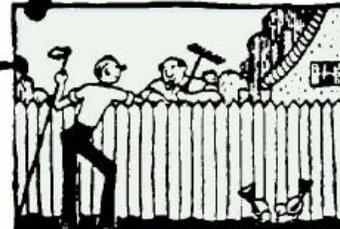




The Garden Spray

Bulletin of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc

2005, Volume 63, Number 7



Upcoming Events

Date	Location	Event
July 12		Club Tours
Aug 9		Club Tour
Aug 20-21	Arb	FFF
Sept. 13	LHC	Flower Arranging
Oct. 11	LHC	Wildflower Gardening
Nov. 8	LHC	Landscaping for Wildlife

LHC = Lake Harriet Church
Arb = University of Minnesota
Landscape Arboretum

July Drive-Yourself Tour:

Gardens Open:	6:00 p.m.
Dessert at the McKeen's:	8:45 p.m.
Sunset:	8:59 p.m.

Note: Permanent reservations are not in effect for our July Tour!

July Club Tour Drive Yourself Tour of Member's Gardens Plus Dessert!

Tuesday Evening, July 12, 2005

Join up with friends and tour the gardens of Elizabeth Hamilton, Ellyn Hosch, and Bob Olson at your leisure.

End at Dave McKeen's for dessert, beverages, and conversation.

The Gardens:

1. Elizabeth Hamilton, 8219 Russell Avenue South, Bloomington.
2. Ellyn Hosch, 436 Sheridan Avenue South, Minneapolis,
3. Bob Olson, 2840 Glenhurst Avenue, St. Louis Park.
Plus special bonus: Bob's neighbor's garden.
4. Dave McKeen, 2834 Vernon Avenue South, St. Louis Park.

Time: Gardens #1 to #3 will be open starting at 6 PM and will close at 8:15 PM.
Garden #4, Dave McKeen, is the Dessert Spot, and will be open from 7:30 PM on.

Bring: The Tour Map, which is on page 11, and bug spray.
 Bring your own chair to the dessert spot!

Reservations:

Cost is \$5 per person for dessert and beverage.
 Send reservation to Bob Redmond by Friday, July 8. See form on page 11.

Read Larry Larson's article interviewing the gardeners on page 4.

Guests are welcome.

Join us for this new "bus-free" members' garden tour!



Editor's Note

-- Mary Maynard

Phil and I have finally taken the technological plunge! After several years of dithering and envying our friends, we decided to get a digital camera. And, every once in a while we actually get a pretty good picture. (I'd say the ratio of pictures taken to pictures saved is about 10 to 1.)

I'm hoping the instant feedback feature will help me learn how to take better pictures. So far, this shot of a dwarf blue columbine is my favorite. There are probably a lot of problems that one of our photo judges would point out, but I like it.



I've spent the last month dodging rain showers and working feverishly to get all those plants off the patio and into the ground. As I walk along my borders and notice all the weeds and bare spots, I think to myself, "At least I'm not on tour this year."

Thanks in advance to all of the gardeners who have agreed to have their gardens on tour. I am looking forward to visiting some old friends and seeing some new gardens as well.

Finally, if this issue looks a little rough around the edges, it's because I'm flying solo this month. Jason is getting married in June, and getting married has to take precedence over putting the Spray together. I will be very glad when he returns! See you all at the tours!

From the President:

-- David McKeen

Greetings,

I am now enjoying one of my favorite times of the summer. With all the fragrances that spring and summer bring, one of my favorites is the smell of the linden tree. Oh my gosh, does it smell great. While I drive around the golf course I will often stop for a couple minutes under a linden to enjoy its fragrant blooms.

I think planting time is finally finished in our yard. The majority of my plants come from what is left over at work at the golf course so it seems that I am always behind schedule. I find that with some heavy fertilizing, things catch up just fine. Kathy and I are looking forward to having everyone stop by during the tour July 12.

Is anyone growing the new Kong coleus this summer? I seeded some this spring and they are coming along nicely. The leaves are absolutely huge and they have nice color.

This winter I was given a digital camera as a gift and have I ever enjoyed using it. The things you can do with it are simply amazing. The fact that you can erase a picture if it doesn't turn out the way you'd like is nice. And being able to view, edit and send and receive pictures on the computer is so much fun. Now if I can only figure out how Chuck uses that tiny camera at the meetings.

I hope everyone takes advantage of some of the activities in the club during the summer whether it be the perennial trial garden, garden tours, or the Flower Food and Foto show.

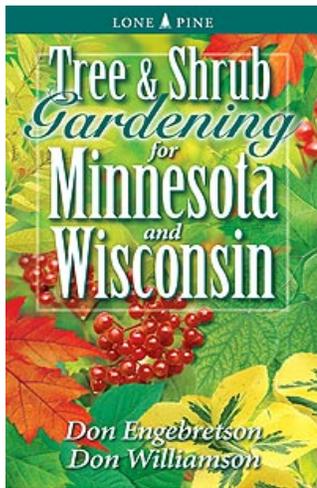
Happy gardening, David McKeen



Book Review: Tree and Shrub Gardening

-- Chuck Carlson

This is a book review for a book called *Tree & Shrub Gardening for Minnesota & Wisconsin* by Don Engebretsen & Don Williamson. Published by Lone Pine Publishing.



Opening the book, one is greeted by 73 small pictures of trees & shrubs that refer to subsequent pages that give a full description for each specimen.

The introduction and subsequent chapters are full of information on these woody plants. Some of the subjects covered are:

size, shape, foliage, fruit, flowers, bark, growth rate, life span, selecting and purchasing a specimen, advantages of potted, bare-root ball & burlaped, caring for the plants, pruning, propagating & pests..

After all the above information comes the alphabetical listing of the individual tree & shrub specimens. This listing gives many details and features plus it provides some recommended varieties.

In summary, the book allows one to select and maintain your investment in trees & shrubs. It is a guide for all gardeners, even those that don't live in Minnesota or Wisconsin. What would gardens be without some trees & shrubs to make our vistas interesting? The book also has a plethora of some great pictures.

I would recommend the book for every gardener to be used as a reference and guide for past and future purchases.

Getting to Know your Board Member: Rudy Allebach

Growing up my parents had a large vegetable garden. I was one of 11 children so you can imagine how large the garden had to be. In the summer we all had to take turns weeding and picking peas which was not our favorite thing to do. Little did I know that as an adult I would enjoy working in the garden.

When we moved into our present house in 1985 there was a small vegetable garden and no flowers. My current garden began as a vegetable garden until my daughter discovered that she liked roses so I decided to grow some for her. It was only a few years before there were almost no vegetables left and the garden had expanded to cover much of my back yard.

Since alot of my yard is shaded, many of my plants are shade plants with hostas being predominant in the shade. My biggest challenge this year have been the deer. My dog died two years ago and since then deer have gotten to be a bigger problem each year. Most recently they've been eating the plants right out of our hanging baskets. How convenient, they don't even have to bend their necks to eat!

When not at home working in the yard, I work in insurance administration. My company administers COBRA, Flexible Spending Accounts, and Insurance Billing for companies nationwide. In addition to gardening, my interests outside of work are running, camping and canoeing in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area, cooking, and traveling with my wife.



Welcome to the July Members Garden Tour!

By Larry Larson

The July 12 members' garden tour will offer a wide selection of wonderful and diverse gardens, sure to please MGCM members who enjoy meandering through front and back yards filled with beauty and wonder.

Bob and Karen Olson's Garden

With more than 300 varieties of immaculately presented hostas, Bob and Karen Olson bring their enthusiastic love of this nearly perfect plant to the garden tour. With an accompanying presentation of daylilies, browneyed susans, white peonies and monarda accenting the garden, the former president of the American Hosta Society will introduce you to many hostas that can only be seen in the Olson's backyard.

Bob's Baby Bunting hosta is the largest of its kind anywhere, and his Japanese hostas, obtained by Bob himself in Japan, include the unique *venusta* hosta and the 'Kukitti Sugita Ken', the rarest plant in the garden. There is also the 'Doctor Bob' hosta, hybridized by the famous hosta hybridizer Herb Benedict and named after Bob himself.



Hosta 'Baby Bunting'

Bob and Karen's neighbor, Brad Stitt, who lives just two doors down the street from Bob and Karen's house, is also offering his garden on tour. Brad has a lovely back yard with lots of (what else) hostas, perennials and a picturesque pond near the patio. Brad has a lovely garden, so it is well worth your time to walk down to his house for a look-see.

Ellyn Hosch and Lee Biersdorf's Garden

Ellyn and Lee's front yard contains a small hill up from the street that contains a wonderful rock garden, complete with miniature rhododendrons, evergreens, a saxifrage (Little Alpine) plant, hostas, perennials and twelve tons of rock. But it is the back yard that will bring a smile to your face.

Here you will find an intimate and compact setting that includes a just-right-size patio, an elegant birch clump, a small water garden, an array of purple and white clematis, blue salvia, a new and beautiful clematis called 'Kilian Donahue', a dwarf Alberta spruce, an 'Autumn Joy' sedum, a Bird's Nest spruce, a 'William Baffin' climbing rose and a bubbling fountain tucked neatly into the landscape.

Ellen and Lee have created the perfect, charming setting for this area, one that club members will certainly enjoy.

(Continued on next page)



July Members' Garden Tour – Continued

Elizabeth Hamilton's Garden

When you walk into Elizabeth Hamilton's back yard, you will be treated to a jaw-dropping spectacle of beauty and wonder. You are immediately surrounded by more than 250 varieties of perennials, many of them unique and unknown to the average gardener. There are more than 100 hostas, dozens of lilies, ten different clematis including the rare bush type clematis, dozens of ferns, peonies, blue salvia and so many more it defies description. But Elizabeth wasn't satisfied with just plants in her garden.

Blessed with a perfect sloping hill that falls away from her house, Elizabeth installed and stocked a beautiful waterfall and pond that completes her magical garden. The pond contains 2500 gallons of water and features a variety of rocks, hostas and perennials.

Her garden also includes a Heuchera plant, a St. John's Wort shrub, a Japanese red maple tree, a Pagoda dogwood tree, a gas plant (the blossoms contain enough gas to make the fire of a match flare), and a small French bistro table. There are also dozens of faeries, frogs and turtles accenting the plants and flowers. Have fun looking for them!

David and Kathy McKeen's garden

Dave and Kathy McKeen have a modest garden but a perfect backyard and patio to set up for the final event of the tour - desserts! Is there a better way to end a day touring beautiful gardens than enjoying one (or more) of the many different desserts that will be offered at Dave's house?

The McKeens' front yard contains an excellent grouping of two dozen rose bushes, complemented by four colorful window boxes. The front yard also contains a grouping of red wax begonias, grown from seed given to Dave by club member Dave Johnson. A strategically placed arbor, guarded by a potted rose tree, leads the visitor to the backyard.

Dave and Kathryn have a nice mixture of shade plants, including hostas, lamiastrum, and a very nice Japanese lilac tree. Bring a chair and relax. After an evening of touring, there's nothing better than a tasty dessert!

Driving map to gardens – page 10



June Program Notes

Terry Schwartz, Bailey Nurseries: Easy Elegance Roses

Our June speaker gave us an excellent overview of Bailey's rose program. Here are a few points:

- Terry has worked for Bailey since he was 19. He has worked there for 31 years. You can do the math to figure out how old he is.
- Every year, about 250,000 seeds are planted, resulting in approximately 100,000 seedlings.
- At the end of four or five years, as few as two or three of the original seedlings may be selected.
- The main growing areas are in Arizona and Oregon. Needless to say, the conditions in Arizona are significantly different from Oregon.
- Easy Elegance roses are bred to be crown hardy in Zone 4 or 5 (depending on the variety) and very disease-resistant.
- Terry suggested that we should be able to treat these roses the same way we'd treat a spirea or potentilla. Anything requiring more care than that doesn't get released by Bailey as part of this line.
- Terry has gotten some reports that the hybrid tea "Love and Peace" that they released in about 2003 is hardier than a lot of other hybrid teas. He's not recommending leaving it unprotected over the winter, but apparently some people have gotten away with it.



In addition to the information and knowledge that Terry brought to the meeting, he also brought several potted roses and 20 bare-root plants. The drawing for these terrific shrubs was spirited.

Our thanks to Jerry Olson for suggesting Terry as a speaker. For more information about the Easy Elegance Roses, take a look at this website: <http://www.easyeleganceroses.com>



Roses from Bailey for MGCM

Grandma's Blessing

Orange Impressionist

Pink Gnome



Never a Dull Moment When there are Roses to Give Away!



Easy Elegance Rose 'Sunrise Sunset'



Lloyd Wittstock gets a bare-root shrub, and Kay Wolfe displays the color brochure..



Stan Crist picks out a good one.



Easy Elegance Rose 'Tahitian Moon'



Board Meeting Summary

by Denise Rust

Meeting held May 24, 2005 at Rudy Allebach's. Present were Rudy, Leroy Cech, Elizabeth Hamilton, David McKeen, Denise Rust, Don Stuewe, Don Trocke.

Absent were Kristine Deters and Ellyn Hosch.

President's Report: The club Tour Committee has set dates for summer tours on the evenings of July 12 and August 9. These will be self-driving tours beginning at 6:00 PM. Several gardens are lined up with others yet to be confirmed.

Treasurer's Report: Profit from the May Plant Sale and Auction currently in the amount of \$3338.02, with a couple of outstanding bills remaining.

Membership Secretary: Recommending a search begin to enlist a new Membership Secretary for next term. Don is willing to serve as second in command to train in the new individual. New member inductions can be done at the June meeting.

Old Business: An idea for a memorial was shared, as seen in the Madison Zoo. The Perennial Trial Garden could have a boulder with a plaque on it reading something to the effect of "In memory of MGCM members who have passed away."

New Business: Next Board biography for Spray to come from Rudy Allebach.

Next Board meeting will be Tuesday, June 28 at 7:00 PM at Elizabeth Hamilton's.

Financial Snapshot:

As of 6/20/2005

Income - \$9,662 (full year budget is \$20,350)

Expenses - \$8,452.41 (full year budget is \$26,060)

Club Net Worth

Cash on hand - \$100.00

Checking account - \$8,019.52

CD's - \$10,000.00

Total - \$18,119.52

Total Membership is 111. 45 attended the January meeting , 51 attended the February meeting, 37 attended the March Meeting, 48 attended the April meeting , 53 attended in May. and 44 attended in June



The Third F in the FFF

Lloyd Wittstock

This is the thirteenth year of the Photo Contest, the third area of the annual **F**lower, **F**ood and **F**oto Show. In case you haven't followed the changes, here are some of the basics:

No slides, only prints

14 categories or classes, one specifically for manipulated prints

Take with any camera—throwaway, digital, panoramic

Could be recent or new photos

All must contain plant material

Only club members can win the traveling trophy

We have done everything we could to keep the costs of competing to a minimum, in particular by limiting the maximum print to 5 by 7 (except for standard panorama shots, about 3 by 9). It also doesn't necessarily require lots of expensive equipment to complete. In fact, an inexpensive digital camera probably is as good a tool as an expensive 35-mm camera with a complete set of lenses was five years ago for short- and intermediate-range subjects. The playing field is leveled, with composition and lighting the winning factors.

The goals are simple. We want members to show the best of member gardens or the gardens or landscapes of the places they travel. Classes 8 and 9 are for photos of club activities and of members' gardens. Class 11 is landscapes, 12 is wildflowers. We also want members to practice and display their skills in the art of photography. The judges are members who are glad to discuss their decision process if an entrant wants some feedback.

Most of all, we want members to have fun within a friendly competition. As in the other Fs in the show, the emphasis is on sharing of experiences in entering a show. Any of us who ever received friendly advice from the many exhibitors in the Food and Flower competition or from the "heavyweights" in those areas know just how giving and selfless people in our club can be. Chuck Carlson and I will be happy to discuss with you the choices you have with a particular photo. For example, you may have two equally fine photos that have a mix of plants in a public garden. One might go in the annual class, another with a predominance of perennials might go in the perennial class, or either might go in Class 10, Groups of Cultivated Plants. You choose how to enter these photos, but it may be better to put them into two classes rather than one, to avoid competing with yourself.

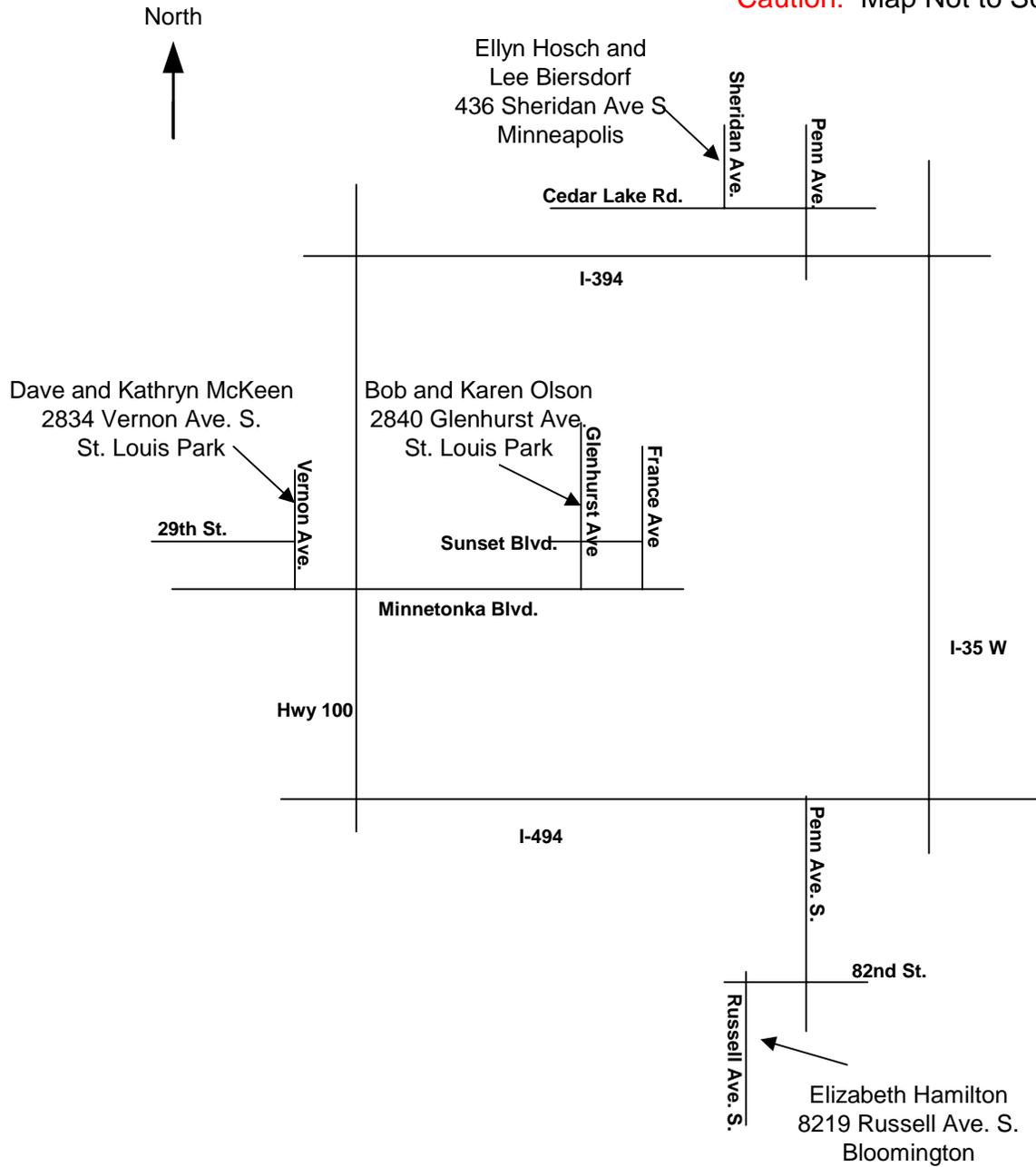
And the rules themselves have included good basic advice on what to look for in your photos, should you need it. The rules are posted on the club website or call Chuck or me (at 612-623-7735). The deadline is the end of July as explained in the rules, but if you mail by that date, call me and let me know they are on the way. Good luck in the contest, and maybe next year you can be a contact for good advice.

See the 2005 Photography Rules at this site: <http://www.minneapolismensgardenclub.org/2005Fotorules.pdf>



MGCM JulyClub Tour: Driving Map

Caution: Map Not to Scale!





JULY TOUR REGISTRATION

Please send in your \$5 per person registration for the Club Garden Tour and dessert at Dave McKeen's on Tuesday evening, July 12, 2005, from 6 pm to about 9:30 pm. As usual guests are welcome.

Member name _____

Guest _____

Guest _____

Guest _____

___ @ \$5 = _____

Please make your check payable to MGCM and send it by Thursday July 7 to:
Bob Redmond
1016 E. Minnehaha Pkwy
Minneapolis Minnesota 55417
(612-822-4109)

If your garden is on this tour (Dave, Dr. Bob and neighbor, Elizabeth, Ellyn), please be our guests and you and your guests do not need to pay. However, please contact Bob Redmond to tell him who might be attending, so we have enough desserts for you!

Questions? Call Margaret Hibberd after July 2, at 651-644-8149.



Doug Whitney, Margaret Hibberd and Bob Livingston are front and center at the June meeting.



MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.

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Club Officers:

President: David McKeen

2834 Vernon Ave. S., St. Louis Park

Vice President: Kristine Deters

1736 Lexington Ave. S., Mendota Heights

Recording Secretary: Denise Rust

7933 Girard Court, Brooklyn Park

Membership Secretary: Don Steuwe

3624 Robinwood Terrace, Minnetonka

Treasurer: LeRoy Cech

212 Interlachen Rd., Burnsville

Past President: Ellyn Hosch

436 Sheridan Ave. S., Minneapolis

Directors:

Rudy Allebach

3414 The Mall, Minnetonka

Elizabeth Hamilton

8219 Russell Ave. S., Bloomington

Don Trocke

10625 Bush Lake Rd., Bloomington

The Spray

The Garden Spray is published monthly by the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc. for its members.

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First Class Mail

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