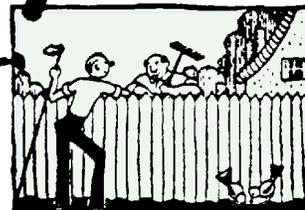




# The Garden Spray

Bulletin of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc  
2004, Volume 62, Number 11



## Date Location Event

|               |     |                                     |
|---------------|-----|-------------------------------------|
| Nov. 9        | LHC | Lorrie Stromme<br>Trees and The Law |
| Nov. 26       | KGC | Wreath Making                       |
| Dec. 7        | LHC | Holiday Party                       |
| Jan. 11, 2005 | LHC | Nelson's talk on<br>Liliums         |

LHC= Lake Harriet Church  
WLC= Westwood Lutheran Church  
KGC= Klier's Garden Center  
FFF= Food Flower & Foto Show

## November Dinner Meeting Tuesday, Nov 9, 2004

Gathering & Conversation -----6:00 pm  
Dinner-----6:30 pm  
Business Meeting-----Approx.7:00 pm  
Program-----Approx.7:30 pm

### The Program Trees and the Law By Lorrie Stromme



Lorrie Stromme as an attorney and Master Gardener Tree Care Advisor is frequently asked questions about laws related to trees. She

discovered the legal information on trees had not been well summarized and set out to collect it. In 1999 her first article was published in the Home and Garden Section of the Star Tribune and she has continued to collect new information. Her discussion topics include what you can and cannot do from a legal standpoint on subjects such as boundary trees, neighboring tree debris, overhanging branches, branches rubbing on roof and tree roots pushing up our sidewalk. Whether your neighbors' trees are bothering you or not, this is a very interesting presentation.

You may have met Lorrie in some of her other rolls. Among other things, she is active in her Northeast neighborhood group, Shade Tree Advisory group, and Hennepin County Master Gardeners, has driven the Trumpet Creeper at the Arboretum and presently works as assistant to the head of the Minneapolis City Council.



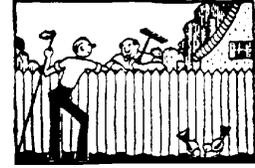
## Make A Wreath at Kliers

Friday, Nov. 26, 2004

The holidays are almost here and it is time to make a wreath. Come to Kliers Nursery and Garden Center, 5901 Nicollet Ave. So. No reservations are necessary. Come any time between 5:30 and closing. Bring your own wire cutters and pruners. Everything else is available for purchase. Bring a friend and join in on the fun. Instructions available.

**Reservations are necessary for the November dinner.**

**Permanent reservations are in effect. See page 10 for details on reservations**



# Utterances From The Prez

By Ellyn Hosch



without divisiveness or hurt. Thank you!!

Well, it is time for me to go on-line and order a couple of seed catalogs for my winter reading.

Happy Gardening!

What a crazy gardening season! We've already had a frost that took my coleus and damaged some of the more tender plants. I have a counter full of green tomatoes that never did ripen in our cool, then hot, then cool weather. This fall I am watering all of my new plantings to get them ready for the winter. I've consulted the Farmers' Almanac for a weather prediction for the next couple of months; appears it will be wet and cold.

I want to convey a couple of thank you's. First, a big thanks to the three new people who agreed to be on "Board"; Kristine Deters, Denise Rust and Elizabeth Hamilton. As Nancy Bjerke will attest, it is getting harder to find members who are willing to serve on the Board, particularly in an officer position. Serving on the Board is a great way to get to know club members and to help set direction on the club's future. I know from our vote on the name change that there are many of you who have strong feelings for the club. My hope is that you will act on those feelings by being a Board member in the future.

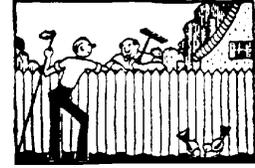
Second, a big thanks to the members of the club who participated in the name change discussion and vote during the September meeting. I have had a number of club members tell me that they felt good overall about the process, regardless of their personal position on the name change. While there were very strong feelings expressed, it was done in a civilized and respectful manner. In these times of polarization, it is great to be affiliated with people who can express their own views, listen to others' views, and do so

**Friends are like flowers--  
They grow in the right climate,  
with loving care.  
Vera Mayhew**

## Annual Meeting at the Nov. Meeting

Annual Meeting will be held at the November meeting. The 2005 Board will be elected. The members to be voted on are:

|                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| President           | Dave McKeen,       |
| Vice President      | Kristine Deters    |
| Recording Secretary | Denise Rust        |
| Membership Sect.    | Don Stuewe         |
| Treasurer           | Leroy Cech         |
| Past President      | Ellyn Hosch        |
| Director            | Don Trocke         |
| Director            | Rudy Allebach      |
| Director            | Elizabeth Hamilton |



## New Editor Still Needed

We are having a hard time filling the post for the editor of the newsletter. Please don't be bashful, just volunteer. You can make it your newsletter but past editors, Chuck Carlson & Andy Marlow will give you help in getting started. The club has; a clip art program & Adobe Acrobat for generating the PDF format and my guess is that if you need some other program it can be obtained.

Just say yes I can do it.

Or

Have computer, will volunteer.

Also when you pay your dues for this year, please sign up for the newsletter committee and volunteer to write, stamp, fold, mail or be the editor or chair of the committee.



## New members

MGCM has A new member:

- John Eising

We welcome you into the club and hope you find your niche in the club. We recommend you participate in the committees. This is where you get to know us and we get to know you. We also hope you attend our meetings. Have fun and learn more about gardening and teach us something also.

## Don't throw in the Trowel

**The best way to garden is to put on a wide brimmed straw hat and some old clothes.**

**Put a trowel in one hand, a cold drink in the other and tell someone where to dig.**

## Endless Summer Hydrangea Update

*By Chuck Carlson*

During our program at the October meeting the Hydrangea 'Endless Summer' was discussed. This caused me to move my two 'Endless Summer' Hydrangeas. The reason for this move was the environmental statement on the tag which stated it could withstand full sun. This has been rescinded and it is suggested that morning sun only or partial shade should be the environment. It will die in full afternoon sun.

Also discussed was that one can have either pink or blue flowers. If you want pink flowers, do nothing or add a little lime to the soil. but if blue is wanted a handful of Aluminum Sulfate should be incorporated in the soil. It was stressed that do not add more than a handful more will cause a chemical imbalance and other problems will arise.



## December Holiday Party

Don't forget to reserve a space for the Holiday Party. Details and reservation form on page 11.

If you have any thing for the silent auction call the committee chair, Warren Nordley at 952-432-0466

# Last Month's Program

By Chuck Carlson

Last month we had a presentation of new plants to consider for 2005. It was given by Suzette Nordstrom a representative of Monrovia Growers.

Monrovia only grows plants in containers and has become the world's largest producer of container grown plants ( about 22 million per year). They have six growing locations spread around the USA and now sell to only garden centers rather than the big box retailers like Wal-Mart, Home Depot etc.

In Suzette's slide show a number of plants were featured. Some of those that struck my fancy are listed below. A catalog was provided which provides a much more inclusive list and more details.

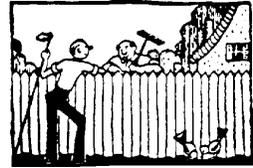
Also if you want to find out who handles Monrovia plants you can call 888-plant-it or visit the web site [www.monrovia.com](http://www.monrovia.com) My favorites in the presentation are:

- Echinacea 'Arts Pride' also called Orange Meadowbrite coneflower.



- Two other coneflowers she said to look for are 'Sunset' and "Sunrise'.

- A phlox called 'Volcano'

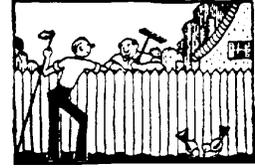


- A Japanese Maple for zone 4 called Emperor I. It is also known as Acer palmatum "Wolff'.



- Two yellow leafed barberries called 'Golden Nugget' & 'Yellow Nugget'. She also mentioned an upright barberry called ' Helman's Pillar'.
- A juniper called 'Icy Blue' and an upright (skinny minny ) called 'Blue Arrow'
- A arborvitae, Thuja occidentalis called 'Teddy'
- A vine called Campis radicans 'Monbal' or Balboa Sunset Trumpet vine. It is a fast grower and a delight to hummingbirds.





# Board Meeting Summary

*Sumarized from substitute Secretary Nancy Bjerke's report*

Attendees at the meeting included: Ellyn Hosch, Don Stuewe, Dave Johnson, Nancy Bjerke, Rudy Allebach, Leroy Cech and Chuck Carlson. Dave McKeen and Mary Oelke were absent.

The minutes were approved from the August meeting.

Treasurer's report-Dave Johnson said that three \$1,000.00 scholarships were paid. Donations to HRC, Minneapolis Park Legacy, Hort Society and Minnesota Landscape Arboretum as budgeted were approved and will be paid in October.

Membership report-Don Stuewe presented three new members for Board approval: John Elsing, Jason Rathe and Jim McKee. They were approved for membership with the understanding that their dues would cover 2005. The Board agreed that members joining after August 1st will have their dues applied to the following year. Don asked the Board to consider prepaying memberships for 2 or 3 years for the 2006 enrollment year.

Chuck Carlson presented possible solutions for publishing The Garden Spray after he leaves his post this December. Ellyn will discuss the options with Dave McKeen.

## **Old Business-**

Board candidates for 2005 include: Elizabeth Hamilton, Director and Denise Ruse, Secretary. There is no member identified for VP and the Board suggested contacting former Presidents to see if one of them would be interested in serving a second term. Ellyn will invite the new board members to November Board meetings.

Storage room at the church needs to be

cleaned out and after the next meeting on the 12th of October members of the Board will decide what to keep. Howard Berg will participate in the sorting of the materials.

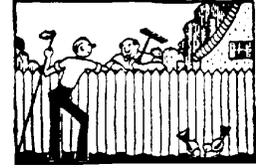
## **New Business-**

Ellyn, Leroy, Dave McKeen and Dave Johnson will develop a 2005 budget sometime during the first half of October. Ellyn will make the arrangements.

The next meeting is Tuesday, the 26th of October at Mary Oelke's home.



**Let my words,  
like vegetables,  
be tender and sweet,  
For tomorrow,  
I may have to eat them.  
author unknown**



# ENVIRONMENT

## What makes leaves change color?

*From the University of Wisconsin-Extension*

The bright yellow, orange and red colors of autumn leaves are one of nature's most beautiful spectacles. However, until recently the explanation for this familiar annual event has been based primarily on random observation and speculation.

Recent research has answered many questions about this phenomenon and members of the University of Wisconsin-Extension horticulture team recently published the answers as a UW-Extension Garden Facts Sheet.

During summer, leaves hold most of a plant's nutrients. These nutrients, especially nitrogen and phosphorus, are components of proteins, pigments and other compounds the plant needs for using the sun's energy to make sugars from water and carbon dioxide - a process called photosynthesis. Before the leaves fall, plants need to store those nutrients in stems and roots so they can be reused in the next season.

Chlorophyll is the pigment that gives plants their green color. Plants use chlorophyll to capture the sun's energy. Throughout autumn, plants break down chlorophyll and the many other photosynthetic components. As levels of chlorophyll decline, the brightly colored pigments we associate with autumn leaves become visible. Two types of pigments, carotenoids and anthocyanins, give leaves their bright autumn colors.

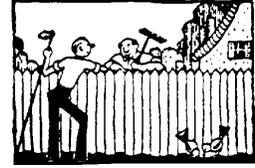
Carotenoids protect leaves from a variety of harmful compounds that are normal by-

products of photosynthesis. Without carotenoids, leaf photosynthetic components literally destroy themselves. Anthocyanins are responsible for many of the reds, oranges, pinks, purples and blues in flowers and fruits, but they also produce the brilliant red and orange autumn foliage. Plants manufacture anthocyanins midway through autumn when leaves still have a significant amount of chlorophyll. As this occurs, the presence of both the red pigments and chlorophyll results in a dark burgundy color. The brightly colored anthocyanins become increasingly visible as chlorophyll levels continue to decline. Red leaves contain similar amounts of carotenoids as in yellow leaves, but in red leaves, the yellow carotenoids are masked by the intensely colored anthocyanins.

Plants produce red pigments during autumn to shade leaf photosynthetic systems from bright sunlight. Protection from bright light during autumn is important because damage to the photosynthetic components during this time will reduce a plant's capacity to recover nutrients from leaves. Plants that do not turn red in autumn are generally more resistant to the effects of bright light during this time. The shading function of the red pigments explains why leaves exposed to direct sunlight are the brightest red, while leaves shaded within the canopy of a plant often show less intense color.

Many factors affect the quality and duration of autumn leaf colors, but weather is the most important. Cool, sunny weather results in the brightest foliage colors because plants use the red pigments to shade leaves from bright light. While cool weather is best for the development of brightly colored foliage, hard freezes may irreparably damage leaves before the brightest colors have emerged. Very warm autumn temperatures accelerate the processes within leaves and shorten the length of time that the colorful leaves remain on plants. Warm temperatures

*(Continued on Page 9 see Leaves)*



# Gardening in Containers

**HYG-1254-00**

Jane C. Martin

Extension Agent, Horticulture

*Comment by Chuck Carlson: This is just part of fact sheet, in fact it is the end of the fact sheet. But since this is the end of our season, I choose to start with this and later continue the remaining parts at a later date.*

## End of Season Chores

At the end of the growing season after a killing frost, annual flowers and vegetables can be removed from their containers. It is recommended that the potting soil be added to the compost pile or to native garden soil and not reused in containers the following season. This is because the mix may be harboring fungal pathogens and because it loses its structure over the season with repeated waterings.

Containers should be cleaned at the end of the season to rid them of pathogens before storing. Clay and plastic pots are usually scrubbed with a 10% solution of chlorine bleach in water. Store clay containers indoors over winter where temperatures will not fall below freezing. Because clay is porous, it will hold moisture, and can crack when water in the pot freezes and expands. Non-porous pots can be stored outside safely along with the newer polyurethane-elastomer pots.

## Overwintering Plants

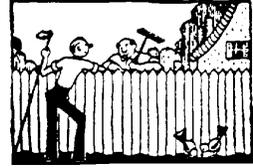
There are a few options for overwintering large, hardy plants in containers, which are usually left outside. The challenge is that roots are above ground where they are subject to cold temperatures. Very large concrete containers for woody plants would perhaps provide optimal conditions since soil temperatures would be moderated; using "ordi-

nary" size containers may be asking for trouble. Use a soil thermometer to monitor winter temperatures, making sure soil temperatures do not fall below freezing. If they do, move containers to a garage or shed temporarily for added protection.

Other plants, such as perennials, ornamental grasses, roses, bulbs, etc., that are in smaller pots, can be placed in a trench in the ground and covered with mulch or soil to protect the root systems. Water well into late fall before covering. If plants are in clay pots that could crack over winter, remove the plant from the pot and place the rootball into the trench. If trenching is not an option, group pots together, water well, then cover with a thick layer of straw, compost, mulch, or leaves to protect the root systems against freezing.



*A container found at a farm in Mora  
Photo by Chuck Carlson*



# A Testimony on Wreath Making

By David McKeen

I thoroughly enjoy going to the wreath making evening at Kliers. My wife Kathryn and I have gone for several years and we enjoy it more every year. The first year it was just the two of us. The next year we brought our parents and the next year relatives from Louisville. Now it is a family and friend outing. What a great time to share with friends while making wreaths.

I have always been big on Christmas, putting up lights, getting the tree and so on. I think I look forward to the wreaths more than the garden tours. Oops-- I didn't mean to offend anyone with that.

So I encourage everyone to come to Kliers, November 26 and start your own tradition. You'll have a great time.



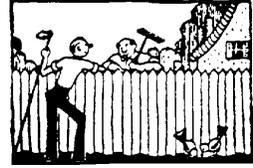
# Gardening Too Long ?

Found in the Tiller

The newsletter of Green Bay Garden Club

## You know you've been gardening too long when . . .

- Looking at your compost pile makes you feel all warm inside.
- Taking your last ride in a hearse, you reach out to take cuttings off the wreaths.
- You visit a friend's home and start pulling their weeds.
- Your garden is tidier than the inside of your house.
- You hear someone say "Crap!" Your first response is to grab a shovel and say, "Where?"
- You call your kids by their Latin names.
- You run your fingers through your spouse's hair and think it needs dethatching.
- You name your kids Rose, Daisy, Violet, and Lily—even though they are all boys.
- You frequently catch yourself daydreaming about manure.
- Your kids cringe or hold their breath whenever they are in the car with you and you drive past a garden center.
- You wake up in the middle of the night and make a note of which plant should be moved where.
- Your spouse buys you composters and yard carts for your birthday—and you think it's romantic.
- You plan your family vacations around planting times.



## Leaves

*(Continued from page 6)*

will also reduce the amount of red pigments produced in leaves.

Stresses such as drought, nutrient deficiency and even diseases can increase the production of red pigments and may improve the color display of autumn leaves. Drought is a common stress in many environments. Unless the water deficiency is so severe that leaves are killed before autumn — a very rare occurrence — drought conditions will generally improve the quality of fall leaf colors.



## November

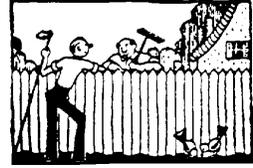
*By Chuck Carlson*

**Trees of Autumn are stunning  
in their colors of reds and gold,  
In Minnesota they become so bold.**

**It means that soon  
we shall see December,  
With its Christmases,  
we remember.**

**After this, the year will end,  
and it will send,  
A new year that we can  
hope and pray  
Will be better, in every way.**

*Photos by Chuck Carlson  
Up North in Garrison County*



## **Reservations for November Dinner Meeting**

**Permanent reservations are in effect.**

**Permanent reservations are shown by the “p” on the mailing label 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.**

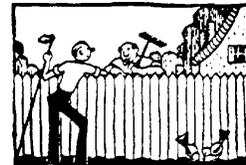
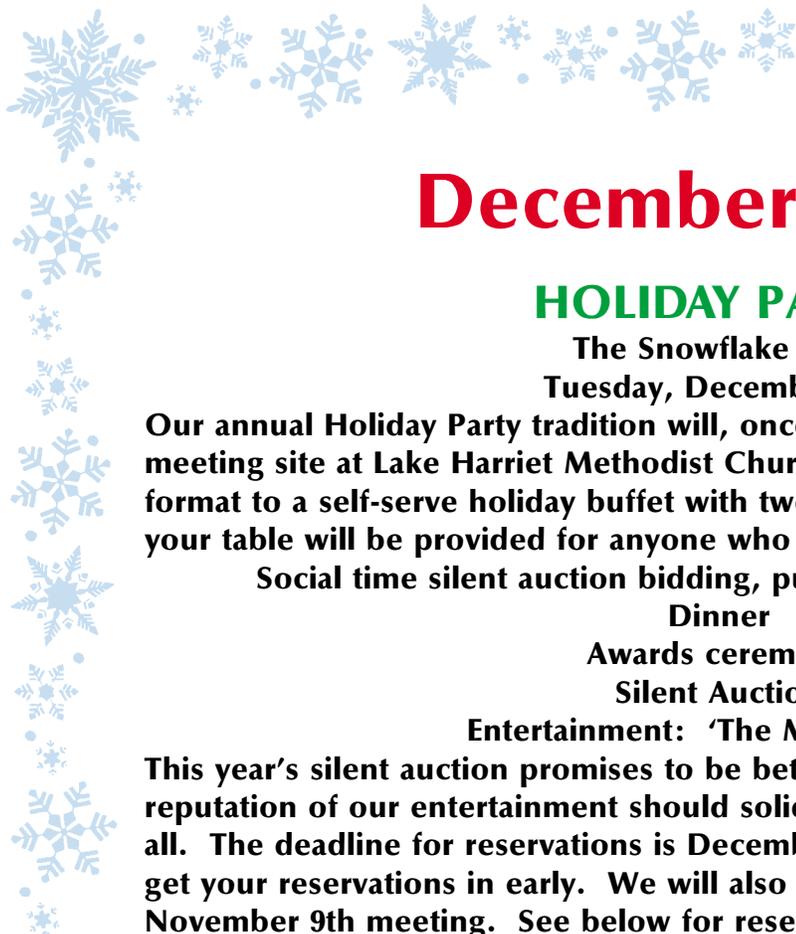
**You are responsible for the cost if not cancelled.**

**For reservations or cancellations**

**Carole Ann at phone 952-435-6029) or  
Email [numsix24@comcast.net](mailto:numsix24@comcast.net)**

**For last minute cancellations**

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



# December Event

## HOLIDAY PARTY

The Snowflake Gala

Tuesday, December 7th

Our annual Holiday Party tradition will, once again, be held at our regular meeting site at Lake Harriet Methodist Church. We've changed the dining format to a self-serve holiday buffet with two choices of entre. Assistance to your table will be provided for anyone who desires it.

Social time silent auction bidding, punch and hors d' oeuvres.

Dinner

Awards ceremony

Silent Auction

Entertainment: 'The Mouldy Figs'

This year's silent auction promises to be better than ever. And the reputation of our entertainment should solidify a most enjoyable evening for all. The deadline for reservations is December 1st but space is limited so get your reservations in early. We will also take reservations at our November 9th meeting. See below for reservations.

**The reservation must be in by December 1**



### SNOWFLAKE GALA HOLIDAY PARTY



December 7

Time: 6:00 PM

Cost : \$19.00

Location: Lake Harriet Methodist Church

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places for: Name \_\_\_\_\_

Guest(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Send reservation forms and check made payable to MGCM to:

Jackie Overom

14024 Frontier Lane

Burnsville, Mn. 55337-4728



# MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.



## CLUB OFFICERS:

President: Ellyn Hosch  
 436 Sheridan Ave So, Minneapolis, MN55405-1913  
 Vice-President: David McKeen  
 2834 Vernon Ave So, St Louis Park, MN 55416-1840  
 Recording Secretary: Mary Oelke  
 5745 Duncan Lane, Edina, MN 55346-1603  
 Membership Secretary: Don Stuewe  
 3624 Robbinwood Terr, Minnetonka MN 55305  
 Treasurer: Dave Johnson  
 5291 Matterhorn Dr., Fridley, MN 55421-1324  
 Past President: Nancy Bjerke  
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## DIRECTORS:

Rudy Allebach  
 3414 The Mall, Minnetonka MN 55345-1239  
 Leroy Cech  
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 Donald Trocke  
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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.  
 Charles J. Carlson, Editor  
 1001 Hackman Circle  
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**Vote on November 2**

**MGCM Dinner Meeting  
 November 9**



**Thanksgiving  
 November 25**

**Wreath Making  
 November 26**