

July 2019

The Garden Spray

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Tour Committee Robert Kean, Chair

FIRST LOOK AT SEVEN WEST METRO GARDENS ON THE PUBLIC GARDEN TOUR

Saturday, July 20 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Choose from two options:

- Self-drive for \$15/person pre-paid (\$20 day of Tour)
- Ride an air-conditioned bus for \$35/person (includes lunch and bottled water)

Email <u>Denise Rust</u> or call (763) 221-1466 for bus and self-drive tickets and information.

Proceeds will benefit the MWGCM Scholarship Fund. We will tour seven excellent gardens in the west metro:



Darlene Addison Minnetonka

This hosta collector's garden has more than 500 varieties artfully arranged, meticulously cultivated and labeled. The front yard features a host of miniature and small hostas, including many hybrids. The lower backyard has larger hostas with many old reliables and several newer varieties. In the backyard is a

wisteria-covered arch. This garden is constantly changing as the owner divides, moves and replaces hostas every year.

Ralph and Lindsay Bashioum Wayzata

More than 40 different kinds of fruits and vegetables from around the world are featured in this 1/3-acre garden. Many of the gardening techniques were inspired by kitchen gardens of the Loire Valley in France which produce a lot of fruit in a compact space. Excess produce is donated to the nearby



French bistro Bellecour where they may turn up in special menu items.



Barbara Burgum Wayzata

The Burgum garden was recently featured in the *Northern Gardener Magazine* and the *Star Tribune*. Her spectacular gardens accent her historic Craftsman style house on Lake Minnetonka. A 40-foot pergola frames a large cottage garden featuring vegetable beds, pollinator-friendly annuals and

perennials, and supports flowering wisteria and clematis. The lakeside slope is a mix of native prairie plants and other drought-tolerant selections. This garden was recently added to the Smithsonian's Garden Clubs of America archives, a rare honor.

Steve Kelley and Arla Carmichiel Long Lake

Steve Kelley is the fourth generation to work in the Kelley and Kelley Nursery in Long Lake, directly across the street from the Kelley and Carmichiel 3-½ acre property. Both are gardeners by profession and share a love of perennials, woodies and container gardens. They have a special soft spot for ferns,



epimediums, hellebores and anything not typically found at local nurseries. Their back terrace is awash with pots of fancy-leaved begonias, ferns, salvias and succulents.



Lynn Messman Minnetonka

This property has numerous front and back gardens consisting of both sun and shade perennials. The gently sloping backyard features a waterfall into a 2,600-gallon pond which holds koi, goldfish and various types of water plants. Whimsical and appealing garden art, bird houses and sculptures dot the landscape.

Marsha and Paul Theis Excelsior

This garden grabs your attention with vibrant color, lots of blooms, different textures and a large variety of plants, shrubs and trees. Garden sculptures,

pieces of art and structures are incorporated into the gardens. The plantings and potted plants in the front yard enhance the house. In July, the back gardens feature multiple blooming annuals and perennials, hostas, vegetables, herbs and raspberries.





Marilyn Torkelson Eden Prairie

This yard is landscaped for water quality and wildlife with over 150 species of native trees, shrubs, flowers, sedges and grasses. There are three rain gardens, a shoreline restoration, sunny borders and small woodland plantings. These deep-rooted native plants

filter storm water while providing food and shelter for birds and pollinators.

Flower, Food & Foto Show Judy Berglund, Chair

ATTEND A SPECIAL WORKSHOP AND GET TIPS ON ENTERING THE FFF SHOW

FFF Workshop Tuesday, July 30, 7 - 9 p.m. Judy Berglund's home, 10542 Spyglass Drive, Eden Prairie

A special FFF Workshop will be hosted by MWGCM mentors Judy Berglund, Mary Maynard and Margaret Hibberd. The goal is to provide new and veteran club members with the basics on entering flowers and food in the FFF Show (this workshop will not include photo entries).

The workshop will be a mix of formal presentation and informal discussion on topics such as choosing your entry specimens, best ways to transport specimens, completing entry tags, choosing the right bottles/vases and how to stage your entries, general review of the show rules, etc.

No need to bring anything; just plan to take notes.

Please email <u>Judy Berglund</u> by July 26 if you plan to attend.

2019 FFF SHOW, SATURDAY & SUNDAY, AUGUST 10 & 11 MINNESOTA LANDSCAPE ARBORETUM

We encourage all club members to consider bringing a few of their favorite flowers and vegetables to the show this year. The general rules are all on the club website along with all of the entry classes and an example of how to fill out your entry tags.

And don't forget about this year's floral design division: "Song Titles We Love."



We encourage all of you to get on the bandwagon and enjoy the fun and camaraderie of showing off the best of the best of what we all enjoy the most--gardening.

For first-time exhibitors there are several experienced club members willing to assist you in showing off your best. There is also a trophy for the first-time exhibitor with the most points.

So, come one, come all, and bring your best flowers, food, and fotos to the best show in town on August 10 and 11. See you there.

-- Judy Berglund

Lyndale Park Gardens/Mixed Border Garden Kay Wolfe, Chair

Lyndale Park Gardens/Native & Shade Gardens Carol Schreier, Judy Berglund, Co-chairs

JOIN US FOR AN "EVENING IN THE GARDENS"

Wednesday August 21, 6 - 8 p.m. Lyndale Park Gardens at Lake Harriet

The MWGCM committees that plant and maintain the Lyndale Park Gardens at Lake Harriet invite you to spend an evening visiting the gardens and enjoying their beauty, while learning about the history, plantings and how your fellow gardeners have developed these gardens. We'll have refreshments, too. These gardens run from King's Highway toward the Peace Garden, across the road from the Rose Garden. They are the largest service project of the club.

The newest gardens, the Native and Shade Gardens,

are maintained by a group that works Wednesday mornings during the summer. The native garden is planted with Minnesota native plants and has pollinator-friendly features such as a "bee hotel" that provides housing for pollinators. The shade portion of the garden features plants that thrive without direct sunlight. Plans are in the works for a new rain garden to be created south of the native garden.





The original garden,

the Mixed Border Garden, is an artfully designed mix of shrubs, perennials, and annuals. The garden is divided into small areas featuring plants with unique texture and leaf color that give all-season interest. Annuals add summer color. The group that maintains this garden works on Tuesday and Saturday mornings.

Please join us for a fun summer evening. Come anytime between 6:00 and 8:00 p.m. Rain date: August 22. You will receive an Evite in July.

-- Susan Tapp

Deane Fund Grants Update Paul Waytz

The Lake Harriet apa`halaka plantings continue to do well as you can see here. A few of the sporobolus (Prairie Dropseed) closest to the lake are a bit anemic, but we are hopeful they will come around.

Unfortunately, the weeds are thriving as well, but a stalwart crew has been busy removing them before they get established. It's sometimes difficult to



differentiate crabgrass from sporobolus at this stage. As one of the crew said, "Well, grass is grass."

On June 19, eight of us assembled to not only weed but dump and carefully spread what seemed like 16 tons of mulch. Thanks to the now buried soaker hoses, the area is getting the moisture it deserves. The Arctic willow really looks superb. Come by and take a look.

Progressive Tour Re-cap Robert Kean, Chair

56 MEMBERS AND GUESTS ENJOY PROGRESSIVE GARDEN TOUR



Welcome to Steve Shubick's

The evening of June 24 provided 56 MWGCM Members and

their guests with a beautiful Minnesota summer night to enjoy the gardens of MWGCM Members, Tracy Sanders and Steve Shubick. Attendees had the opportunity to socialize and partake of fabulous appetizers and desserts while strolling through these two beautiful and serene St. Paul urban gardens.



A lovely path at Tracy's



A vignette from Tracy Sanders' garden.



A small sampling of Steve's amazing hosta collection.

-- Becky DeLaCruz

Photos: Becky DeLaCruz & Kathy Lenarz

THE COMPREHENSIVE 2019 MWGCM MEMBERSHIP SURVEY



It's been more than eight years since the club surveyed its membership. Our 2019 survey, launched in June, will provide the MWGCM board and committee chairs with opinions pertaining to all club activities and events, and will provide:

1. A better understanding of our members' expectations and how to work toward meeting their needs and the needs of our TC community.

- 2. Potential new initiatives the club could engage in to strengthen member participation.
- 3. Information to refine the club's overall strategy.

As of late June, 25 MWGCM members have taken the survey. Preliminary results will be published in the August *Spray*.

If you have not already taken the survey, please complete it by mid-July. Use this link to go directly to the survey.

- The survey will take approximately 30 minutes to complete.
- Please be open and honest with your answers.
- Your answers will be completely anonymous.
- Need help? Click here for the "How to Take the Survey" training document.

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY FOR MWGCM MEMBERS: THE ARBORETUM PROGRAM "ADVANCING ART & SCIENCE OF YOUR GARDENS," THURSDAY, JULY 18



The MWGCM has become an "Endorsing Organization" of the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum's program "Trending Horticulture 2019: Advancing the Art & Science of Your Gardens," to be held July 18.

As an Endorsing Organization, we receive:

- 1. A discounted rate (\$99) to the program for MWGCM members.
- 2. Linked listing of the MWGCM on their program web page.
- 3. Space on an exhibit table at the workshop to promote our organization.

Program details:

Trending Horticulture 2019: Advancing the Art & Science of Your Gardens Thursday, July 18, 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Landscape Arboretum, Chaska

Dig into an inspiring summer day of horticulture with the Minnesota State Horticultural Society and the Arboretum.

- Meet other gardening enthusiasts as you learn from the experts about cuttingedge design, new ornamental cultivars and behind-the-scenes tours.
- Choose any three sessions from a variety of classes and special-access tours including Native Plants, Butterfly Gardens, Birdscaping, Garden Photography, Kitchen Gardens, Unusual Herbs and Rare Plant Conservation.
- Special access tours include a tram tour with the Arboretum director and MWGCM member Peter Moe, Prairie Plant Conservation, Sculpture Garden, Vegetables at the Farm at the Arb, Wine Grapes and Ornamental Grasses.

Cost is \$99 for MWGCM, HortIculture Society or Arboretum members and \$119 for non-members. Includes morning coffee/snack, lunch and Arboretum admission.

See the Arboretum website for complete information and to register.

PLEASE "SHARE" MWGCM EVENTS ON SOCIAL MEDIA

This summer the MWGCM has several events we would like to share with the public. With our limited advertising budget, we will be using free social media avenues to help publicize these events.

- Please use Facebook to "share" our MWGCM Facebook posts.
- Nextdoor is a social network for your own neighborhood. Please share any MWGCM flyers on your local Nextdoor page.
- An email will be sent to the MWGCM membership notifying them we have published a new post to our Facebook page and/or a flyer will be attached which you can share on Facebook and Nextdoor.

Thank you in advance for sharing Club events and news with your friends, family and co-workers.

A PILGRIMAGE TO THE AMERICAN HOSTA SOCIETY ANNUAL CONVENTION IN GREEN BAY

Andy Marlow drove with Bob Olson and me as passengers. There where ten wonderful gardens on tour with seven optional gardens. Another outstanding optional tour was at the Green Bay Botanical Garden -- a must see if you're going to be in Green Bay. Their Hosta Glade was one of the best that I have been to.



FRIENDS • FOLIAGE • FOREVER

At the Leaf Show, I received seven first-place blue ribbons and two best-in-section for my five potted hosta plants and two hosta leaves. The big news was that Bob Olson received an American Hosta Society Lifetime Achievement Award and Andy Marlow was elected AHS President. Both Bob and Andy have been longtime members of the MWGCM and Hosta Societies. Also, Bob is the Editor and Andy is the Photo Editor of The Hosta Journal Publication of The American Hosta Society. Congratulations to the both of them.

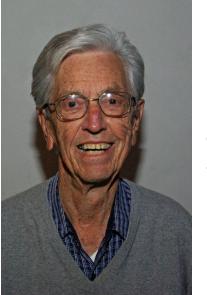
The 2020 AHS Convention will be in Minneapolis, and I hope some of you will join us for all the fun.

-- Steve Shubick

In Memoriam

MEMORIES OF BOB VOIGT

It was very sad news last week when we heard of long time club member Bob Voigt's passing. Bob was one of the MGCM greats. He joined MGCM in 1982, and was president when I was elected to the board of directors in 1995. Bob was a great mentor and an enthusiastic president. He was always so supportive, sending individual thank you notes to committee chairs. He and his wife Mavis frequently hosted club parties at their farm on the St. Croix River. Bob was a strong financial supporter of the public Perennial Trial and Border Garden at Lyndale Park, and challenged members to donate to the



Memorial Fund which financed the project. He will be missed by all of us. Condolences to his wife Mavis and their family. -- Kay Wolfe

I appreciated the generosity of Mavis and Bob inviting the entire club to visit their gardens at the farm. It was a great getaway-from-the-city event. Bob was an easy and interesting person to talk to--knowledgeable about many things. He'll be missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him. -- Lynda Carlson

Bob worked with non-profits and fundraising. He did that with the club and MSHS. He was always kind and generous of his time and expertise. His vegetable growing skills were known and recognized in the club, and he exemplified the giving spirit of the club in many ways. Our sympathy to Mavis and his family while we remember the good life he lived.

-- Kent Petterson

I remember Bob selling raffle tickets at the Plant Sale every year. Also, the club trip to his special farming area was a lesson on how to farm near the city.

-- Nancy Bjerke

I have lots of fond memories of Bob. The year that Bob was club president, he wore a different hat to each meeting, usually related in some way to the season or meeting theme. One time he had a stovepipe hat (think Abe Lincoln). I don't remember how it related to the meeting, but it was spectacular.

Bob was involved in the Arbor Day committee for many years, and I remember planting trees with him. Later on, he connected us to Outback Nursery as a great source of native trees and shrubs. Part of the nursery is actually on the Afton property of Bob and Mavis (the nursery owner, Tom, rents the property). As the result of this relationship, Outback has frequently donated to plants for our Arbor Day projects.

Bob was one of the most positive and optimistic people I have ever known. That, combined with his great sense of humor, made it always a pleasure to chat with him. He will be greatly missed.

-- Robert Kean

A celebration of Bob Voigt's life will be held Sunday, July 28 at 2 p.m. at Walker Place, 3701 Bryant Ave. S., Minneapolis. As many of you know, he died June 17 and is buried in Lakewood Cemetery.

https://www.gillbrothers.com/memorials/Voigt-Robert/3876622/



Kathy Lenarz introduced new member Louise Gerber at our June meeting.

Mary Nolte, and Marilyn and Timothy Leister joined the club at our June meeting. Introductions will be coming soon.

WELCOME GERARD AND BUFFIE SHANNON

The Shannons found out about the MWGCM from member Tracy Sanders. Buffie and Tracy worked together in the Optum Division of UnitedHealth Group. Both Gerard and Buffie grew up with gardening in their

lives. Buffie spent her first eight years in the Duluth area, where her mother nourished an English-style perennial garden. In Massachusetts, Gerard's mother grew a variety of flowers, and enjoyed arranging them. His father grew vegetables.

Gerard and Buffie met while attending St. Louis University in Missouri and moved to Minnesota in the late 1970's. They are on their fourth home here. When they moved in, there were only a couple of trees and shrubs. Their plantings now include a clematis-covered arbor, shrubs, flowering crabapple trees, phlox, iris, astilbe, eight varieties of clematis, and even a fountain. Buffie is currently working as a marketing director, and Gerard is retired from a VP position in a financial consulting company. In addition to time in the garden, he volunteers two days a week at the V.A. hospital.

WELCOME BETSY LEMAL

Betsy learned about the MWGCM at this year's Plant Sale. She and her husband, Daniel, live in South Minneapolis. Betsy grew up in Illinois, attended college in Berkley, California, and studied documentary film editing in New York. She taught school and spent most of her career years teaching English as a second language to adults. She has now been a Minnesotan for 33 years.

When she moved into her current home, it had lots of dying grass, which she replaced with a shade garden area. Then the city cut down a tree, and it was time to start over with a sunny garden. Last summer the Mexican sunflowers, which drew butterflies and other pollinators, were a joy for Betsy and her husband to watch. She still feels like a gardening novice and is looking forward to learning more as a club member in order to provide more variety and interest for her yard.

Welcome to all our new members. Enjoy the sun everyone.

Every member bring a member.

Need a ride to garden club meetings? Willing to provide a ride? Email Kathy Lenarz or call (612) 869-8471.

Photo: Lloyd Wittstock

Treasurer's Snapshot

Alan Gallaher, Bill Clark, Co-treasurers

The Treasurer's Snapshot is not available this month.

2019 Meeting & Event Calendar

July 20

Public Tour of 7 Gardens

August 10 & 11

Flower, Food & Foto Show Minnesota Landscape Arboretum

August 21

An Evening in the Garden Lyndale Park Gardens (Lake Harriet)

September 10

Lillies Forrest Peiper

Lakewood Cemetery Mausoleum

October 8

Program TBA
Lakewood Cemetery Mausoleum

November 12

The Most Toxic Plants & Fungi of Minnesota Laurie Willhite Lake Harriet Methodist Church

December 10

Annual Holiday Party & Silent Auction

2019 Officers & Directors

Club Officers

President

Anne Spenningsby Minneapolis

Vice President

Directors

John Cooke St. Louis Park

Suzanne Holt Minneapolis

Linda Wilkins Richfield

Linda Thompson Minneapolis

Membership Secretary

Kathy Lenarz Richfield

Recording Secretary

Sue Clark Minnetonka

Co-treasurers

Alan Gallaher Edina

Bill Clark Minnetonka

Past President

Mary Barsness Prior Lake

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