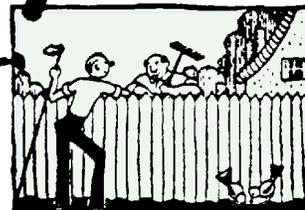




The Garden Spray

Bulletin of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc
2004, Volume 62, Number 1



MGCM Schedule

2004 Meetings

Date	Location	Event
Jan. 13	LHC	Garden Jewels by D. Reynolds
Feb. 10	LHC	Program
March 9	LHC	Program
April 6*	LHC	Flower Show Field/Bachman
May 4	WLC	Plant Auction and Sale
June 8	TBD	Garden Tour
July TBD		Public Tour
Aug. TBD	TBD	Club Tour
Aug. 21-22	ARB.	FFF Show
Sept. 14	LHC	Program
October 12	LHC	Program
Nov. 9	LHC	Program
Nov. 26	KGC	Wreath Making
Dec. 7	LHC	Holiday Party

This Month

Tuesday, January 13, 2004

Gathering & Conversation -----6:00 pm

Dinner-----6:30 pm

Business Meeting-----7:30 pm

Program-----8:00 pm

The Program

Small Jewels of the Garden

By Duane Reynolds

Majestic trees, boulder waterfalls, gazebos and expansive patios catch the eye and make unique focal points for the home garden.

The jewels of the garden though are the plants that surprise the eye and catch the visitor off guard- small perennials whose home is a crevice in a rock garden or the front of the border are the plants that make the work worthwhile and nurture the soul. Don't miss this program by a masterful presenter. You will enjoy yourself and learn something new.



*The Waterfall at the
Lake Harriett
Peace Garden*

*Photo By
Chuck Carlson*

ARB= Minnesota Landscape Arboretum

LHC= Lake Harriet Church

WLC= Westwood Lutheran Church

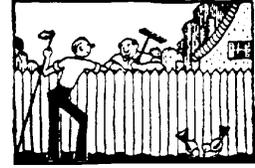
KGC= Klier's Garden Center

FFF= Food Flower & Foto Show

* early start 5:30 pm

**See page 11 for more details and Reservations
Permanent reservations are in effect.**

Reserve or Cancel by Friday January 9, 2004



From Your President

Ellyn Hosch

President of MGCM

It is hard to believe that it is almost a new year. The last couple of months have been filled with wonderful club events. I've made the wreath making at Klier's an annual affair and am increasing the fun by bringing family and friends. It is a great opportunity to socialize with other club members and make a beautiful wreath. My wreath was all the better from the helpful advice I got from Mary Maynard, Dr. Bob Olson, Eldon Hugelen, and the family of Dave McKeen.

Our Holiday Party has become a must attend event, with great food, entertainment and auction items. Many thanks to the Holiday Party Committee for planning and hosting such a fine affair! The entertainment was superior and the Silent Auction was once again a hit.

Budget

Our proposed 2004 budget is published on page 3 of this newsletter. You will see that we have a projected deficit this year of \$2,860. This budget is based on the last three year's experience and known or expected increases in expenses. A few items drive much of this deficit:

1. Hospitality: A \$1,000 total increase with \$ 800 for church rental and \$200 for monthly table set-up. Volunteers have done the set-up in the past, but it is getting increasing difficult to find individuals who can take the time every month to do this.
2. Legal Expenses: A \$ 500 contingency for legal and non-profit filing expenses if the club decides to change our name.
3. Memorial Fund: A \$ 500 expense that is mostly covered by money received in prior years. (The money was recognized as income in the year it was received.)
4. Garden Spray: A \$ 300 contingency for publication software for the new editor of the Spray.

5. Garden Tour - Other: A \$ 200 increase to cover the cost of the bus to the Marshall Field's/Bachman's Flower Show. In years past, you paid for the bus whether you used it or not.

Our club is financially healthy, with over \$12,500 in our general reserve. You'll have an opportunity to ask questions, make suggestions and vote on our budget at the January meeting.

The Newsletter

You'll notice in the budget items above that we are looking for a new editor of the Garden Spray. Chuck Carlson, our very capable and award-winning editor, will be stepping down at the end of 2004. For many years, he has been a one-man-band and orchestra director, producing a monthly newsletter that is the envy of other garden clubs. If you are interested in becoming part of the new team who edits and produces our newsletter, please contact Chuck or me. How often do you have the opportunity to apprentice for a year before taking over a job?

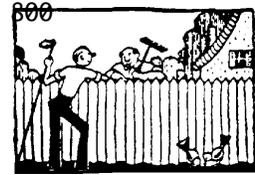
Committee Chairs

One of the jobs of the new President is to find people to chair our many committees. To those of you who have agreed to chair a committee, many thanks from the entire club. It is the work of the committees under the leadership of the chairs and co-chairs that makes our many club events so worthwhile and enjoyable. To those of you who have not yet chaired a committee, I suggest you give it a try next year. You can use this year as a learning experience by watching the current chair.

Our winter is off to a good start with an insulating blanket of snow before the frigid temperatures of January and February. Mary Maynard's article in the December Spray has inspired me to step out of my usual rut to try something interesting and unusual. I'm off to review my many seed and nursery catalogs.

See you at the January dinner meeting!



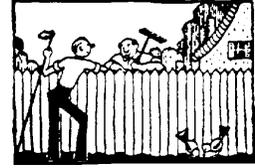


2004 Budget

COMITTEE OR FUNCTION	INCOME	EXPENSE	
Arbor Day		200	
Awards and Trophies		250	
FFF		800	
Garden Spray		1000	
Holiday Party	2400	2600	
Holiday Party-silent Auction	800		
Hospitality	4000	5000	
Membership		400	
Perennial Garden		300	
Photography		50	
Plant Auction	7600	4200	
Program		800	
Slide Show	200	50	
Sunshine		300	
Garden Tour - Public	6000	3000	
Garden Tour - Club	1000	1200	
Garden Tour - Other		200	
Valley Fair	1000		
MGCM Dues	1200		
MSHS Membership	1500	1500	
MSHS Donation		200	
MN Arboretum Membership		60	
MN Arboretum Donation		300	
HRC Donation		300	
Mpls Parks Legacy Society		100	
Bank Interest	600		
Bank Charges		300	
Honorary Members Dues		100	
Insurance		500	
President Contingency		500	
Office Supplies		200	
Legal/Filing Expenses		600	
Raffles	50		
Scholarships (designated fund)	*	3000	
Historian		500	
Miscellaneous		100	
Memorials (designated fund)	**	500	
Youth Gardening		100	
Totals	\$26350	\$29210	(-\$2860 deficit)
Comparison with 2003 budget	\$25750	\$25750	

* Income for 2004 scholarships will be available from 2004 public garden tour profits (\$3000 projected). In addition, our designated scholarship fund currently has assets of \$1364

** Income for the 2004 memorials will be available from the current designated fund assets of \$ 332 plus from our available assets.



Last Months Party

By Chuck Carlson

This years Holiday Party was again a highlight of the club's yearly activities. Everything was well planned from Lynda Carlson taking reservations and being the greeter to the ending concert by The Good Samaritan Singers. The committee should be proud of their efforts and I personally thank you all for you accomplished.

The silent auction topped last years achievement and for that those involved deserve a lot of kudos. The tables were decorated, the wreaths were hung and the tree was lit and all was well for a great catered dinner.

Duane Reynolds was a presenter extraordinary and presented awards to;

- Mary Maynard for the FFF flower sweepstakes,
- Mel Anderson for the FFF vegetable sweepstakes.
- Chuck Carlson for the FFF photo sweepsteaks.
- Elaine Spegel for the FFF first time exhibitor
- Bob Voigt for the big pumpkin
- Bob Stepan for the big sunflower
- John Dahl for the best garden on tour
- Kay Wolfe the presidents cup presented by Nancy Bjerke.
- Kay Wolfe The distinguished service award presented by last years winner, Lloyd Wittstock.

A slide presentation titled The MGCM Year 2003 in Review was given prior to ending the night with a concert by The Good Samaritan Singers, a group of 30 women singers.

Good words were heard from those in attendance for a very enjoyable party. Thanks to the committee and their chair, Anne Buchanan for a job well done.

January

By Chuck Carlson

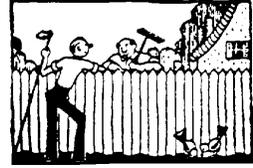
Did you hear January call,
And watch the old year fall?
The garden has been put to bed,
And we see the dogwood stems of red.
Now the catalogs will come by ones and twos.
And they will keep you from the garden blues.
Just select some plants and tell us too.
So we can try at least, one or two.
They could be nice next summer,
Or— maybe just a bummer.
Or— they may be a gardener's dream,
When the blooms develop, so supreme.
Winter now is really here.
And we must clean & oil our gardening gear.
It is time to watch the bowls and cheer, And
wish each other— a Happy New Year.

Wanted

Articles, Poems, Jokes, cartoons and any other "fill" for the Newsletter.

This is a non-gardening time of the year so compose an article. I know you can write and have the knowledge. Maybe it can be a favorite plant, something you do in the garden, tips, a hobby, suggestions for a new landscaped flower bed or an editorial (good or bad) about the Club or other gardening activities. If you don't respond you may get more of my poems, pictures or blank pages. Just send them on to me. I will even edit them and use a spell-checker to catch those typos.

Your editor



Board Meeting Summary

The December board meeting was cancelled do to a snow storm. Any business required, will be handled as necessary by a special meeting or will be postponed until the January meeting.



New President Ellyn Hoschdonning the symbolic costume as the big turkey of MGCM



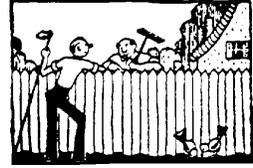
Kay Wolfe with the Presidents Cup. She also received the distinguished Service medel



Jan Johnson getting ready for the party



Guest & new director Leroy Cech smoozing with Warren Nordley



Confessions of a Lazy Gardener

By Mary Maynard

Musings of a Northern Gardener

Ah winter! As I grow older, I appreciate winter more. No, not for the snow and ice and bitter cold, but for the restfulness. By the end of November, the annuals are cut down, the cuttings rooted, the roses protected and the leaves gathered. By December, the only things left to do outside are filling the bird feeders and shoveling snow.

And that works for me. January and February are the months to pore through the catalogs, write lists of things to do in the summer, catch up on some garden reading and otherwise relax. By March, I'm ready to start seedlings, and by April I can't wait to set out the pansies.

I'm not sure how people in southern climates do it. Or how Phil Smith does it — gardening in Montana all summer and in Florida all winter. There is something about the forced downtime that refreshes and rejuvenates so that I can step into spring with renewed energy and enthusiasm.

So I'm looking forward to January. December is always hectic, with social events and family comings and goings. But January



is a time to light a fire in the fireplace and collect all the catalogs and start making lists.

I am saving any seed and plant catalogs until January. I haven't even looked at Thompson and Morgan, which came before Halloween this year. A few other catalogs have straggled in. They're all in a pile, waiting for January.

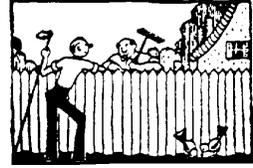
Web Sites

By Chuck Carlson

If you don't get enough catalogs you can supplement them with your computer. Here is a few web sites you can investigate and find those treasures. Some of these sites still have last years information, but they will be changing soon. There are many more these are just some that I have looked at and enjoyed.

- www.mzbulb.com
McClure & Zimmerman- Bulbs, Corms, Tubers & rootstocks.
- www.stokesseeds.com
Stokes-Vegetables & Flowers.
- www.territorialseed.com
Territorial Seed Company-Vegetables & Flowers.
- www.plantdelights.com
Plant Delights Nursery Inc.-New & different plants.
- www.arrowheadalpines.com
Arrowhead Alpines wildflowers, conifers, perennials & rock plants.
- www.thelilygarden.com
The Lily Garden-All kids of lilies.
- www.cooksgarden.com
The Cook's Garden-Mainly vegetables but some flowers.
- www.Bussegardens.com
Busse Gardens-Perennial plants.
- www.ambergategardens.com
Ambergate Gardens-Distinctive perennial flowers & grass.

The last two are Minnesota suppliers and both sell excellent plants. My favorite catalog & site is Plant Delights which also has some really different plant material but a higher price. Arrowhead Alpines has a lot of conifers.



Dump, Slash or Bash

By Chuck Carlson

Are you a dumper, a basher or a slasher? After reading an article by Tony Advent in the Plant Delights Nursery's website I decided it had information that may be of value to us all. I know it made me think about how I treat those container grown plants I bring home to plant. The main problem according to Tony is that some of them have a tightly wound root ball and some of them have a growing medium which is mainly bark based. In either case if planted intact one may have a dead plant in a several days even though it may have green leaves. The reason for this is that the roots never leave the original root ball and dry up even if the surrounding soil is damp. To grow and mature the plant's roots must have soil around them. The solution is to bash or slash rather than to dump the plant into a hole. To bash take the plant and hit the root ball to remove the original growing medium, thus allowing one to spread the roots and getting them in contact with the soil in your garden. The other method is to slash. This method allows those who have a inclination to cut and trim to do their thing. This is done by taking a sharp knife or other sharp object and make three vertical slashes in the root ball allowing one to spread the root ball and remove the original growing medium and allowing exposure of the roots to your new soil.

Also all of this is for naught if one doesn't prepare the soil you are planting your treasures in. Just a few comments on the hole. If planting trees or shrubs in an individual hole it is not necessary to add soil amendments. If you do this will generally inhibit water movement. Just make the hole 1/3 wider but no deeper than the root ball and use a fork to break up the soil on the edges.

For perennial beds add all the organic amendment you can but make sure you thoroughly mix it with the preexisting soil. Never pile the amendments on top or replace the native soil with an artificial or soilless mix.

To delve deeper, go to the website (www.plantdelights.com). There are also many other articles of interest.

Pruning, Grafting and Budding

Edited by Chuck Carlson

Information from an article Pruning Weeping Cherry Trees and other Grafted and Budded Plants by Michael J. McGroarty. His website is <http://www.freeplants.com>

What do the terms grafting and budding mean? Budding is a form of grafting. Grafting is the art of attaching a piece of one plant to another plant, creating a new plant. Grafting is usually done because the desired plant is extremely difficult if not impossible to propagate through other means. Dogwoods for example are easily grown from seed, however, it is next to impossible to grow a pink dogwood from seed. The seeds from a Pink Dogwood will produce seedlings that are likely to flower white.

The most common method for producing Pink Dogwood trees is to remove a single bud from a Pink Dogwood tree and slip it under the bark of a White Dogwood seedling. This process is known as budding, and the seedling is known as the rootstock. This is usually done during the late summer months when the bark of the White Dogwood seedling can be easily separated from the tree, and the seedling is about 1/4" in diameter.

A very small "T" shaped cut is made in

(Continued on page 9)

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. This is an attempt to make the club a bit more personable by getting to know our members better.

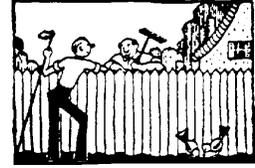
Duane Reynolds President in 1989

Duane joined the club in 1983 and in 1988 became the 47th president of the club. He was born in Minneapolis in 1947. Duane is married to Patti and they live in New Hope.

His education started at De La Salle High School in Minneapolis, followed by a BA from Metropolitan State University in Business administration. After this he received certificates in alcohol and drug counseling, Family Therapy and Adult Psychiatry from the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. This all lead to his current position as the Associate Executive Director with the Vinland National Center at Loretto, Minnesota.

Duane has been on many boards such as, District 281 advisory Council, Minnesota State Horticultural Society (MSHS) and Professional boards and councils. He has also been the president of the MSHS. Duane was also the driving force in starting the Hennepin County Horticultural Society and is active in the Minnesota Gladiolus Society, North Star lily Society, and Minnesota Dahlia Society. Duane is also an instructor with the MSHS Judging and Exhibiting Committee.

Since he joined our club he served and served. Duane has served the Club as Secretary, Vice-President and President. During his presidency MGCM was host to the 1988 Men's Garden Club of America annual convention. Duane played a major role in making that



convention such a success. Then in 2001 he chaired another national convention the club hosted. He has also worked on many committees, is a certified flower and vegetable show judge, and has been our clubs representative at the Minnesota State Horticultural Society. He was presented the Bronze Medal in 1991, an honor he really deserved.

His primary interest in gardening is currently perennials or any plant that don't take 20 years to mature and though he still likes vegetables, but doesn't have much interest in having a perfect lawn. Previously, Duane specialized in fruits, including apples, cherries, plums, grapes and blueberries, so you can see he tries everything.

When he moved to New Hope, he met Russ Smith's brother, Bob Smith. Bob invited him to a Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis meeting. He also said seeing the parade of turkeys he knew he would fit in. By going on garden tours' and attending the meetings, he claims to have learned a great deal about flowers, vegetables and garden construction and his interest in horticulture diversified. Duane said, "His sponsor, I am proud to say it was Robert L Smith".

When asked what is your most gratifying experience in the club? He replied. "I remember the "Old Timers" the men who are no longer with us. Being able meet them , share tasks, volunteer together, see their gardens, compete against them in flower shows, listen to their stories and learn who they are and what they believe. You can't buy that in a store."

He also responded with some sage comments about the club. "Each year someone new fills the shoes of last years volunteers in the club. That has happened each year that I have been in the club and having read the history, it has happened each year since the club has been in existence. The new help the old, the old help the new and this is indeed a remarkable group of women and men, we need to stop and celebrate that."

Getting To Know Our Members

Data collected by our Historian
Howard Berg edited by Chuck Carlson

Patti Reynolds

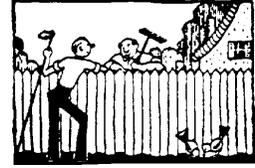
Patti was born and grew up in Elk River, Minnesota and after her education she married Duane on October, 1968. With a little math that is 35 years ago. Congratulations!

She was as a stay at home Mom for Vanessa and Kendra but now has been employed the last 27 years at Nash Finch Co. doing main office accounting. She hopes to retire someday so she can garden full time!

Patti has been a member of a number of garden organizations. She is presently the Membership Chairman for the North Star Lily Society, Secretary for Minnesota Gladiolus Society and past president of the Hennepin County Horticultural Society. In our club she was a previous member of the auxiliary and has served on a number of committees as needed. She also spent many hours making the 2001 national convention a success.

Her gardening interests started when she was a young girl. Patti was the oldest of eight children and grew up on a dairy farm in Nowthen where she belonged to 4-H. She said; "There was always a vegetable garden to pull weeds in and pickles to pick to earn money for school clothes." Now her words on why she gardens; "Even though I initially gardened as a chore, I have always found it enjoyable. The God's honest truth is I like to play in the dirt! I don't have a specialty, and my favorite flower is whatever is in bloom at the time you ask."

On why she joined the club; "The club was allowing women to join and I had always enjoyed the programs that spouses had been



allowed to attend, it was a logical thing to do. Duane was my sponsor. Joining also allowed me to spend more time with Duane too!

Her observation on garden clubs is that; "I haven't found a gardener that I didn't like. Each garden, each person is very unique. I believe that I have learned a lot by osmosis, being surrounded by so many knowledgeable and sharing individuals."

Pruning, Grafting and Budding Continued

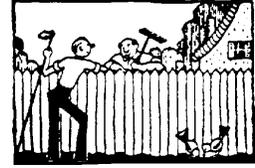
(Continued from Page 7)

the bark only, and the bud is slipped in the slot. The actual bud itself is allowed to poke out through the opening and then the wound is wrapped with a rubber band both above and below the bud. By the following spring the bud will have grafted itself to the seedling, at which time the seedling is cut off just above the Pink Dogwood bud, and the bud then grows into a Pink Dogwood tree.

Budding is usually done at ground level, and often times the rootstock will send up shoots from below the bud union. These shoots often called suckers should be removed as soon as they appear because they are from the rootstock and are not the same variety as the rest of the plant. Flowering Crabapples and other trees are also budded and most will produce suckers. When removing these suckers don't just clip them off at ground level with pruning shears, they will just grow back. Pull back the soil or mulch and remove them from the tree completely at the point where they emerge from the stem.

Most people clip them off a couple of inches from the ground, and then they grow back with multiple shoots. This drives me crazy! Get down as low as you can and remove them completely and you will keep them under control. On older trees that have been improperly pruned for years I take a

(Continued on page 10)



Pruning, Grafting and Budding Continued

(Continued from Page 9)

digging spade and literally attack these suckers hacking them away from the stem. Sure this does a little damage to the stem of the tree, but when a plant is let go like that I figure it's a do or die situation. The trees always survive and thrive.

Other plants are grafted up high to create a weeping effect. One of the most popular trees that is grafted up high is the top graft Weeping Cherry. In this case the seedling is allowed to grow to a height of 5', then the weeping variety is grafted on to the rootstock at a height of about 5'. This creates an umbrella type effect. In this case the graft union is 5' off the ground, therefore anything that grows from the stem below that graft union must be removed.

Many people don't understand this and before they know it they have a branch 2" in diameter growing up through the weeping canopy of their tree. Before you know it there are several branches growing upright through the canopy and the effect of the plant is completely ruined.

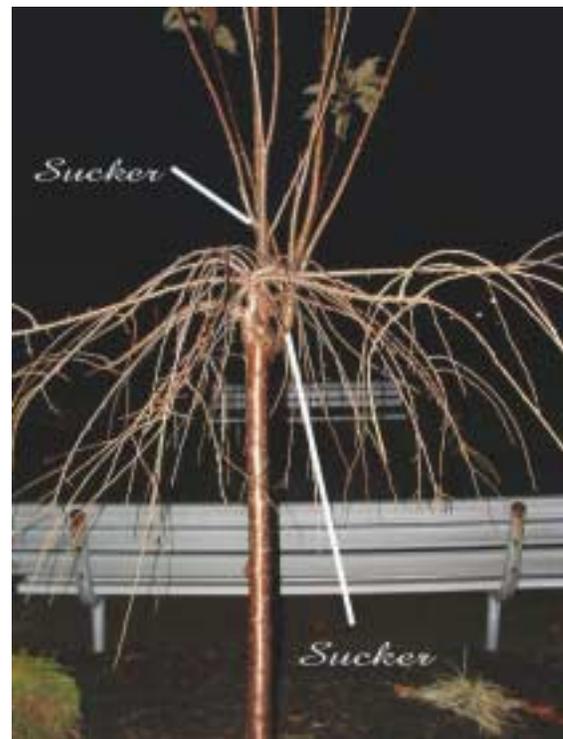
The photo below show exactly what I'm talking about in this article. You can clearly see the weeping effect that the Weeping Cherry tree is supposed to have, but then up through the middle come these branches that are no more than just suckers from the stem, or the rootstock as it is known in the nursery industry.

Looking closely at the above photo you can see that these suckers originate from below the graft union. This problem could have been prevented if someone had just picked off these buds when they first emerged on the stem of the tree. Then they would have never developed into branches.

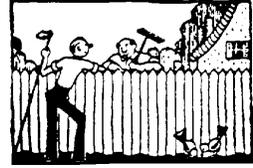
This tree can still be saved, but there will be a large scar on the stem when the upright

branches are pruned off. But under the canopy of the weeping tree these scars will never show.

Another interesting plant that is grafted is the Weeping Cotoneaster. In this case the seedling that is grown to serve as the rootstock is Paul's Scarlet Hawthorn, and Cotoneaster Apiculata is grafted onto the Hawthorn rootstock at a height of 5'. Years ago a nurseryman found through experimentation that these two plants are actually compatible, and a beautiful and unique plant was created. I have one of these in my landscape and we love it.



*Photo from the website
<http://www.freeplants.com>*



Reservations for Dinner Meetings Permanent reservations are in effect.

Permanent reservations are shown by the “p” on the mailing lable or the email message for those receiving the newsletter by email
Reservations or cancellations are necessary by the Friday before the meeting.
Call or email Carole Ann Brekke for your reservation or cancellations.

You are responsible for the cost if not cancelled.

For reservations or cancellations
Carole Ann at phone 952-435-6029) or
Email numsix24@attbi.com.

For last minute cancellations call Dave Johnson Phone 763-571-2713
If he can sell it, you won't be billed.



*The Good Samaritan Singers, The entertainment for the Holiday Party
Photo By Chuck Carlson*



MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.



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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.

Return to:

The Garden Spray

Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc.
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 1001 Hackman Circle
 Fridley, MN 55432-0463

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January
 2004