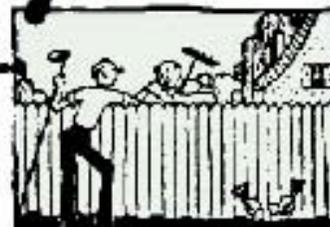




Bulletin of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc

2009, Volume 67, Number 08



## 2009 FLOWER FOOD AND FOTO SHOW

2009 Flower, Food and Foto Show.

August 15 and 16

University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum

Saturday, 7:00 a.m. Doors open for exhibitors

Saturday, 10:30 a.m. Judging begins

Saturday, 12:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Show open  
to public

Sunday, 10:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Show open to  
public

This year's Flower, Vegetable and Photography show will be held in the MacMillan Auditorium of the Oswald Visitor Center at the Arboretum. The weekend of the 15th and 16th is billed as the third annual "Flower Fest" at the Arboretum, and will include both our show and the Arboretum/Federated Garden Club show, along with other special events and classes by the various plant societies. This was a great event last year.

This will be another opportunity to showcase our garden club. We encourage everyone to participate. Our judges always say that this is one of the best shows they see each year, and the best way to keep the quality of the show high is to have as many exhibitors as possible. Admission to the Arboretum will be free for exhibitors.

If you have never exhibited before, please think

about it for this year. It is a lot of fun. All of the "old hands" are all more than happy to help new exhibitors get started. And, of course, we do have a special trophy for the best first-time exhibitor. We'd love to see you there.

One of the enduring mysteries is the Entry Tag. A guide to filling out the entry tag is on Page 9.

To save time the morning of the show, entry tags can be completed ahead of time. If you need tags, please let Mary Maynard know (phone 952-926-7506, e-mail [maynard4375@yahoo.com](mailto:maynard4375@yahoo.com)), and she'll get some to you.

Also, our show rules are posted on our website [www.minneapolismensgardenclub.org](http://www.minneapolismensgardenclub.org). Here's the link to the show schedule: <http://minneapolismensgardenclub.org/Show%20Sked%202009.pdf>. If you need a paper copy of the schedule, please let Mary know and she'll mail one to you.

# Thoughts from the Prez:

## Rusty Ramblings

by Denise Rust



Another month of gardening season gone by! Before you know it, it will be time to get back to preschool---but we won't go there. I'm leaving on vacation in less than an hour so this will be a quick one, a few thoughts here and there.

As promised last month, I had hoped to visit at least one new (to me) garden center during the month, and I did make it down to Tangletown Gardens at Nicollet and 54th. It was fun to see, and I did pick up a couple of new things. It was amazing to me that an old filling station could be so transformed! Do check it out if you have the chance.

Being outside is tantamount this time of year, and I took a few of my "red hatters" down to Lyndale Park earlier this month. They truly enjoyed the gardens, and a couple were making plans to return with some of their friends or family. I also hosted a garden party in my own yard the other day, with a record "red hatter" attendance of 19 people! We had a potluck lunch and checked out what was in bloom, and then went to another lady's house for dessert. This has been an annual event since I have been leading the group, and this was the fourth and certainly not last. I have included a few shots of attention-grabbing blooms from my yard; they are an aquatic plant called Blood Sorrell, an interesting new Gloriosa daisy named "Maya," and an Asiatic lily called "Centerfold."

To top off the week we had our wonderful club garden tour this week, and it was impressive, to say the least! We visited three member gardens and three



non-member gardens, and a community garden as well. I came home with about 70 photos and lots of ideas. For those of you who missed it, do enjoy the pictures included in this publication.

As I sign off, I wish you happy gardening, some much-needed rain, and opportunities to get out and enjoy others' gardening endeavors as well.





# A Note from the Editor

Mary Maynard

We finally got some rain! Not nearly enough here in St. Louis Park, but isn't amazing how much better real rain is? Which makes me wonder what huge water bills John Dahl, Suzanne Holt and Carol Schreier must have -- and how on earth Tim Rosener keeps the rose garden alive at the Bryant Unity Garden. We thank John, Suzanne, Carol and Tim for inviting us to their gardens. I am always impressed by the artistry and variety in our members' gardens. John's roses and lisianthus are always spectacular, and it's hard to believe that Suzanne Holt's lovely garden is only three years old. Tim gives us insight into the challenges of gardening in a public spot: several bushes and a couple of rose trees were stolen this year -- and the roses still looked (and smelled) wonderful. And Carol Schreier must feel akin with mountain goats, without a level spot in her entire garden: a wonderful example of how to garden on a slope! And I was also grateful to visit the three Northeast gardens. I seem to remember that only John Anderson had any grass at all, and then only a little bit in his front yard. Both Jim Handtmann and Gaynell Shandell had gardens everywhere. They were a real treat, and fine examples of how to garden on a standard city lot. Now we're on to the next scheduled club event -- the Flower, Food and Foto Show at the Arboretum. As you probably know, this is my favorite event of the year. There is something rewarding about putting on a show that the public can enjoy -- and to show off the gardening skills of the club. If you have never participated in this show, I strongly encourage you to think about it. I was too intimidated to try for several years, and now I kick myself for not having entered sooner. And all of us "old hands" will be on hand

to help out any new members. We look forward to seeing you there!

Finally, I have been working with our newly-formed TV Committee, and I encourage everyone to participate. It's going to be a great learning experience. If you're interested, please get in touch with one of the charter members, and we'll include you in planning. We are definitely in need of more videographers, who need to take a class in order to check out Minneapolis's video equipment. If you'd like to know more about that, please check with Andy Marlow, who has already taken the class and can fill you in. So far, it's very exciting! Another way to reach out to the community.

See you all at the FFF Show!

## Upcoming Events

**Date      Location      Event**

Aug 15-16th      FFF Show

Sept.      Selecting Photographs for a National Gardening Publication with Andy Marlow and The Hosta Journal.

LHC = Lake Harriet Church (4901 Chowen Ave. S., Minneapolis)

WLC = Westwood Lutheran Church

## THE EVER SHRINKING CLUB

By Kay Wolfe



We now have 90 MGCM members. About 10 years ago we used to have around 125. Now about 45 attend dinner meetings. We used to have about 65. The number of members is shrinking. The number attending dinner meetings is shrinking.

And now it is the time of year to nominate Board Members. Anyone who has already served on the Board does not expect to serve again. In a quick check of the club directory, I count that about 50% have already served on the Board. That leaves 45 left to serve. But if only 50% of those members are active, that leaves a pool of only 22 to serve on the Board. I am not great at math—can this be right? And on top of that, a lot of members have been in the club for 20, 30, 40 years. They all expect the “new members” to do the work of serving on the Board. But then I hear complaints that the Board is “too young” and does not know how the club is run. Hmm.

I offered to serve on the Board again last year. I had already served in the 1990's. I offered to serve again because I had been asked a lot of questions by 2008 Board members about policies and protocols, and I knew how to find the answers. Most of the answers were in the MGCM Handbook, and this year we also updated it and posted it on the MGCM website. So maybe referring to the Handbook will help in the future, but there is nothing like personal connections. Having a teacher or experienced mentor nearby enriches life for all of us. That is why we are in the club—to share knowledge.

Why not have a Board with a nice mix of

members? New, not so new, and seasoned members? Why not serve on the Board? And again—even if you served before? It is not hard, it doesn't take much time. It only takes going to about 7 one hour meetings a year. And if people don't like driving around to member's houses in winter, then why not have dinner meetings at a conveniently located restaurant? Whatever works. Rethink it.

President-Elect Don Untiedt appointed a new Nominating Committee for 2010. (This committee is defined in the By-Laws.) The five members are Kent Petterson (chair), Bob Olson, Lynda Carlson, Jason Rathe, and Ann LeFlem. They will be putting together a slate of officers for 2010. Let them know if you can help. If everyone takes a turn, the job won't be so huge. Let's all help. Why should we expect officers to keep their jobs for 4, 5, or 6 years? If you can't be an officer, offer to help on a committee that will make one of the officer's jobs lighter. If being VP of Programs or Treasurer is too big of a job—why not make a committee to help? Let's rethink it. Share the work.

We all have to help. We may not have the quantity of members we used to have, but we still have QUALITY! The huge benefit is spending time with fun club members! Do your part today!

Kay Wolfe  
MGCM Director, 2009; and from about 1995-2000, or whatever dates. (The memory is shrinking too!)

# July Garden Tour Pics

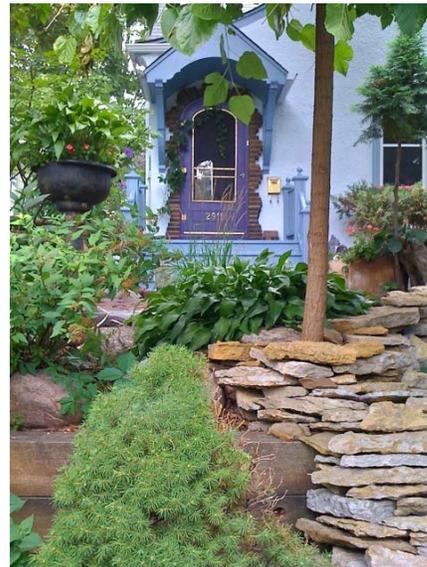
[Pictures on this page by Denise Rust]





# July Garden Tour Pics

[Pictures on this page by Chuck Carlson]





## **New Members**

Raymond & Joanne Bauch  
1325 Sycamore Lane  
Plymouth, MN 55441-4504  
763-546-2169

Ray and Joanne are also affiliated with  
the Arboretum, and grow flowers and  
vegetables.

Russ Henry  
4549 41st Ave. South  
Minneapolis, MN 55406-4010  
612-227-0115  
e-mail: rhenry@gtgardens.com  
Committee: Photography

Dale Bachman  
6010 Lyndale Avenue S.  
Minneapolis, MN 55419  
612-861-7645  
email: execbachman@bachmans.com

## **TREASURER REPORT**

CD	5,000.00
Checking	6,708.48
Designated fund	
Park garden	1,222.38
Working balance	5,486.10



## Come Join Us at the FFF Show

Once again, I encourage everyone to participate in this year's Flower, Food and Foto Show at the Arboretum. There is no pre-registration for the flower and vegetable part of the show. (In fact, there isn't a way to pre-register!)

This year, our show will be part of the Arboretum's Flower Fest weekend, so there will be a lot of people from the plant societies around, and we're hoping for large attendance from the public as well. So it would be really outstanding if we could have all of our tables filled with flower and vegetable entries. The show is in the main auditorium in the new building.

If you haven't ever participated in the Show, let me tell you that it is a blast! I still kick myself for not having participated sooner. The competition is friendly, and other exhibitors are happy to give advice to first-time exhibitors. Plus, there's a trophy for the best first-time exhibitor. We'd love to award it to someone this year. And remember -- entry to the Arboretum is free to exhibitors!

If you're thinking about entering, here are a few tips:

1. Take a look at the show schedule. You should have gotten one at the last club meeting or in the mail, and I'm going to ask Andy to post it on our website as well. The show schedule tells you what how many of each cut flower or vegetable you need to enter, and what the artistic design categories are this year.
2. Consider entering container plants and hanging baskets. There are categories for these, too, and they make a great display.
3. Make out your entry tags ahead of time, and use either a pencil or a ball-point pen (since there's a lot of water around on the setup tables). If you need entry tags, please let me know -- email me at [maynard4375@yahoo.com](mailto:maynard4375@yahoo.com) or call me at 952-926-7506 and I'll get some to you. We will also have entry tags at the show if you need more.

4. For cut flowers, cut them the evening before, if possible, and store them in a cool place overnight. This will give you an idea of how things will hold up at the show. Cut an extra stem or two if you have them, since things can get damaged in transport or during exhibit prep. When selecting specimens, choose those with the least leaf or flower damage, and if you need multiples, try to select the most uniform. Also, look for flowers that are not fully bloomed out. Judges look for flowers with "more to come". And remove dust and dirt. (Hostas, particularly, can be kind of dusty.) Vegetables should be wiped clean but not scrubbed.

5. Specimens can be transported in many different ways. A lot of members bring tall things in 5-gallon buckets. I bring a lot of my entries in quart and pint jars, stuffed into boxes and wedged in place with newspaper. Just do your best to keep cut flowers upright and in water.

6. Get to the setup area (the loading dock at the main building) in time to put your specimens in the vases and bottles (for cut flowers) or paper plates (for vegetables) that are provided by the club and get them to the show floor by 10:30 a.m. when the judging starts. Bring pruning shears or little scissors for that last-minute trimming. I have noticed, for instance, that our judges are more likely to notice a leaf with an insect hole in it than to notice that a leaf is missing (because we trimmed it off).

If you have any questions about how to best display your entries, ask any of the other exhibitors. We are all happy to help!

7. Then take some time to visit the other exhibits our tour the gardens and come back around 12:30 to see what you've won!

If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate



to send me an email or give me a call. The more the merrier!

let Mary Maynard know (phone 952-926-7506, e-mail maynard4375@yahoo.com), and she'll get some to you.

And, if you really aren't ready to show anything this year, please do come out to the show. You might discover that you have things in your garden that would have won!

One of the enduring mysteries is the Entry Tag. Here is a guide for filling out the entry tag.

To save time the morning of the show, entry tags can be completed ahead of time. If you need tags, please

## The FFF Show Entry Tag Explained

Use a ball-point pen, lead pencil or waterproof marker to fill out tag. Tags often get wet, and other markers may run or fade.

ENTRY TAG	
No.....13.....	Your entry number. You get your number the day of the show.
Division .....Hort.....	Either "Design" or "Horticulture" often shortened to "Hort"
Class .....A-17.....	The Section Letter and Class Number from the Show Schedule.
Entry .....Marigold..... .....Tiger Eyes.....	The variety name of your entry, as best you know it.
Name .....Mary Maynard...	Pre-printed labels work very well for this. Saves time!
Address .....St. Louis Park ...	
-----	Fold line: End of tag is folded up over name so judges don't see it.



## Got HEIRLOOM TOMATOES!

The FFF Show is featuring heirloom tomatoes this year. In addition to regular entries in the vegetable section, we are putting together an educational display featuring heirlooms. If you have an heirloom tomato or two that we could put in the display, please bring it to the Arboretum on Saturday morning, August 15.

If you have questions, please get in touch with Bob Livingston (rlivington@email.msn.com, 952-929-6019)



**They are here.** I am talking about the **Japanese Beetle** (see the picture below). I have been going out to the rose bush every day and dropping the beetle into a can of soapy water. I have somewhere between 50 & 100 dead beetles in the can. I also found out that those C shaped grubs you find in the ground turn into these beetles. So, get rid of those also. The holes you see in the rose petals are what they do.

by Chuck Carlson



## PHOTO CONTEST EXPANDS FOCUS

This year, the Photo (make that Foto) contest is going out for business. No, not out of business, but out for business, that is, for your photos to judge, to display or to present for visitors to vote on at the Arboretum FFF show.

What's the same? The juried section of the contest. Members or non-members can submit their digital photos according to the rules into 14 classes to be judged by our panel of judges before being exhibited at the Arboretum, at one of our club meetings, and on the club Website.

Back again as well is the People's Choice. You send us one or two prints and we set them up for the public to vote on at the Arboretum FFF show. We have our own multiple vote system, and so far it's constitutional! Members only. Complete for a \$50 gift certificate and help build a fine display of print photos at the show.

What's new? The Exhibition. Anyone can contribute

prints (up to 8 \_ by 11 inches) in any (reasonable) quantity for display at the Arboretum on the two FFF days, August 15 and 16. We do reserve the right to limit the number, but we don't expect any problem there—we can always set up another table. If you have many, please mount them on a foam board for us. Call Lloyd at 612-623-7735 with questions.

The rules are posted with links on the main club Web page at [www.minneapolisgardensclub.org](http://www.minneapolisgardensclub.org) and in the August section of the events page. Here's a direct link to the rules: <http://tinyurl.com/cqf42k> as well.

We expanded after surveying the members for ideas to keep the show alive and responsive to their ideas of a photo contest. Please consider entering and, just as important, bring some of your plants or produce to enter in the FFF show, a great way to see some new varieties of plants and spend a few hours with your club members.

### **A Park Story**

On Saturday, August 1, Mollie Dean and I were weeding and grooming at the Lyndale Park Garden. A couple came strolling by with their young kids. They live in a Minneapolis neighborhood near the park, and when we told them we were the volunteers that create this garden, they thanked us profusely for our efforts and for making the garden. Then the woman told us a story. She said that her mother died of breast cancer a few years ago. She had also lived near Lyndale Park, and she would walk by our garden to see what progress we were making. She said her mom was very sick for her last four years, and she believed that her mom's interest in the gardens gave her extra time—another thing to live for--she was always over at the park checking out what was new. She said that she thinks there are probably people all over the city with similar stories of appreciation—that we volunteers just never hear how much our gardens mean to people. And they thanked us again. Such a touching story, I pass this on to all of you.

Kay Wolfe  
Lyndale Park Garden Committee Chair



# Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc.

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### Club Officers:

**President: Denise Rust**  
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**Recording Secretary: Judy Berglund**  
**Membership Secretary: Sharla Aaseng**  
1025 20th Ave. S.E., Minneapolis  
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**Past President: Larry Larson**  
15225 Wild Wings, Minnetonka

### Directors:

**Elaine Spiegel**  
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**Elizabeth Hamilton**  
8219 Russell Ave. S., Bloomington  
**Kay Wolfe**  
2740 Florida Ave. S., St. Louis Park

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

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**First Class Mail**

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