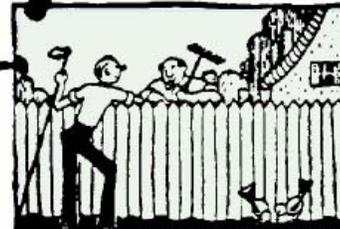




The Garden Spray

Bulletin of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc
2006, Volume 64, Number 1



Upcoming Events

| Date | Location | Event |
|---------|----------|-----------------|
| Jan 10 | LHC | Patrick Vetting |
| Feb. 14 | LHC | TBD |
| Mar. | | TBD |
| Apr. | | TBD |
| May | WLC | Plant Auction |
| June | LHC | TBD |

LHC = Lake Harriet United Methodist Church

4901 Chowen Ave. S., Minneapolis

WLC = Westwood Lutheran Church

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Gathering and Conversation | 6:00 p.m. |
| Dinner | 6:30 p.m. |
| Business Meeting | approx. 7:00 p.m. |
| Program | approx. 7:30 p.m. |

Note: Permanent reservations are in effect.

Reservations or cancellations are required by the Friday before the meeting. Call or e-mail Carole Ann Brekke (952-435-6019, numsix24@comcast.net) for your reservation or cancellation.

For last minute cancellations, call Leroy Cech at 952-435-7621. If he can sell it, you won't be billed.

January Club Meeting

Hardy Azaleas, Rhododendrons and Magnolias

Patrick Vetting will be sharing his experiences with hardy azaleas, magnolias and rhododendrons and his garden.

See Page 3 for more information about Patrick and his gardening interests.



Azalea "Northern Lights"



From the President:

-- Kristine Deters

As the New Year begins, I want to take a moment to reflect on why I like perennials with a story about my front yard tree.

We bought our first home five years ago. One of the big pluses to the property was a large ash tree in the front yard. It shaded our house nicely and provided a beautiful anchor to the front lawn. At the time, my Dad pointed out that the tree looked like it had not been well cared for as it was oddly shaped. It also had a split trunk that at one time someone had tried to anchor together with steel cable. However, it was a beautiful tree and I fell in love with it.

Two years ago while on vacation in Arizona, our neighborhood was hit with an ice storm in March. When we arrived home, we found a large limb from our tree was lying across the path along the front of the property. It had probably also been lying in the street, as there was evidence that some of the branches had been cut and dumped in the front yard. With help, we cleared the debris and felt luckily that we still had our tree.

This year, twice during summer wind storms, we had two more limbs break off. I was sadly becoming resigned to the fact that the tree probably would need to go. Still, I put off the decision because I loved that tree and couldn't imagine what a hole in our landscape its disappearance would bring. Then, while on an out-of-town trip, I received a call from my husband (who had been advocating the tree's demise for many months). "You know that branch that you are worried is going to fall on the neighbor's house?" he asked. "Yes," I answer. "It's on the neighbor's house," he states matter-of-factly. So, the next day we had someone come and remove our lovely front yard tree.

The loss of our tree is something I mourned all fall. However, now as winter settles in, I begin to think about what new tree I can try next. Something with fall color or spring blossoms. Something that will grow large and shady or something that will be smaller but will look good with a new garden bed.

The thing I love best about perennial plants including shrubs and trees is that they have a history. You can remember when you planted it and how you have nurtured it. You build around them. And you are okay when you lose them because of the opportunity it brings to try something new.

Happy New Year!

Kris

Editor's Note

-- Mary Maynard

We are now entering into the season of New Year's resolutions and cabin fever. Of making those long lists of improvements to the garden. In the winter, when everything seems possible. We have time to pore through the seed catalogs and check out all the gardening books from the library (or buy them from Terrace Horticultural Books, of course). In the winter, we don't have to deal with mosquitoes and gnats everywhere. We don't have to face the reality that we aren't as young as we used to be, and our knees and backs won't necessarily cooperate with our plans to remake our gardens. But maybe, with some luck and determination, we will be able to accomplish a small part of our winter dreams.

I am flying solo this month, while Jason is in New Zealand. Can't wait until he returns! Happy New Year!



January Speaker: Patrick Vettling



Patrick Vettling has been gardening pretty much all his life. He first got interested in azaleas and rhododendrons in high school when he started reading the Time Life Books on gardening. The pictures were beautiful. Then

he saw his first Northern Lights Azaleas in a nursery in full bloom. The color and the fragrance were incredible. From that moment on he was hooked.

He has written an article on Hardy Azaleas, Magnolias, and Rhododendrons for the magazine "Northern Gardener".

Currently, he lives in northern Anoka County with his partner Dan of 23 yrs. Here they have been gardening for 12yrs. The focus of the garden is to develop a landscape that is sustainable in a Minnesota climate. This means the plants are able to grow and thrive with out irrigation or winter protection.

To create a landscape that is both beautiful to view 12 months of the year and hardy means one has to do a lot of hybridization. This has been a very slow process planting out many seedlings each year and allowing the forces of nature to select the hardiest ones. In time however, the good ones start to show up and they get excited about the possibility of having a landscape as spectacular as any place else in the gardening world.

Right now he does not have any named varieties in the market place, but he hopes to change that soon.

Patrick will be sharing his experiences with hardy azaleas, magnolias and rhododendrons and his garden.

Lehman Trophy: Best Garden on Tour Elizabeth Hamilton



Elizabeth (left) receives trophy from Committee Chair Kay Wolfe. Congratulations, Elizabeth, and thanks for opening your beautiful garden to the Club.



Elizabeth in her garden during last July's tour.



Terrace Horticultural Books: Martha Was Here

By Kent Petterson



What would you think if Martha Stewart called on her cell phone asking for directions to your place of business? This happened to us at Terrace Horticultural Books on November 19th during our semi annual open house. Terrace Horticultural Books (THB) is an Internet based business at 503 St. Clair Ave. that is open only by appointment. Kent Petterson and Abby Farr-Petterson started the business in 1991. Originally out of our home in Minneapolis, we finally arrived at our permanent THB home on St. Clair Ave, five years ago.

More later about what we thought, but how did Martha Stewart find out about Terrace Horticultural Books that day? Most of our neighbors don't even know we are here. Yes, the immediate neighbors know us, plus a few others that have stopped by to visit, or see the gardens or buy our gardening books. But, how did Martha find out?

We actually didn't even know Martha Stewart was going to be in the Twin Cities on the day we chose for our fall open house. Local promotion of her new book and furniture line was her purpose that day, not THB. As luck would have it, our first customer of the day was going to Martha Stewart's book signing in the downtown Minneapolis Barnes & Noble store. Our customer thought that it would be wonderful if Amy could put our brochure in Martha's hand later in the morning while getting her book signed. We didn't expect a visit, but we did hope to at least make her aware of what we do here in St. Paul. When she saw the brochure, Martha immediately recognized how unique our bookstore business really is in the world of gardening and books.

Many loyal customers have discovered this over the years. What is it we do? Basically we are a used bookstore with a unique twist. Yes we have thousands of books both new and used on gardening and all topics plant related, but we also have old seed packets, seed and plant catalogs, small old garden tools, unframed botanical and floral illustrations, plus periodicals and journals related to botany and gardening all presented in one of the most attractive used book stores anywhere in the country. We also have our display gardens and window boxes to provide a total gardening experience. As a former master gardener and active gardener Kent offers informed background perspective on the books we sell. *(Continued on next page)*



Terrace Horticultural Books – continued from Page 4

So, what did we think when Martha asked for directions? First, stay calm can this be true. What do you say? I didn't know. What will the customers think or do? We had 10 minutes to be ready, but we already were ready. We had 15 years of preparation for all of our customers. And Martha Stewart was coming to be a customer. We decided to simply allow her have to her privacy and be a customer just as everyone else had done through the day.

As it turned out, Martha wasn't alone. She brought her publisher for Martha Stewart Living Kevin Sharkey, her Chief Creative Officer Gael Ann Towey and her publicity person for the tour. Three of the four were enthusiastic buyers. They all knew exactly what they wanted and luckily we had a good selection from which to choose. They stayed for an hour and bought a large quantity of books. Kevin didn't want to go. Martha graciously consented to a couple of photos so we could prove this really happened.

After we went out for dinner at the Glockenspiel Restaurant to celebrate our good fortune. We didn't and still don't understand what a visit from Martha ET all (as she signed the guest book) might mean for our business. We also didn't know that more was in store that evening. While we were having dinner, Molly Millett, staff writer for the Pioneer Press, was interviewing Martha Stewart in the green room at the Edina Marshal Field store. Among the many questions Molly asked was, what did you do in your free time today between events? Word was out then because Martha told of her visit to Terrace Horticultural Books. To quote from the Sunday Pioneer Press paper article titled Stewart Surprises St. Paul Shop, "Oh! What a great place!" Stewart said ' I bought 20 books on Japanese gardening, on Chinese gardening, on garden ornaments, on landscape architecture in Europe. These are books that are out of print (etc)". She didn't use her signature "It's a good thing" but the endorsement of "a great place" is more than we could ever have asked. For that we are grateful

There is more to the story of what happened to us this year and there will be more as we are still at 503 St. Clair to serve our customers. We also can be found at www.terracehorticulturalbooks.com. Sometime soon this will be a complete e-commerce site but in the meantime books can be ordered from our searchable database at www.abebooks.com/home/VERANDA or we can be reached at 651-222-5536 to set up an appointment.

Our best wishes from Terrace Horticultural to all our good neighbors as we look back at the year and forward to a wonderful New Year.

Kent originally wrote this article for the St. Paul's *West Seventh Community Reporter*.



Winter Magic in Review

The “Winter Magic” holiday event on December 6th was not only fun to prepare but to attend. Speaking for myself, and I believe, the whole committee, we hope those of you who attended the party enjoyed it as much as we did. It has been fun on the Tuesday morning of the party to watch the room transform. There is always that short time when one panics and thinks we won’t make it, and then it all magically comes together. The success of the whole event could not happen without a great committee of some regular members (Chuck Benson, Delores Johnson, Jan and Duane Johnson, Marilyn and John Moon, Jackie Overom, and Carol Schreier), new members (Don Stuewe and Holly Gustafson--a really new member since she just joined the club) and a temporary recruit (Melba Gustafson). Thank you to all of you.

Once again I think the buffet style of serving the meal worked well. The silent auction offered a variety of items, prices and demonstrated how creative and innovative gardener’s can be. But then who is surprised—these are gardeners after all! Thanks to all of you who created and/or contributed items and bid, we made nearly \$1000.00 again this year. Wow!! It is such fun to see the items come in!

The turkey parade, awards and the entertainment (Kenny Kiser and Jennifer Eckes) completed the evening. It was certainly a holiday kickoff for me and I hope it was for all of you. Happy New Year to you all!

See you next year,

Sharla Aaseng, Holiday Committee Chair.

Dave and Delores Johnson, Roger and Kak Koopmans are ready for anything!





Scenes from 'Winter Magic'



Alice McBride and Vivian Big Eagle – our youngest guests and active bidders in the Silent Auction



Dave McKeen performs one of his last official acts as President. Note Leroy Cech in background bearing inaugural robe.



Incoming President Kristine Deters, resplendent in presidential finery. Note our scholarship winner to Kristine's right, apparently wondering what kind of organization she accepted money from.



Happy New Year!



Outstanding Service Award: Roger Koopmans



Rog Koopmans (left) receives award from last year's winner, Bob Livingston.

Roger has lived in Faribault his entire life. He graduated from Faribault High in 1949, where he was captain of the basketball and tennis teams. He started a swing band that has existed for 58 years, and he still plays trumpet.

After high school, Roger worked for his future father-in-law Dick Lehman (for whom the Lehman trophy is named). He married the boss's daughter Kak, who is also a skilled gardener. Together they developed a nationally acclaimed garden that has been a destination for many local and regional tours. They have also hosted the National Hosta Society, the National Hemerocallis Society, the National Garden Clubs of America, the National Lily Society and Gardeners of America.

Roger has worked in horticulture and landscaping since high school ending with a successful landscaping business. He served in the U.S. Army in Korea and was awarded the Bronze Star. He was an Army Intelligence sergeant.

In 1995, Roger, along with other Garden Club members, spent two weeks in Japan studying hostas.

Roger followed his father-in-law's footsteps in our club, joining in 1958. Interestingly, club rules at the time prohibited him from serving as a club officer, since he was in the gardening and landscaping business.

Roger is a past president of the Midwest Hosta Society. He and his wife have lived outstanding lives in the community, building their own home with their own hands. They have very actively involved themselves in the well-being of Faribault and all the the gardening organizations they have been in.

- Bob Livingston

2005 Scholarship Winner: Kari Duncan

One of our guests at this year's club Holiday Party was our 2005 MGCM Scholarship winner. A \$1000.00 scholarship award was made in August to Kari Duncan of Morris, MN. Kari is a second year landscape design student at Hennepin Technical College. Kari was given the chance to thank club members for their support. The club is approaching \$40,000 is total awards for scholarships since first established in honor of the club's 50th Anniversary celebration. The scholarship committee thanks the membership for their continued support of this wonderful program.

-Kent Petterson



Board Meeting Summary

by Denise Rust

Minutes of the board meeting held 11-29-05 at Don Steuwe's. Present were Leroy Cech, Kristine Deters, David McKeen, Denise Rust, Don Steuwe, Don Trocke. Visiting were incoming board members Sharla Aasang and Margaret Landry.

Absent were Rudy Allebach, Elizabeth Hamilton and Ellyn Hosch.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: In the process of digging out turkey costume for the Holiday Party. We will need to induct the most recent batch of new members soon as that was not done in 2005.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Is in the process of getting the four meeting dates set for next year, confirming committee chairs, and finalizing details on the January program.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The proposed 2006 was agreed upon by the board and will be voted upon at the January meeting. Attendance was down at the November meeting. In 2004 \$422 was collected in memorial donations and in 2005 \$310 was collected and all is ready to be spent when a decision is made on how to invest it.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT: New member Margaret Saxrud was accepted, bringing the total membership to 116. Collections on membership renewals total \$1,604 (including MSHS membership renewals). As of 11-29, 75 members had renewed for 2006. We should clarify on the membership application that applications submitted late in the year will apply to the next year.

NEW BUSINESS: Currently 70 are planning to attend the Holiday Party.

Not a lot of silent auction items have been submitted so far. A suggestion made to solicit volunteers and such via the newsletter to save some phone calls.

NEXT MEETING will be held Tuesday, January 24 at Kristine Deters'.

Beth and Carleton Nelson and Don and Geri Trocke looking very festive at the Holiday Party.





Gulf Coast Relief for Gardeners – Can You Help?

Kent Petterson is planning a trip to the Gulf Coast in late January or Feb. to do some Katrina relief work of his own creation. Kent has had contact with the Master Gardeners in the area. At least two areas lost their offices and entire reference library in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Kent will be driving down taking books from the shop that are excess or more semitropical in nature.

If anyone in the club has good reference material or books useful for a southern Master Gardener library and would like to donate them, he would be glad to transport them to Mississippi. Kent is hoping the Master Gardeners will participate in this project as well.

If you'd like to contribute books to this effort, please get in touch with Kent at 612-332-1821 or at terrace@winternet.com.

Financial Snapshot:

Financial Snapshot - December 20, 2005

Income - \$15, 779.69

Full year budget - \$20,350

Expenses - \$16,479.81

Full year budget - \$26,060

Net worth

Checking - \$5,904.12

CD's - \$10,203.69

Cash \$100.00

Total - \$16,207.81

Membership - 117

50 members attended the Holiday party

Average meeting attendance for 2005 - 45 members per meeting/event.



| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Income | |
| Bank interest | \$ 200.00 |
| Holiday Party – Income | 2,000.00 |
| Holiday Party – Silent Auction | 1,200.00 |
| Hospitality – Meals – Income | 4,000.00 |
| MGCM Dues | 1,200.00 |
| MSHS Dues – Income | 1,400.00 |
| Plant Auction – Income | 7,000.00 |
| Slide Show – Income | 200.00 |
| Tours – Public – Income | 5,000.00 |
| Tours – Club – Income | 1,000.00 |
| Total Income | \$23,200.00 |
| Expenses | |
| Arbor Day | \$ 200.00 |
| Arboretum Membership | 60.00 |
| Awards and Trophies | 100.00 |
| Bank Charge | 50.00 |
| Donation – Arboretum | 300.00 |
| Donation – HRC | 300.00 |
| Donation – Mpls Prks Legacy Soc. | 100.00 |
| Donation – MSHS | 200.00 |
| FFF | 900.00 |
| Garden Spray | 800.00 |
| Historian | 100.00 |
| Holiday Party Expense | 2,400.00 |
| Honorary Members' Dues | 100.00 |
| Hospitality – Basement Rental | 900.00 |
| Hospitality – Meals – Expense | 4,400.00 |
| Insurance – MGCM | 500.00 |
| Membership and publicity | 50.00 |
| Membership directory | 240.00 |
| Memorials | 2,000.00 |
| Misc. | 100.00 |
| MSHS Dues – Expense | 1,400.00 |
| Office Supplies | 100.00 |
| Perennial Garden | 500.00 |
| Photography | 50.00 |
| Plant Auction – Expense | 3,500.00 |
| President Contingency | 250.00 |
| Program | 800.00 |
| Scholarships | 4,500.00 |
| Sunshine | 200.00 |
| Tours – Club – Expense | 1,000.00 |
| Tours – Public – Expense | 1,500.00 |
| Web Site | 250.00 |
| Youth Gardening | 100.00 |
| Total Expenses | \$27,950.00 |
| Overall Total | (\$4,750.00) |

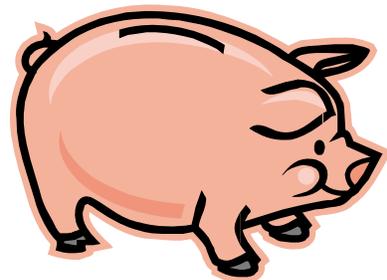
MGCM 2006 Budget Proposal

The club will vote on the 2006 budget at the business meeting in January.



Leroy Cech,
MGCM Treasurer

\$\$\$ \$ \$ \$





MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.

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Club Officers:

President: Kristine Deters

1736 Lexington Ave. S., Mendota Heights

Vice President: Margaret Landry

3542 40th Ave. S., Minneapolis

Recording Secretary: Denise Rust

7933 Girard Court, Brooklyn Park

Membership Secretary: Sharla Aaseng

1025 20th Ave. SE, Minneapolis

Treasurer: Leroy Cech

212 Interlachen Rd., Burnsville

Past President: David McKeen

2834 Vernon Ave. S., St. Louis Park

Directors:

Elizabeth Hamilton

8219 Russell Ave. S., Bloomington

Elaine Spiegel

4814 West 41st Street, St. Louis Park

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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Return To:

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Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc.

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First Class Mail

January
2006

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