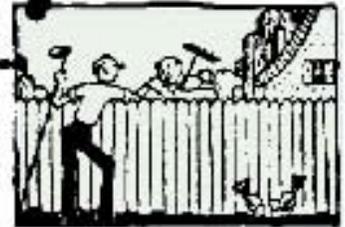




# The Garden Spray



Bulletin of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc  
2006, Volume 65, Number 01

## Upcoming Events

Date	Location	Event
Jan. 9th	LHC	Karol Emmerich
Feb. 13th	LHC	Ikebana

LHC = Lake Harriet Church (4901 Chowen Ave. S., Minneapolis)  
 MF = Marshall Field's Downtown  
 WLC = Westwood Lutheran Church

### January Speaker: Karol Emmerich

The speaker for the January Garden Club meeting will be Karol Emmerich. Her talk is called, "Following a Dream" and is a biography of her life looked at through a gardening lens. It features the development of a city garden in Edina, a job change from Corporate executive to daylily breeder, and the development of a new garden and test site just south of Jordan. Look at their website for more information: [www.springwood-gardens.com](http://www.springwood-gardens.com).

Her story of leaving the corporate world to follow her dream seems to have captured the imagination of the media: she was featured this year in June 2006 Better Homes and Gardens, the St Paul Pioneer Press and Channel 5 TV.

Karol Emmerich is a graduate of Northwestern University and the Stanford Business School, and until 1993 ran the financial operations of the Dayton Hudson Corporation (now Target). She has been actively involved in numerous non-profit organizations and has served on several corporate boards. She is passionate about growing flowers, growing people, and creating new varieties of cutting edge, northern hardy daylilies.

## October Dinner Meeting: Tuesday, January 9th

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

### Dinner Reservations

Permanent reservations for the dinner meeting are in effect. Permanent reservations are shown by the "p" on the mailing label or by the email message for those receiving the newsletter by email.

Reservations or cancellations are required by the Friday before the meeting. Call or e-mail Carole Anne Brekke (952-435-6029, [numsix24@comcast.net](mailto:numsix24@comcast.net)) for your reservation or cancellation. For last-minute cancellations, call LeRoy Cech (952 435-7621). If he can sell it, you won't be billed.



# Thoughts from the Prez

by Margaret Landry

**On Becoming President.** It's strange to me that I should be president of MGCM, but here it is. You may wonder what kind of president I will be. Certainly, as a beginner gardener with an obviously beginner garden, and membership going back only a few years, I don't have the depth of information or experience to have strong opinions or the inclination to be 'the decider.' I am comforted by the observation that this club runs itself and doesn't need a strong leader in order to function.

**On Garden Club Ecology.** Times change. As changed lifestyles, membership demographics and the Minnesota gardening landscape put pressures on our club ecology, what do you want from the club and what direction do you want the club to take? What perennial club activities do you value most? Gardening MGCM-style is not about merely functioning so much as it is about thriving and evolving. What does the club offer you to help you thrive and what do you offer the club to help the club thrive? Do our activities in terms of service, education and friendship perfectly serve our purpose?

**On Club.** Being in a club means we're not doing it alone... I definitely didn't join the club to sit alone at my computer and muse about gardening! I'd love to convert the president's column into a forum for members. It's about all of us! Tell me/us what's on your mind! Who wants to write something for the February Spray?

**On Gardening.** Spring is almost upon us. The newly arrived garden catalogs remind me that gardening invites a healthy relationship with time and experience: learn from the past, be in the timeless present moment and patiently plan/sow seeds for future infinite possibilities.

*Happy New Year!* All the best to each of you and to our club in 2007!



## *A Note from the Editor*

Here we are in the deep winter. At my house, I am hoping for more snow to protect the gardens and Phil is hoping for no snow since he doesn't enjoy shoveling. I have let the seed catalogs pile up during the frantic holiday season, and I'm now getting ready to sit down with a nice hot beverage and see what's new for next year and which old favorites are still around.

I am also taking a few moments to think about how grateful I am to so many people in our garden club.

As co-editor of the *Spray*, I am extremely grateful to Jason Rathe, who, as our other co-editor, does all the hard stuff. Jason writes copy and puts all the material together to make our *Spray* the fine newsletter that it is, while I do the harrasing and the mailing.

I am also grateful for our regular contributors. Kristine got her president's column in despite a very hectic work schedule in 2006. Margaret Landry gave us excellent material on the programs. And Chuck Carlson and Lloyd Wittstock contributed many fine photos. Leroy Cech was always very prompt with financial information, and Denise got the board meeting minutes to us without fail. Chuck also wrote articles and poetry for the *Spray*. (I suspect that he takes pity on us, since he knows what it's like to be the editor in need of copy!)

And the committees got us all the information we needed, from Doug Whitney's information on the plant auction, to write-ups for the perennial garden and tours this summer to the Holiday Party material to wrap up the year. Thanks to all of you! We are very grateful.

Thanks, too, to everyone who took some time to write up an article about a special interest. It's always fun to learn from an expert!

I am looking forward to serving the club again in 2007. As I've said before, I will never be able to give back as much as I've gotten, but I will keep trying. I wish all of you a very happy and prosperous gardening year!

Mary Maynard



## Holiday Committee

Happy New Year to you all! And thanks for making the Holiday Party a great success again. I probably said this last year but it is worth repeating: I so enjoy the transition that takes place to our meeting room on the day of the holiday party. We have a good time, even though this year I was told I was a little bossier than other years. That was good feedback, because I want it to be fun. I do get nervous when I walk into that dark, empty room on the Tuesday morning. But when the committee arrives, we just go for it and somehow it just happens. This is like a very short-term garden to me. Spring to fall happening in about 12 hours.

Once again the auction was a great success. There were so many wonderful and unusual items to bid on. We made just under \$850.00 this year. There is an awful lot of creative talent in this club besides gardening. A huge thank you goes to Elaine Spiegel for co-chairing the committee, to those who helped plan and set up and thanks again to all of you who contributed items, bid on them and just plain took part in the celebration. Also thanks to M.T. Pulley and the Rusty Debris String Band for their delightful music and humor.

I think the holiday party is a celebration at the end of another year of fun and successful gardening. So enjoy the winter looking at the seed catalogs, starting next year's seedlings and planning your projects for next year. A gardener's work is never done but we don't really want it to be, do we?

See you all in January, Sharla Aaseng

### **Financial Snapshot**

Financial Snapshot as of December 11, 2006

Checking account - \$4,683.43

CD's - \$5,221.08

Cash - \$100

Total - \$10,004.51

Perfect attendance YTD include: Carole Ann Brekke, Bob Livingston and Denise Rust

### **Sad News**

Henry Orfield, a long time member of MGCM, rose grower & excellent photographer has died. Henry passed away on December 28th at age 67. He is survived by wife Nancy, children Carrie and Kevin, six grandchildren and three siblings.



## The Outstanding Service Medal for 2006: Bob Voigt

Ever since the late 1940's when this custom began as the Bronze Medal Award a prestigious group of fine gardeners have been honored with this award.

Bob Voigt has been a paragon member of our club; one who has all the assets a member of any group should have:

- \* He arrives regularly and with an infectious smile
- \* He participates in all the activities and projects
- \* He invites us to tour and dine in his garden
- \* He shares the bounty of his plants
- \* He is animated and adds so much spark
- \* He wears many hats

Bob joined our Garden Club in 1989 after an earlier membership. He served as Vice President, President and Past President. He received the President's Cup in 1994. Eight times he was the winner of the Foley Trophy. He hosted Board and committee meetings at his farm. Sparked the garden tours as *Bus Captain* many times. Active and enthusiastic auction committee member. Led our traditional Turkey Carvers Parade with real turkeys. Wore different hats each month he was President. Must have almost perfect attendance

**Congratulations, Bob!**



Bob Voigt gets the Outstanding Service Award from Roger Koopmans



## Holiday Party Recap

The 2006 MGCM Holiday Party was once again a year end celebration of friendship and goodwill. Club members enjoyed refreshments and a wonderful meal of holiday favorites while bidding on auction items supplied through the wealth of member talents and interests. It was a time for awards - Bob Voigt received the prestigious Outstanding Service Medal and Judy Burgland received the Best First Time Exhibitor at the Food, Flower and Foto Show. The Scholarship Award winners - Benjamin David Dill and Hilary Bullock - were present to give members an idea of their interests and area of study. And, of course, there is the ceremonial donning of the Turkey Outfitting - signifying that the mantle of club president has been passed to Margaret Landry.

Also, Kristine Dieters awarded the President's Award to Doug Whitney and the Lehman Trophy, for best garden on tour, was given to Don Untiedt and Jim McKee.



Thanks to Holiday Party chair and co-chair Sharla Aaseng and Elaine Spiegel for putting together such a great pageant!



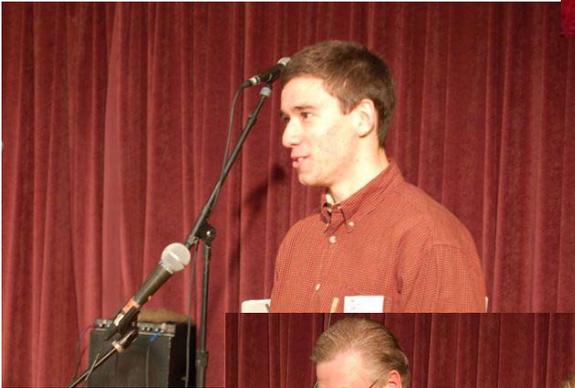
Master of Ceremonies: Sharla Aaseng



## Holiday Party (cont.)



M.T. Pully and the Rusty Debris String Band



Scholarship Award Winners:  
Benjamin David Dill and Hilary Bullock



Best FFF First Timer: Judy Burgland



## LYNDALE PARK GARDEN PROJECT

It's the end of another great season for MGCM's Gardens at Lyndale Park. Our gardens continue to improve and enhance the park. For anyone not familiar with the park, it is near Lake Harriet in Minneapolis, our gardens are across the street from the Rose Garden and just east of the Peace Garden. The gardens are a 300 foot long border bounding Lakewood Cemetery.

The Trial Garden project is in its seventh year. Another 20 perennial species were planted this spring—they will be grown for three years and data recorded testing hardiness, bloom characteristics, and overall growth habit. In August all the *Hibiscus moscheutos* were in bloom. There are quite a few varieties in the trial—and they were stunning when all in flower. Visitors to the garden were standing in the beds taking photos of each other with the huge red and white flowers! These were all planted last season—so are all hardy so far!

The Perennial Mixed Border—located directly behind the Trial Garden-- is looking more beautiful each year. Last year MGCM donated \$2,000 to this garden from the Memorial Fund. The donation was targeted for "Permanent Plantings"—as we all know, a bit of an oxymoron in the gardening world—but we are trying to fulfill this goal! A portion of the money was spent this year on trees and shrubs—mostly evergreens. We planted a Norway spruce, *Picea abies* 'Rubra Spicata'. This conifer will mature at about 30 feet. It has very interesting irregular draping branches, and in spring the new growth is bright red. We hope that when we are all in our wheel chairs, we will see it in maturity! To help complete the back border in the shade, we planted 5 yews—4 large spreaders and one upright 'Capitata'. Also in the shady area were planted 3 *Kalmia* 'Eloise Butler'. This variety was brought by Eloise Butler from the coast of Maine—the original

grows in the E. B. Wildflower Garden. Cuttings were taken and propagated years ago by Rice Creek Gardens—we bought ours from them. Rhododendrons from the University of Helsinki were added to the shade garden also—they are very hardy and bloom pink in spring—so keep an eye out for them next year. And a collection of five of Bailey's Easy Elegance roses were planted along the front border—two single red blossom varieties, 'Great Wall' and 'Golden Eye', with two of the 'Salmon Impressionist' in front. They weren't planted until August, so look for vigorous bloom next year. In addition to the shrubs and trees we added 80 new plants—both ornamental grasses and perennials—using the funds budgeted for the committee. Thanks to the club for all this funding. It keeps our committee busy designing, shopping, purchasing, and planting! And then there is the normal weekly garden care!

Thanks so much to a great committee. The tireless workers are Nancy Bjerke, Judy Berglund, Joe Cassell, John Dahl, Mollie Dean, Nancy Devine, Nancy Duncan, Ada Hegion, Dave (Fridley) Johnson, Robert Kean, Margaret Landry, Tim McCauley, Mary Maynard, MT Pulley, Jason Rathe, Bob Redmond, Tim Rosener, Carol Schrier, and Rodger Sefelt. Robert Kean also records the data on the trial plants and reports to the University. Look for results at [www.florifacts.umn.edu](http://www.florifacts.umn.edu). And a newly hired Minneapolis Park Board gardener, Tina Scott, helped us immensely this year. And in September, she joined MGCM! So say thanks to Tina and welcome her! And without this group and the club, I would not be writing this report. Thanks to you all for a great opportunity!

Kay Wolfe



## *The Lazy Gardener:* **New Years Resolutions** by Mary Maynard

Why on earth do I make New Years resolutions? While it's probably good to make an occasional attempt to set gardening priorities, it is also depressing to realize that many of my resolutions are the same from year to year. I guess that has something to do with being lazy. Here are my resolutions for this year:

1. Take better care of the irises. While my poor bearded irises do get treated for iris borers (following the advice of Lloyd and Patti Weber), they desperately need dividing. And, some of them are growing in quite a bit of shade now that the white pine has gotten so large. The problem is that the best time for dividing irises is in August and September, and I'm kind of sick of gardening by then. But maybe this year will be the exception.

2. Treat the roses better. Even Easy Elegance roses can get black spot, as I learned this year. I need to be better about regular fertilization and fungus treatments. (Those Easy Elegance roses have been terrific, haven't they? I planted four of them in my garden last year and I'm looking for places for more!)

3. Be nice to the acid-loving shrubs. I completely forgot to administer sulphur to my azalea, rhododendron and Endless Summer hydrangea last year. I hope they don't get so mad at me that they give up over the winter.

4. Don't be afraid to bring in the experts. Yes, I could probably figure out the best way to prune my aging plum trees and the "Golden Curls" willow or my ever-expanding evergreens. I might even have about half of the necessary tools, and I might not fall off the ladder and hurt myself. But certified arborists are just a phone call away, and they already know what they're

doing. It's OK to ask for help!

5. Treat the lawn better. I finally got one fall fertilizer treatment on my lawn in 2006, and the reseeded seemed to work on the bare spots, but I think I need to continue to treat the lawn for grubs. A Scotts product called Grub-X seemed to help, and it isn't terribly toxic to all other forms of life. Also, I had very few Japanese beetles last year. Oh, and I need to persevere in my quest to rid the lawn of Creeping Charlie once and for all!

6. Be more ruthless. I am terrible about not getting rid of non-performers in my garden. I will always keep a few sentimental favorites -- like the irises from my mother's garden or the first hostas I ever bought -- but some of those other things have just got to go! This year!

7. Deal with the perennial weeds. Jerry and Lee Shannon reminded me that I should focus on the perennial weeds, like dandelions and thistles and quack grass, and then prevent the annual weeds with a good mulch. The mulch is working pretty well on the oxalis and lambs-quarters, etc., but I'm getting behind with the wild geraniums and Virginia creeper and all those other things that would like to overtake the gardens.

8. Spruce the place up. I've heard that there's a spray paint for my aging resin Adirondack chairs. And my idiosyncratic hand rail needs a new coat of stain. And I'm sure my neighbors would appreciate it if I'd put my tools away at the end of the day.

Oh brother! I'm exhausted already! Have a great New Year!

MJM



## February Meeting Presentation: Sue Bagge on Ikebana

Sue Bagge has studied ikebana for 24 years and has traveled to Japan several times. She is receiving her third teaching certificate in the Sogetsu School of ikebana, a contemporary school of Japanese flower arranging. She exhibits yearly at Art in Bloom, the State Fair and other venues and chaired the Home & Garden Floral Sculpture Show last year.

She gives seasonal demonstrations and workshops at the MN Landscape Arboretum. Having attended the Ninth International Convention of Ikebana in Tokyo last fall, slides will be shown of fall arrangements

done by a number of different schools from simple to very grand. The history and arrangements from other times and places will be included with information on some of the techniques.

Some pictures might include cosmos flowers easily 4 feet in height, dahlias and many specimen blooms Bagge witnessed at the 2006 convention. The culture and beauty of Japan from previous trips will be shown. It is a perfect time of year to enjoy the color and beauty of the flowers of Japan.





## MGMC 2007 Budget

### INCOME

Bank Interest	\$200.00
Holiday Party - Income	\$2,000.00
Holiday Party - Silent Auction	\$1,200.00
Hospitality - Meals - Income	\$4,400.00
MGCM Dues	\$1,200.00
MSHS Dues - Income	\$1,400.00
Plant Auction - Income	\$6,500.00
Raffles	\$200.00
Slide Show - Income	\$100.00
Tours - Public - Income	\$5,000.00
Tours -Club- Income	\$1,000.00
Valley Fair - Income	\$700.00

**TOTAL INCOME** \$23,900.00

### EXPENSES

Arbor Day	\$200.00
Arboretum Membership	\$60.00
Awards and Trophies	\$100.00
Bank Charge	\$50.00
Donation - Arboretum	\$300.00
Donation - Mpls Prks Legacy Soc.	\$100.00
Donation - MSHS	\$200.00
FFF	\$900.00
Garden Spray	\$800.00
Holiday Party Expense	\$2,400.00
Hospitality - Basement Rental	\$900.00
Hospitality - Meals - Expense	\$4,400.00
Insurance - MGCM	\$500.00
Membership & Publicity	\$50.00
Membership - Directory	\$275.00
Memorials	\$1,500.00
Misc.	\$100.00
MSHS Dues - Expense	\$1,400.00
Office Supplies	\$100.00
Perennial Garden	\$500.00
Plant Auction - Expense	\$3,600.00
President Contingency	\$250.00
Program	\$800.00
Scholarships	\$3,000.00
Sunshine	\$200.00
Tours - Club - Expense	\$1,000.00
Tours - Public - Expense	\$1,500.00

**TOTAL EXPENSES** \$25,185.00

**OVERALL TOTAL** **\$(1,285.00)**



# Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc.

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### Club Officers:

**President: Margaret Landry**  
3542 40th Ave. S., Minneapolis

**Vice President: Larry Larson**  
15225 Wild Wings, Minnetonka

**Recording Secretary: Denise Rust**  
7933 Girard Court, Brooklyn Park

**Membership Secretary: Sharla Aaseng**  
1025 20th Ave. S.E., Minneapolis

**Treasurer: David McKeen**  
2834 Vernon Ave. S., St. Louis Park

**Past President: Kristine Dieters**  
1736 Lexington Ave. S., Mendota Heights

### Directors:

**Elaine Spiegel**  
4814 West 41st. St., St. Louis Park

**Elizabeth Hamilton**  
8219 Russell Ave. S., Bloomington

**Don Trocke**  
10625 Bush Lake Rd., Bloomington

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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*2007*