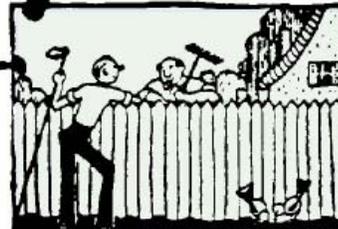




# The Garden Spray

Bulletin of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc  
2007, Volume 65, Number 12



## Upcoming Events

Date	Location	Event
Dec 4	LHC	Holiday Party
Jan 8	LHC	New Annuals Carrie Larson
Feb 12	LHC	TBD



Photo by Chuck Carlson

LHC = Lake Harriet Church, 4901  
Chowen Ave S., Mpls.



Happy Holidays!

## Pine and Poinsettias

### Holiday Party

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Lake Harriet Methodist Church

Social Hour and Silent Auction: 5:30 p.m.

Dinner at approximately 6:40 p.m.

Entertainment by Bob Ekstrand, guitar  
and Dan Newton, accordion

For those contributing items for the Silent Auction, please either bring them to the church on Tuesday morning, or before 5 p.m. for set up or contact Elaine Spiegel at 952-927-9539 or elspiegs@comcast.net.

**Note: Permanent reservations are not in effect for the Holiday Party. To make a reservation for the Holiday Party, please fill in the reservation form in the November Spray and send to Sharla Aaseng, 1025 20<sup>th</sup> Ave. S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55414-2511, by November 30, 2007**



## From the President:

-- Margaret Landry

One of the duties of the MGCM president is to select a recipient for the President's Award. As I'm going through that exercise, it conjures up memories of good times, beautiful gardens, friendships forming and a mood of Thanksgiving and gratitude comes over me. What a blessing it is to be a member of this club!

Do I give the award to a member

- Whose garden inspires me?
- Whose service to public gardens inspires me?
- Who shares knowledge and information?
- Who has given me plants?
- Whose knowledge of horticulture stirs awe?
- Who warmly welcomed me into the club?
- Who nudged me to accept a board nomination?
- Who keep the club running smoothly and make the role of president superfluous?
- Whose friendship keeps me coming to the club?
- Who has accepted me, a beginner gardener?
- Whose gentle presence inspires me?
- Whose enthusiasm is contagious?
- Who has mentored me in this role?
- Who has been kind to me?
- Whose leadership has inspired me?
- Who aspires to grow the club?
- Whose love of and dedication to the club inspires me?

- Whose steadiness of purpose inspires me?
- Whose willingness to pitch in inspires me?

It's a hard choice! All of you would qualify in multiple categories, and I believe they're all valid. Thank you all for making the MGCM experience exceptional, and for making it easy to be the Club's president.

Stay tuned. I *will* make a selection!



*The final garden session at the Lyndale Park Garden – by our new plaque! Standing: Ada Hegion, Nancy Bjerke, Robert Kean, Bob Redmond, Dave Johnson (Fridley), Mary Maynard, M.T. Pulley, Kent Petterson. Front: Kay Wolfe, our plaque, Tim Rosener*



## Editor's Note

-- Mary Maynard

Thank goodness that winter is coming! I was talking to a few of the folks at the final session at our Lyndale Park garden about how much I appreciate the rest from gardening. I don't know how people like Phil Smith (who lives in Florida in the winter and Montana in the summer) keep going when they have to garden all year long!

I'm looking forward to a few months of hibernation – as soon as I get those dahlias stored for the winter. I think of Carleton Nelson and Harold Gulde every fall when I cut up my tubers and store them in plastic bags inside paper bags inside the Styrofoam coolers inside our attached garage.

This year's Holiday Party sounds like a lot of fun. I haven't heard a good accordionist for a while now, and I'm looking forward to it. See you there!

By the way, I got this nice note from Phil Smith after he received the October Spray. It's always fun to hear from him.

*Dear Mary: This is a very nice issue. Lots of nice articles. I have been to England several times, and the gardens always amaze me. Went to the Chelsea show once and was invited to help at the Delph. Society stand and answer questions about delphiniums. This was when I was the U. S. Vice -Pres. of the society. I got all the questions from U.S. and Canadian people, and it was fun. Chelsea is a wonderful show. By helping with the society stand, I got to go the day before the public, when only Royal Hort. Soc. members and the royal family may attend. Very few visitors and no crowds.*

*The thing that always amazes me about the English is that almost everyone gardens. Even those in what we would call condos with a 10x10 front entry have a nice garden. My gardens here in Montana were the best I have had here. I think because of the warm weather. We had 13 days over 100 deg., but always cool at night. I do not know how the plants take the*

*stress of the cold to hot. We normally have had only a 6 week growing season free from a killing frost, but this year it was like 10 weeks. My delphs were especially nice, but of course not like those in England. I grow seedlings each year from English seed I get from the society, and the plants are much nicer than any one can get from garden centers in the U.S. I had about 15 nice delph plants this year with each having 5 or more spikes. I also have numerous perennials which I have found do well here in a short season. Best wishes to you and Phil.*

## Treasurer's Report

As of 11-15-07

Checking	\$3893.00
Cash	\$100.00
CD	\$5662.00

Also, we received a check for \$400 from Valley Fair for the work we did for them this spring. We had about eight people working for four hours one Saturday. Many salvias were planted! Thanks to those who took the time to help.

## 2008 Board Members Elected

The club elected the following officers and Board members for 2008:

**President:** Larry Larson

**Past President:** Margaret Landry

**Vice President:** Denise Rust

**Treasurer:** David McKeen

**Recording Secretary:** Judy Berglund

**Membership Secretary:** Sharla Aaseng

**Directors:** Elizabeth Hamilton, Elaine Spiegel, Don Trocke

We thank these Board Members – and outgoing Past President Kris Deters -- for their service to our club.



## November Club Meeting



We were happy to welcome Steve Kelley back to MGCM to talk about garden design. Steve covered many of the basic concepts – learning from classical design, simplicity, rhythm, repetition, form, texture, color, focal points. Steve's slides were terrific, including a couple of examples of bad garden design that bore a striking resemblance to my back border.

We were also happy to see that Steve's wife Arla Carmichael was able to join us as well. Arla is the creator of Norenberg Gardens on Lake Minnetonka

If you have never visited Kelley and Kelley in Long Lake, you have been missing out on a unique experience. It's fun anytime in the growing season, but the woodland garden is wonderful in the spring.



*New members Judy Matsui and Molly Moriarty are introduced to the club.*

## Two Sets of Board Meeting Minutes

**The Garden Spray** Page 4

[www.minneapolisgardensclub.org](http://www.minneapolisgardensclub.org)



*Your editors seem to have forgotten to include the Board Meeting Minutes from the September Board meeting. So this month, you get two sets of minutes in one issue! Enjoy!*

### **MGCM Board Meeting Minutes** September 4, 2007

**PRESENT:** Elizabeth Hamilton, Larry Larson, David McKeen, Denise Rust, Elaine Spiegel and Don Trocke.

**ABSENT:** Sharla Aaseng, Kris Deters and Margaret Landry.

**VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Programs are set through the end of the year. Mike Heger from Ambergate in September, Steve from Tonkadale Nursery in October and someone from Brewery Creek to talk about a few heirloom varieties in November. January's program will deal with either annuals or tropicals. Gertens has offered a behind the scenes tour of their poinsettia production in November if we are interested. Larry will gauge interest at the September meeting and then set it up on a Saturday in mid-November if enough people want to go. This would be a drive-yourself event.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Checking has \$6,314 and our CD has \$5,662. We haven't received payment from Valleyfair for the volunteers who worked there in the spring; this will be investigated.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Profit from the July public tour was \$2,268.11, which will go toward horticulture scholarships. Need to get a final accounting yet of the August members' tour. Board thought both were good tours that were well-received and we lucked out with excellent weather for both events.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Entertainment has been lined up for the Holiday Party. It is now time to start soliciting donations for the silent auction and maybe some additional (tall) helpers to help set up for the event. Idea was suggested that next year we have a member potluck at one of the meetings. It is almost time for another election of officers and so a new slate of candidates will need to be lined up.

**NEXT MEETING:** This will be held Tuesday, November 6 at 7:00 PM at Elizabeth Hamilton's.

November Board Meeting Minutes on Page 6.



*Bob Livingston, Dave McKeen and Joe Stenger show us the money.*



*Sharla and new member (kind of) Randi Larson*



## MGCM BOARD MEETING MINUTES November 6, 2007

PRESENT: Sharla Aaseng, Elizabeth Hamilton, Margaret Landry, Larry Larson, David McKeen, Denise Rust, Elaine Spiegel and Don Trocke.

ABSENT: Kris Deters.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: The original speaker for November will not be speaking as he did not submit a synopsis for publication as requested. Speaker will be Steve Kelley of Kelley & Kelley on the topic of garden design.

Larry has also set up a program for January as well as the Gerten's poinsettia preview on Nov. 17. He also has the names of several potential speakers for future programs.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT: Sharla would like to phase out the MS taking MSHS membership renewals; this rushes the renewal process and creates extra mailings, as well as extra work. MSHS members who want the discount for being MGCM members need only mention their membership with us when renewing for themselves. Board approved phasing this out; this will be heavily communicated with the membership in coming months.

Sharla hopes to get a new member packet put together, which should eventually include descriptions of various committee member responsibilities.

OLD BUSINESS: The Lehman Trophy for best garden on the members' tour will go to \_\_\_\_\_. (*To be announced at Holiday Party –ed.*)

Valleyfair has still not paid the club for volunteer hours worked last spring.

Scholarship checks have gone out though one did not get to the recipient;

Scholarship Committee will see about getting it through and will make sure all recipients know about the Holiday Party.

NEW BUSINESS: Election of officers will be held at the November meeting. All current officers are willing to stay on; we thus need to fill the position of VP. Names were brainstormed for this position. Kris Deters is willing to make calls to line up a candidate.

Larry would like to approach Mike Heger of Ambergate Gardens about writing a regular Spray column, at least through the growing season. Perhaps questions could be submitted. Board approved the idea; Larry will ask him.

Arrangements for the Holiday Party are pretty well complete; perhaps the garland could be eliminated as it requires storage at someone's home, requires a lot of climbing to put up and the lights on it cannot be plugged in anyway. We will still have wreaths, table decorations and a tree.



*Cyclamen blooming at Gertens – Chuck Carlson*



## **Kay Wolfe is Honored by Minneapolis Park Board**

*As many of you know, Kay Wolfe was not at our November club meeting because she was receiving an award from the Minneapolis Park and Rec Board. Here is Kay's writeup of this event:*

### **My "Award"** by Kay Wolfe

Thanks to all of you who have congratulated me! I promised our esteemed Spray Editor, Mary Maynard, that I would write up an explanation!

I was nominated by the Lyndale Park Gardeners, led by park gardener and club member Tina Scott, for special recognition for my outstanding volunteer efforts with the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board. Tuesday, Nov. 13 was the Recognition Banquet, and Tina and I were there—along with my guest, husband Gary Opperman. The event was held at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts. (I learned later from Commissioner Bob Fine that the Park Board owns the land that the Art Institute sits on—thus the relationship.) We had an elegant dinner in the halls of the Institute, looked down on by stony Greek statues. The Awards Ceremony was held in the Pillsbury Auditorium. There were 53 other volunteers recognized—many for coaching teams, organizing recreation programs, etc. There were only a few of us volunteering in gardens. As our names were called, we went to the stage, shook hands with the 9 Board Commissioners, and got a plaque from Jon Gurban, the Superintendent—while being photographed! (See photo.)

The wording on the plaque thanks me for my "contributions to the programs and services"; and for my "extraordinary dedication to and support of the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board."



I thank them for allowing us to create a garden in their park, a place where people can come and enjoy the beauty of nature, and to appreciate the gardening talents of our Garden Club. What a great venue for us to show our talents and what we can create! And this garden would not exist without the extraordinary dedication of my committee. Most of us have worked together on this project for as many as 10 years. For me it has been an absolute gift to be able to be part of this endeavor-- creating this garden with such wonderful friends. Thank you all. And thanks to the club for the funds for all the plant material. When I started this project, I never imagined what a wonderful experience it would be!



## Buttoning up the Perennial Garden

The last crew of the season put down the leaf mulch on the non-trial portion of our Lyndale Park Garden in November.



*The Garden in late fall – still beautiful in mid-November*



*The leaf crew*



*The final donut hole session of the season.  
Pictured: Ada Hegion, Nancy Bjerke, Bob Redmond, Dave Johnson (Fridley), M.T. Pulley, Tim Rosener, Kent Petterson, Kay Wolfe.*



## Scenes from a Tour of Gertens

Lou Gerten led MGCM members on a tour of their poinsettia operation. Gertens is a third-generation family business. Lou and his brother and his brother-in-law own and operate the business on the site of the original family farm. Gertens gets about 100,000 poinsettia cuttings on June 1 and grows them out just in time to ship out for Christmas. We thank Larry Larson for arranging this tour, and Chuck Carlson for taking these excellent photos.



*Lou took time not only to describe his propagation methods, but also to show us how greenhouse technology has evolved over the years.*





## More from the Gertens Tour



*We were all very excited about this yellow Poinsettia until we realized it was spray-painted. Green and gold – Packer colors!*



*It was a little more obvious that this one was painted.*



*Chuck did as good a job as anyone could to capture the sheer volume of poinsettias. And in three weeks, the greenhouses will be empty. Seeding of annuals for 2008 starts in January!*



## More from the Gertens Tour



*The other main winter plant that Gertens grows is several varieties of cyclamen. They like these because not all of the plants bloom at the same time, so they can be sold at the store over a long period.*





## MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.

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### Club Officers:

**President: Margaret Landry**  
3542 40<sup>th</sup> Ave. S., Minneapolis  
**Vice President: Larry Larson**  
15225 Wild Wings, Minnetonka, MN  
**Recording Secretary: Denise Rust**  
7933 Girard Court, Brooklyn Park  
**Membership Secretary: Sharla Aaseng**  
1025 20<sup>th</sup> Ave. SE, Minneapolis  
**Treasurer: David McKeen**  
2834 Vernon Ave. S., St. Louis Park  
**Past President: Kristine Deters**  
436 Sheridan Ave. S., Minneapolis

### Directors:

**Elizabeth Hamilton**  
8219 Russell Ave. S., Bloomington  
**Elaine Spiegel**  
4814 W. 41<sup>st</sup> St., St. Louis Park  
**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.

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Return To:

### **The Garden Spray**

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**First Class Mail**

*December*  
*2007*