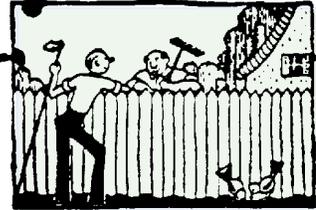




# The Garden Spray

Bulletin of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc  
2003, Volume 61, Number 8



## From triple headed chairs, to the double header events for August.

*Carole Ann Brekke & Kay Wolfe are the co-chairs for the August members tour and  
Dave McKeen is the chair of the Food Flower & Foto Show.*

### Food Flower & Foto Show August 16 & 17

Takes place at The Snyder Auditorium at the University of Minnesota Arboretum. Anyone can exhibit. Bring your friends to see it.

The time to enter your exhibits is 7:00 to 10:30 AM on Saturday the 16th.

Judging takes place from 10:30 AM to approx. 12:00 PM on the 16th . (doors are closed).

Public viewing of the show from 12:00 to 4:30 PM on the 16th and 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM on Sunday the 17th.

Pick up plants ribbons & prizes on Sunday at 4 PM. The clean-up also starts at 4 PM anyone is welcome to help.

**See page 2 & 7 for more details.  
No reservations required, Just come**

### August Members Tour Sunday August 24

Leave the driving to us and take the bus. Board the bus at 1:00 PM.

Meet at Lake Harriet United Methodist Church, 49th and Chowen, in South Minneapolis, (Same location as winter dinner meetings.)

Tour 3 places and have a box lunch at the Voigt's St Croix farm.

An opportunity will be available to purchase some choice plants, visit with friends, see Voigt's farm and have an early evening lunch at the farm.

Cost: \$16.00 per person includes bus, box lunch, and beverages. Reservations needed by August 20. Return to church by 6:00 PM

**See page 11  
for more details and Reservations.**

# From The President

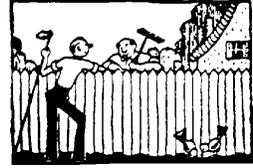
By Nancy Bjerke

The annual FFF show is coming up and you can win a ribbon for your horticultural results. Remember there is little or no traffic on Saturday so the drive to the Arboretum is a pleasant experience. Bring your winners to the auditorium Saturday, the 16th of August and the other club members will help you register and show you how to exhibit your flower, vegetable, container planting and/or plant art design. Simply gather up examples of all the lovely plants from your garden and head out to the Arboretum for an interesting and rewarding day.

Of course, I didn't read the booklet before entering the exhibit area but the club members showed me how to display my entries. Instead of stuffing my posy into a bottle with the leaves under the water I neatly snipped off the lower foliage and placed the flower in the appropriate sized bottle. They provide bottles, water, plates for vegetables and small wedges to keep your stem from rotating in the container. Foliage must be attached to stems of cut flowers unless the flower is grown on the stem such as a hibiscus. Planted containers are accepted too and if you have an interesting one that can be totted out there I am sure you will be rewarded for your efforts.

You fill out an entry tag for each exhibited item. The tag lists the plant name, the variety and the exhibitor's name and address. Even nonmembers can enter the contest and that includes the photo event.

While you are waiting for the judges to complete their selections you can walk to the Beren's cabin to admire the landscape plants and learn about the Arboretum's history. Riding the Tram is another way to enjoy the grounds and learn about cold hearty plants.



Starting at 11:00 am I will be driving the Tram around the three mile drive and I hope you will join me. Many of the Dave Rogers' bug sculptures are visible from the Tram.

## Food Flower & Foto Show

By David McKeen (FFF Chair)

Come one, come all to the Food Flower & Foto Show (FFF). The dates for the big show are August 16th and 17th.

The show is held in the Snyder Auditorium at the "Arboretum". After you have entered your fine specimens, you can relax, have lunch and wander through the beautiful gardens while the judges are putting blue ribbons on your entries.

The show is open to all, members and non members.

Entries will be accepted Saturday between 7:00 and 10:30 AM. Judging starts at 10:30 the doors will be closed and no further entries will be accepted.

When the judging is completed the show will be open until 4:30 PM for public viewing. Public viewing will also be available on Sunday from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

You should have received the show schedule book by mail. Go through the book and decide what plant specimens you will enter. Don't say you don't know how to enter the specimens, there will be plenty of fellow gardeners to help. It is easy, quick and fun to enter. Bottles & vases are available so all you have to bring is the specimen plants, flowers and vegetables.

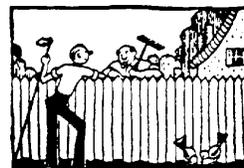
It is fun to watch what everyone brings in and I am sure you will leave with more ideas for your garden next year.

The featured plants for 2003 are the tomato and nicotiana. Special awards will be given for these plants.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the Show. David McKeen

# The Dessert Contest

We really did have a glutinous consumption of the desserts. There were 14 desserts for about 50 people. All the desserts were winners and some people tried all 14. The voting was real close so they must have been good. The third place recipe is shown below and others to follow if received.



*The Prizes*

*A Rex Begonia 'Boston Cherries n' Cream'  
Hosta 'Raspberry Sorbet'  
Hosta 'Pinapple Upsidedown Cake'*



*The winners*

*Geri Trocke 2nd Place with A Bananna Split desert  
Caroles Ann Brekke 1st Place with a Cheese Cake & Strawberries  
Nancy Devine 3rd place with a Rhubarb Cake*

## **Rhubarb Cake**

*By Nancy Devine*

*Preheat oven to 350. Lightly butter or spray a 9x13 pan.  
Prepare one yellow cake mix according to the package directions.  
Pour cake batter in to the prepared pan.  
Spread 4 cups of diced rhubarb on top of the batter.  
Sprinkle 1/2--1 cup of sugar over the rhubarb (amount of sugar depends on how sweet or tart you want it).  
Pour 2 cups of whipping cream (do not whip) over the ingredients in the pan.  
Bake for 1 hour.*

*Nancy Devine commented*

*It was an enjoyable evening in the Lake Harriet gardens  
and I thank the Club for the Raspberry Sorbet hosta.*

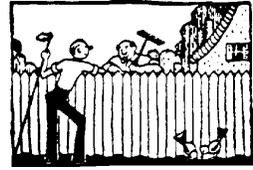


*The Tabulating  
Warren Nordley & Walt Gustafson*



*The Enjoyment  
Kay Wolfe*

# The Perennial Garden And Lyndale Park Garden Scenes



**Top left: the Saturday crew having a donut hole after a morning's work. Top Center: MT Pulley & Robert Keen working spreading compost. Top Right: Neil Anderson addressing our group at the July outing. Center Left: A River Birch, is a heritage tree in Minneapolis. Unfortunately, that has so much decay it may have to be removed. Center Right: A view of the Peace Garden. Bottom Left: The waterfall in the Peace Garden**

Photos by Chuck Carlson & Lloyd Witstock

# Board Meeting Summary



Summarized from  
Mary Oelke's Secretary's Report

## MGCM Board Meeting Tuesday, July 1, 2003

Board Members Present: Rudy Allebach, Nancy Bjerke, Lynda Carlson, Warren Nordley, Mary Oelke, Jackie Overom. Absent: Ellyn Hosch, Dave Johnson, Dave McKeen

The July, 2003 Board Meeting was called to order by President Nancy Bjerke. The minutes of the June, 2003 meeting were approved.

### President's Report

A proposal for MGCM to participate in a planting opportunity at Theodore Wirth Park was presented. After some discussion it was decided that there were too many unanswered questions about the size of the site, the designing of the project, etc., for the club to commit to this opportunity at the present time. Nancy will try to obtain more information.

### Treasurer's Report

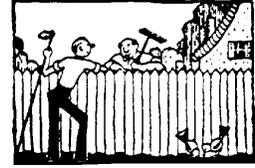
In the absence of Dave Johnson, the treasurer's report was given by Nancy Bjerke. The club has now received 501c3 status. Dave still has to file a tax return for 2002. He can then request a tax refund. Thirty-seven members and seventeen guests signed up for the June Garden Tour. The treasurer's report was approved.

### Membership Secretary's Report

A motion was made and approved to accept the following new members:

Brenda Reeve  
Cory Swingen

There are now 122 members in MGCM.



## Unfinished Business

A recognition of the eighteen members who have belonged to MGCM for twenty-five or more years will be held at the September Membership Meeting.

Jerry Shannon is the chair of the Name Change Committee. He would like members who are interested in a name change to call him to volunteer to be on this committee.

Dave McKeen and Warren Nordley completed the plantings at Lake Harriet Methodist Church in time for the dedication of the church's remodeling project.

### New Business

The dedication of the Beren's Cabin at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum will be held on Monday, July 28 at 12:30.

## Next Board Meeting

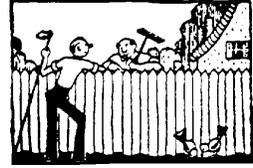
The next board meeting will be held at 7 PM on Tuesday, August 19 at the home of Lynda Carlson. (This is a change from the first to the third Tuesday of August.)



# Change of Address

Lloyd Bachman has a new address.

Lloyd A Bachman  
PO Box 291  
Buffalo MN 55313



# Confessions of a Lazy Gardener

By Mary Maynard

The more I garden, the more I like gold-leaved plants. They warm up the garden, and can really lighten up a shady spot. Here are four gold-leaved things that I have these days:

*Lysimachia numularia* 'Aurea' (Golden Moneywort). This perennial seems to be very tough, and grows well in the shade. It also goes wherever it wants, so it's important to plan to manage its spread if you don't want it everywhere. (It pulls up easily, so it's not hideous to manage.) I have this growing a couple of places in the shade where it can complement green-and-gold hostas. It looks great with either *hosta montana aureomarginata* or *hosta* 'Queen Josephine'. The stems are a little tender, so it doesn't work all that well in areas where there is a lot of foot traffic (between stepping stones, for instance).

*Heuchera* 'Amber Waves'. This is a comparatively new coral bells. I splurged on this at Plant Delights last year, and fully expected it to croak over this past winter. But it's back, doing fine. I'm ambivalent about this plant so far. The color seems a little muddy to me. But I'm not a huge fan of *heuchera*'s anyway, so that may be part of it.

*Tanacetum parthenium* 'Aureum'. (Golden Feverfew). Formerly *Chrysanthemum parthenium* 'Aureum', aka *Matricaria parthenium*, etc., etc. This is a nice

short-lived perennial that reseeds readily. It does well in full or part sun, grows to about 12 inches tall with small white daisy-like flowers. The flowers are nice, but it's the leaves that really makes this stand out. They are a strong chartreuse yellow, and they hold their color all summer. If they survive the winter (and it's probably about 50/50 that they will), they emerge very early, so the springtime garden glows. If they don't survive the winter, their progeny will emerge as soon as the soil warms up a little bit and there will be plenty of seedlings to go around. Golden Feverfew also makes a very nice container plants in combination with coleus, herbs, etc. Golden feverfew isn't always that easy to find, but a Google search may lead to an online source. I only bought seeds once, and never needed to again. And I usually have seedlings to share in the spring.



*Lysimachia Numularia*  
'Aurea'



*Heuchera*  
'Amber Waves'



*Tansey vulgare*  
'Ilsa Gold'

*Tansy vulgare* 'Isla Gold' (Gold Leaf Tansy). This is a fabulous plant! Intended for full sun and well-drained soil, this tough perennial comes up early with bright yellow foliage and stays that way all summer. Unlike the regular tansy that we have all ripped out at one time or another, 'Isla Gold' forms a neat clump that increases only modestly from year to year. I have had this in the perennial garden in our neighborhood park for three years now, and it's just fantastic. Grows to about 24 inches, and flowers are not noticeable. (If there are any flowers, I haven't noticed them!) It's still pretty hard to find locally, but Plant Delights, Singing Springs and Avant Gardens carry it, and it's bound to only get more popular as time goes on.



# FFF made Simple

By Mary Maynard

## The Lazy Gardener Enters the Flower, Food and Foto Show.

I don't know what it is about our FFF (Flower, Food and Foto) Show that is so much fun. But it is a blast. Maybe one of the reasons it's so fun is that you only have to bring in your good stuff. And yours is probably as good as anyone else's. Nobody needs to know about all those shabby, mildewed, insect-ridden specimens you left in the garden.

So, if you haven't tried entering a show yet, I urge you to give our FFF Show a shot.

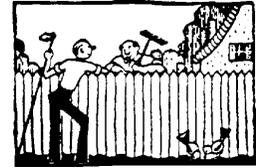
Here are some things to keep in mind:

Study the show schedule. The show schedule lists the categories of exhibits, and the type and number of specimens in each category. You should have gotten the show schedule for the FFF show in the mail by now.

The show schedule lets you plan what you're going to show, and tells you how many of what you're going to need.

Get entry tags and fill them out ahead of time for FFF. It is not required but it does help if you brought a lot of specimens. It's best to use a #2 pencil or some sort of waterproof pen, since there's always a lot of water in the setup area. I use a regular ball-point pen. Let me know if you need tags for FFF. I have plenty.

For cut flowers, cut them the evening before and store them in a cool place. This will allow flowers to "harden", and shows



you which ones would have wilted if you'd waited until the morning to pick them. Always cut one or two more than you need to show, so that you can avoid a crisis if a stem gets bent or the blossom gets crushed.

For vegetables, you can either pick them the day before or in the early morning if you have time. (I always pick everything the day before.) There are some rules about stem lengths, whether or not to leave the leaves on or to have the roots trimmed or not that will help you win ribbons. If you can get your hands on the MSHS Exhibiting and Judging Handbook, it doesn't hurt to refer to it for your vegetable exhibits.

For both vegetables and flowers, uniformity is important. If you're exhibiting three bell peppers, for instance, showing three uniform but slightly smaller peppers is better than showing one really outstanding pepper and two others that can't stand up to the comparison.

And cleanliness is important. I still remember one of our judges writing "grooming" on the back of my tag for a lovely hosta leaf — that had more than a little dust in the veins when it got into good light. Try to get dirt and dust off leaves and vegetables without removing any natural luster or tone. For instance, excessive cleaning can remove the glaucous blue coating on some hosta leaves.

One of the bigger challenges is moving things to the site. It's important to protect delicate blooms from being crushed or broken. So things like lilies or hosta blooms should be transported in an upright position. Some folks put a piece of chicken wire over the top of a bucket and tuck stems through the chicken wire, which keeps the flowers upright and helps prevent them touching each other. I did something similar with duct tape (my favorite material) in a cross-hatch pattern across the top of a bucket. But a lot of flowers don't need quite as much care in transport. Margaret

*(Continued on page 10)*

# Getting To Know Our Past Presidents

Data collected by our Historian  
Howard Berg edited by Chuck Carlson

*Editors note: This is a series of past presidents in the club who are still members in the club. The selection process will be to present the earliest presidents that we have history available. Get your bio sketches to Howard. This is an attempt to make the club a bit more personable by getting to know our members better.*

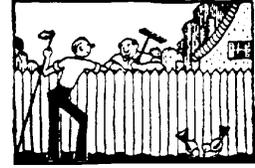
## Duane Johnson

**Duane Johnson** born Little Falls, Minnesota on May 13, 1932. After high school, he attended the University of Minnesota and graduated with a BS 1954 and a MA 1959. Duane also became a Specialist in Learning Disabilities in 1971. While at the U of M Duane was also in the Chi Phi Fraternity. He was a teacher spending most of his work life at Field Elementary, as a Special Ed Teacher.

Organizations he belongs to are the Master Gardener since 1989, The Minnesota State Horticultural Society and The Teachers Home Board. He is an approved judge for flower shows and on the Judging & Exhibiting Committee of The Horticultural Society.

Duane joined the Mens Garden Club in 1982 and was sponsored by Fred Glasoe. Duane Chaired the Fragrance Garden, the Holiday Party and the Flower, Food, & Foto Show. He also served on many committees the last ones being the Plant Auction, & Perennial. He was also on the board as Vice President 1988 and president in 1988. Duane was also awarded the Bronze medal in 1998.

As far as his gardening efforts, he enjoys trying different varieties. Sharing



horticultural's in and outs is why he joined the club and is proud of the fact that when he was president, the club accepted the first woman as a member of the club. Duane and Janice (Jan) were long time residents of South Minneapolis but last year they moved into a new home in Golden Valley. Thus, for the last year have been in the process of landscaping their new yard.



Duane Johnson

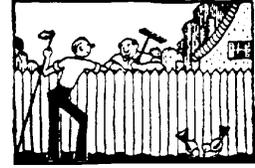
## Andy Marlow

Andy Marlow's birthplace was in Lake City, Minnesota, in 1944. He moved to the Twin City area and graduated from St. Paul Park High School which is now Park of Cottage Grove. He received a BA in Speech - Radio/TV at St Cloud State College. He furthered his education at St. Mary's University of Minnesota, in Winona with a MS in Telecommunication. This all led up to working as Radio Producer, Announcer, reporter, Station Manager at KUOM -AM radio station at the University of Minnesota.

He is a member of Migizi Communications (Native American Communications Organization), The Circle (Native American Monthly Newspaper) and Faith Presbyterian Church.

In 1980 Phil Smith (now in Montana) got

*(Continued on page 9)*



# Getting To Know You

Data collected by our Historian  
Howard Berg edited by Chuck Carlson

Jack Kobe born in 1923 in the city of the Vikings nemesis Green Bay, Wisconsin. I wonder who he cheers for when they play each other. He received a BS degree in Agronomy and spent his work life as an Agronomist.

Organizations he belongs to are The Kiwanis, The Knights of Columbus and MGCSA (Minnesota Golf Course Superintends. Association.)

He joined the Men's Garden Club in — — when sponsored by Dr. Leon Snyder. It looks like Jack knew the famous/important members. He has been the Plant Auction Chairman and also a Holiday Party Co-chair. Plus a perennial bell ringer calling everyone to dinner at the Holiday party.

His primary interest in gardening is the art of raising fine turf and joined the club to Learn more about flowers. His most gratifying experience in the club is meeting interesting people. Jack and his wife Rajah moved out of their home where club members spent some fun times and moved into new digs in Mendota Heights.



Kak & Roger Koopman & Jack & Rajah Kobe

# Getting to Past Presidents Continued

(Continued from page 8)

Andy interested in the club but Larry Catron was my sponsor. Andy has been Secretary, Vice-President, President, Past President, Editor of Garden Spray, Webmaster, Chaired the Awards committee and has worked on the Holiday Party, and Flower, Food & Foto Committees. He also received the Bronze Medal in 1993.

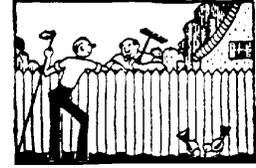
His primary gardening interest is shade gardening, and Hostas. Andy's most gratifying experience in the club was Editing the Garden Spray for 6 Years and seeing the scholarship program established.

Andy and his wife Phyllis Stromberg presently live in a wooded area in Minnetonka, Minnesota. Andy is also a big believer in computers, especially the Apple and does some computer installation and servicing.



Andy Marlow

Photos by Chuck Carlson



## FFF Made Simple Cont.

*(Continued from page 7)*

Hibberd brings a lot of her flowers in plastic glasses in cardboard drink holders. I have used quart jars spaced carefully within a box. And I depend on at least one well-soaked block of Oasis (floral foam). For many of my smaller things, it's just as easy to stick the stems into Oasis, making sure they're well separated. Works like a charm.

Then you load up your vehicle and drive carefully to the show site. Needless to say, sudden stops and starts on the road are not good, either. Fortunately, I'll be on the road at about 6:30 in the morning, so my cautious driving will not annoy as many people as I'd encounter in rush hour.

When you get there, you can start setting up your exhibits. For vegetables at FFF, it's pretty straightforward: put them on a plate, arranging them to best demonstrate their uniformity and cultural perfection.

For cut flower exhibits, bottles with water are provided. Remove broken, diseased or insect-damaged leaves, cut stems to the proper length (make stem in proportion to size of bloom), and use styrofoam blocks (provided at FFF) or other means to inconspicuously secure the stems in the bottle. Generally, you want the exhibit to present its best possible appearance. There should

be no foliage below the water level. No artificial coloring, leaf shine, spray, oiling or wiring is allowed.

When your exhibits are ready, attach the entry tags take them to the display room and place them in the proper location. (Locations are labeled. If you can't find the right spot, ask the show supervisor.) Do not touch or move other exhibits. If you don't have room, find the show supervisor and ask for assistance. You need to have all your exhibits on the display floor by the time judging is scheduled to begin (10:30). Late entries will not be accepted.

Then, wait until the judging is completed and go back and see how you did. I went back through the records for about 10 years, and I couldn't find any entrant who failed to get some ribbons. Chances are, you'll be surprised at how well you did!

Let's face it: if a Lazy Gardener can collect a few ribbons at the show, anybody can!



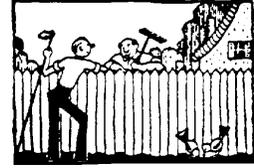
## Exercise

Do you need exercise? Try a few of the following:

- Jump to Conclusions
- Climb the walls
- Push your luck
- Hit the nail on the head
- Bend over backwards
- Run in circles
- Wade through paperwork
- Climb the ladder of success
- Pick up the pieces
- Jump on the bandwagon
- Go over the edge
- Start the ball rolling

If you do all of these you are in a 'heap of trouble' and you will 'reap your rewards'.

*The above exercises were gleaned from a newsletter of the Mansfield Mens Garden Club.*



## The 2003 Schedule of Events

August 16, FFF Show at Arboratum  
August 17, FFF Show at Arboratum  
August 24, Members Tour  
Fall Gardens  
September 9, Dinner Meeting

October 14, Dinner Meeting  
November 11, Dinner Meeting  
November 28, Wreath Making  
at Kliers Garden Center  
December 2, Holiday Party

\* \* \* \* \*

### August 24, 2003 Fall Members Tour

Permanent reservations are not in effect. See below for reservation form

#### ST. CROIX VALLEY TOUR:

#### VOIGT'S FARM AND SHOPPING AT UNIQUE GARDEN SHOPS

Join us for a trip to the St. Croix Valley. First stop will be Squire House Gardens in Afton, Minnesota. A shop, gardens, and nursery are all in a quaint old house on Afton's main street—for sale are gifts and home furnishings as well as plants. Lush display gardens surround the house, with paths, pool, and arbors. Second stop will be Funkie Gardens in Prescott, Wisconsin. This nursery dedicated to unique rare-to-the-trade plants is located on the grounds of a pre-civil war house, with display gardens surrounding the property. Their specialties are hosta and unusual shade and sun plants. There will be plenty of space on the bus for your purchases. After shopping we will head to Bob and Mavis Voigt's farm located next to the St. Croix River. Huge gardens cover the property—Bob has named it the St. Croix Valley Botanical Gardens. They grow perennials, annuals, vegetables, fruit, and herbs—and have modernized the 1900's farmhouse. There will be plenty of time for exploring, relaxing, and lunch. Don't miss this great opportunity!

\*\*\*\*\*

### Please reserve a place for myself & guest at the August Tour

Members Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Guest Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Box Lunch Choices( Please circle your Choice & indicate the quantity if more than one

- |   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Roast beef executive sandwich, on hearty thick sliced bread. | 2. Turkey BLT wrap sandwich         |
| 3. Chicken Caesar wrap sandwich                                 | 4. Chicken salad croissant sandwich |

Also included in the box are potato salad, fresh fruit, and brownie.

Enclosed is my check for \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$16.00 each for a total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Reservation and payment must be received no later than August 20.**

Send to Carole Ann Brekke,  
709 Rushmore Drive, Burnsville MN 55306-5161



# MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.



## CLUB OFFICERS:

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 5745 Duncan Lane  
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## 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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# The Garden Spray

Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc.  
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**August the Month  
 of the Fall Flowers**