant, or membership in a specialty garden club)
- Time, talent or services (garden consultation, custom art/craft, teaching a craft or skill, make a meal, host a theme party)

Fall Mulching Complete at Lyndale Park

The Park Garden team took two Saturdays to get a lot of mulch on our perennial garden in Lyndale Park. We were assisted by the Toro Dingo shown in the photo on the right.



*Back: Mary Maynard, Gary Opperman (Auxiliary member), Rodger Sefelt, M.T. Pulley
Front: Sharla Aaseng, Mollie Dean, Kay Wolfe*



Left to Right: Kristina Hughes, Steve Shubick, Tim Rosener, Rodger Sefelt, Robert Kean, Nona Johnson.

Photos by Parks employee Erin, who wrote the grant request for the Dingo which was donated to the Minneapolis Park Board by Toro.



New Members Inducted at October Meeting



*Sharla Aaseng (center) welcomes new members (l to r) Dan DuRose, Laurie Levin, Mick-Dean Gross, Andrea Greene.
Photo by Lloyd Wittstock*

September Board Meeting Minutes

Sept. 17, 2012

The meeting was called to order by Pres. Robert Kean at 7:40. The agenda and minutes of the previous meeting were approved. The Treasurer's report was received and filed.

President's report: The main agenda item for the meeting is the discussion about the Club name change. It was a long discussion and will be abbreviated here. Andy found records that show the Club was incorporated in 1966 as MGCA Minnesota Convention. The name was changed to Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis by amending the Articles of Incorporation in 1969.

Old Business: Members discussed and rated the 30 proposed names suggested by Club members, considering them by how many times they had been suggested and how they reflected the current membership. Those three are Metro Garden Club of Minnesota, NorthStar Garden Club, and Garden Club of Greater Minneapolis.

Discussion of the procedure to use for the Club's information and vote was next. One person felt there should be more input from Club members. There must be a 30 day notice before a vote is taken to change the Articles of Incorporation. Andy moved the process to be followed to determine the new Club name will be:

1. An article in the Spray which will include the three names selected by the Board,
2. Official notice containing exact language of the resolution will be distributed by e-mail or US mail by October 13, and
3. A final vote will be conducted at the November meeting. Members must be present to have their vote counted. The motion was seconded and carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10.

Respectfully submitted
Jan Johnson, Recording Secretary

The Garden Spray Page 10

<http://www.mqcm.org>



October Board Meeting Minutes

Oct. 1, 2012

Pres. Robert Kean called the meeting to order at 6:40. The agenda and the minutes of the previous meeting were approved. There was no change in the Treasurer's report from the Sept. 17, 2012 meeting.

Old business: A long discussion relative to the logistics of the name change process was held. It was decided that the members would participate in a preference poll at the October meeting. Members will choose one of the three names selected by the Board – Metro Garden Club of Minnesota, NorthStar Garden Club, and Garden Club of Greater Minneapolis. Andy agreed to make up the ballots with the names in random order. No other names will be allowed at this meeting. The vote will be held at the beginning of the meeting. Don and Jean agreed to count the ballots. Robert agreed to give general info regarding the logistics during the dinner so the speaker would not be delayed. The preferred name will be announced at the end of the meeting. Only members will be allowed to vote.

At the November meeting, a resolution to amend the Articles of Incorporation with the preferred name will be voted on. This resolution must be e-mailed or US mailed 30 days in advance of the vote. Andy agreed to write the resolution and make sure it was properly distributed. In order to pass, 2/3 of a quorum or a majority of those members present need to vote yes. If a member wishes to substitute another name, an amendment to the resolution may be made. It must be seconded by another member and receive a majority vote. That name will then be substituted for the preferred name and the amended resolution will then be voted on.

Vice President's report: In November our own Kent Petterson will discuss gardening books and a mystery Minnesota author may be present. A book swap will also be held. The December holiday party will have a guest singer. The theme for the new year is Designing a Perennial Border. Mary Lerman will be the January and February speaker.

Membership: A new member, Andrea Greene, was announced. Doug Whitney has been nominated for honorary membership which needs to be voted on by the members. Judy will invite Don Untiedt to make the motion at the October meeting. Judy recapped the Membership Committee meeting with Tom McKusick. One of his suggestions was to be sure to start meetings on time when visitors are invited. He also recommended expanding the plant sale to the public.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Johnson, Recording Secretary

Editor's Note:

We have another full issue, without room for any more photos from the October meeting or for much of anything from me. But I do need to say that I will be voting to keep our current name. I believe that our name reflects our rich history, and sets us apart from other clubs. There were still Charter Members in the club when I joined in the late 80's, Bob Savory being the most memorable for me. It's our brand, and I think we should capitalize on it rather than change it. That being said, it's the members and not the name of our club that make it great. See you in November!

MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.



Inside:

Page 1	November Club Meeting
Page 2	From the Pres.
Page 3	Treas., Mbrship., Prog info
Page 4-6	Voting on Name Change
Page 7-9	Holiday Party Info
Page 9	Fall mulching
Page 10	New Member Induction
Pg 10-11	Board Meeting Minutes
Page 11	Editor's Note

Club Officers:

President: Robert Kean

3136 James Ave. S, Minneapolis

Vice President: Sandra Abraham

931 Waterford Dr. E., Eagan, MN

Recording Secretary: Jan Johnson

3005 Scott Ave. N., Golden Valley

Membership Secretary: Jean Strande

11 Hanley Rd, Golden Valley

Treasurer: Andy Marlow

10700 Minnetonka Blvd, Hopkins

Past President: Kay Wolfe

2740 Florida Ave S, St. Louis Park

Directors:

Judy Brooke

4728 Temple Rd., Minnetonka

Randi Larson

15225 Wild Wings, Minnetonka

Don Trocke

10625 Bush Lake Rd., Bloomington

The Spray

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

The Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis is a not-for-profit, equal opportunity organization.

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

November
2012