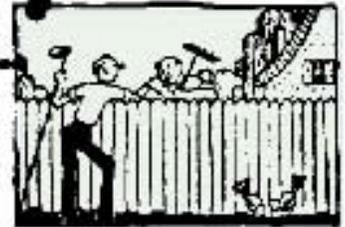




The Garden Spray

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

2006, Volume 64, Number 11



Upcoming Events

Date	Location	Event
Nov. 14th	LHC	Raingardens
Dec. 5th	LHC	HOLIDAY PARTY

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

MF = Marshall Field's Downtown

WLC = Westwood Lutheran Church

Native Plants for Rain Gardens

Carolyn Carr has 15 years of experience conducting educational and outreach programs to protect open space and restore natural areas, particularly in urban areas. She has a broad educational background in science, with an M.S. in Conservation Biology and a B.A. in Geology. She has worked with several non-profit organizations, gaining background in sustainable agriculture, residential native plantings and ecological restoration. For the last three years, Carolyn has led Ecological Strategies' work with the Longfellow and Seward communities in Minneapolis to provide homeowners with financial incentives and workshops to assist them to remove exotics species, plant native species and install rain gardens. In addition, Carolyn provides ongoing technical advice for the Friends of the Mississippi River's Gorge Stewards Program, which has engaged more than 1600 volunteers since 2002 in the restoration of natural areas along the Mississippi River, primarily in the Longfellow community.

October Dinner Meeting: Tuesday, November 14th

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 June 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) 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.



Palm House

A Word from the President

by Kristine Deters

November 2006

Our October speaker, Jay Hutchinson, gave a wonderful presentation about China and the plants and culture he encountered. The talk reminded me of my trip to England in 2002. I was going to be traveling with my cousin and fellow MGCM member Becky Kruse in England but was arriving one day earlier than her. I planned on staying in London that first night and had one full day to see whatever tickled my fancy. I chose to go to Kew Botanic Gardens.

I took “the Tube” from central London to the gardens and arrived early in the day. My first stop was the famous Palm House, a large glass conservatory built in the 1840’s. It houses their collection of tropical plants, shrubs and palms. Behind the Palm House stands the Rose Garden. I visited in September and even that late in the season, many of the roses were in full bloom. From there I spent much of the day wandering around the grounds and admiring the amazing collection of trees and glasshouses. I was a new gardener in 2002 and when I decided to visit Kew, I had nice tidy English cottage gardens in mind. I didn’t realize the



vastness of the estate or the history of the collections. Many of the trees were brought to the Garden from far off places, probably even China. The 19th century gardeners were very interested in bringing specimens from all over the British Empire to their homeland. Today many of those specimens are still there thriving.

A relatively new addition to Kew is the Princess of Wales Conservatory which opened in 1987. Inside is 10 climate controlled zones with plants from succulents to orchids, each in their own niche. I spent much of the afternoon admiring the diversity we find on earth and appreciating the efforts of those who seek to preserve that diversity.



Monkey Puzzle Tree



No trip to an English garden is complete without afternoon tea. I took my respite in a nice sunny location, enjoying scones, Devonshire cream and strawberry jam with my tea. After tea, I continued to wander the grounds and found a very large specimen of the Monkey Puzzle tree, *Araucaria araucana*. This tree had been a favorite of mine when I lived in Seattle and I was thrilled to see it again. The Monkey Puzzle tree is a native of Chile and Argentina. However, I must not be the only one that likes it since it's a common front yard tree in Washington and British Columbia. The common name of Monkey Puzzle Tree comes from a comment from an Englishman in the 1800's, who thought it would certainly be a puzzle for a monkey to climb. I'm not sure if this was the same Englishman that brought the tree to Kew, but if not, it was probably a contemporary of his.

Traveling has always been fun for me and now combining travel and gardens makes my vacations all that more interesting. I look forward to future presentations that share the gardens of the world with us.

A Note from the Editor

There's nothing quite like a little snow in the middle of October to remind us that winter is coming. I was sorry to see my dahlias go, since they were looking terrific in the slanting rays of the autumn sun. But it was time to let them go when the temperatures reached the mid-20's for a couple of nights in a row. There are limits to what we gardeners can do to stave off winter. I have never minded storing tender bulbs over the winter. To me, it's worth a little time and effort in the fall to enjoy the splendor of callas and

cannas and dahlias affordably the next summer. But, I have to admit that I was a little weary after digging all the dahlias, cannas, callas, voodoo lilies, fairy lilies and elephant ears last week. And I still have to get them to their final configuration for winter storage, since Phil is going to want to park in the garage pretty soon. In a way, digging all those bulbs, corms, tubers and rhizomes in the fall feels like a harvest. Maybe it's because I grew up on a potato farm back when the earth was still cooling, and harvest consisted of a LOT of digging!

On a completely different note, we are looking for ways to reduce our printing and mailing costs for the Spray in 2007. There are rumors of postage rates going up again, and it costs over \$1.00 to print one copy of the Spray. So, starting in 2007, members who have email addresses but need a paper copy of the Spray will need to "opt in" to remain on the paper mailing list. We definitely want all members to receive the newsletter one way or the other, and we realize that getting the Spray electronically doesn't work for everyone. But we also encourage everyone to give the electronic version a try. The electronic version is delivered to members sooner, and it is in glorious living color. Those of you with email addresses who are on the paper distribution list will be hearing more about this in the next month or two. See you at the next meeting!

Mary Maynard



Renewal Reminder

Renewal Time: It is time to renew your MGCM for 2007. You can use the form in the Spray or go to the website and then mail or email it to me. It is especially important that you get it to me ASAP if you want to renew with the Minnesota State Horticultural Society. Their deadline is the beginning of November. So please be considerate of the time frames and renew now. Fill out the form completely and mail it to me at this address: 1025 20th Avenue SE, Mpls, MN 55414 or email it to: <nsaaseng@earthlink.net. Thanks for your promptness.
Sharla Aaseng, Membership Secretary

Sunshine Notes:

* Stan Crist's wife, Ester, passed away from a stroke. Our condolences to Stan and his family.

Financial Snapshot

Financial Snapshot as of October 17, 2006

Checking account - \$4,757.21

CD's - \$5221.08

Cash - \$100

Total - \$10,078.29

Meeting attendance (113 Members)

January - 48 members (43%) plus 3 guests

February - 35 members (32%) plus 7 guests

March - 31 members (28%) plus 18 guests

April - 42 members (38%) plus 6 guests

May - 38 members (34%) plus 12 guests

June - 42 members (37%) plus 1 guest

July Tour - 29 members (26%) plus 19 guests

August Tour - 24 members (21%) plus 18 guests

September - 46 Members (40%) plus 5 guests

October - 52 Members (44%) plus 5 guests

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



MGCM NEW MEMBERSHIP & RENEWAL FORM for 200__

Name _____ Garden Partner _____

Address _____ Date _____

City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____

Home phone _____ Work phone _____

Email address _____ Occupation _____

Please check here if you are a Master Gardener _____

Please list me in the directory as a mentor gardener.

My specialties are _____

Please include me in the share and/or trade plants list. If interested, include category of plants _____

I will serve on the following committees (minimum of two), as I am able. Please circle choices.

- | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Arbor Day | 8. Hospitality | 15. Sunshine |
| 2. Auditing | 9. Lyndale Park Garden | 16. Telephone/Email |
| 3. Awards/Trophies | 10. Membership | 17. Tours (Public) |
| 4. Flower, Food & Foto (FFF) | 11. Photography | 18. Tours (Club) |
| 5. Garden Spray | 12. Plant Auction | 19. Valleyfair |
| 6. Historian | 13. Publicity | 20. Youth gardening |
| 7. Holiday Party | 14. Scholarship | 21. On committee as needed |

I am willing to chair the _____ committee.

MGCM annual dues are \$10.00. If you wish to join the Minnesota State Horticulture Society (MSHS) through us, the dues are \$45.00 (\$10 + \$35) for a single membership or \$48.00 (\$10 + \$38) for a dual membership.

Are you a New member (Please see back) _____ or Renewal _____? MSHS: yes _____ no _____

Total paid by Check (payable to MGCM) \$ _____ or Cash \$ _____

NOTE: MAILING ADDRESS ON PAGE 4
and NEW MEMBER QUESTIONS ON PAGE 6



If you are a new member, please fill out the following information so that we can get to know you better:

Name _____

As a member of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis (MGCM), I will to the best of my ability

β Faithfully attend monthly meetings.

β Participate on club committees indicated previously.

β Willingly participate in the exchange of my horticultural skills and knowledge with club members and others in the community.

My reasons for wanting to join MGCM are _____

Other Horticultural Affiliations _____

Indicate what your current horticultural activities (a) and interests (i) are:

____ Container Gardening

____ Environmental projects

____ Flowers ____ annuals ____ perennials

____ Fruits ____ trees ____ bushes ____ vines

____ Greenhouse ____ gardening ____ propagation

____ Growing under lights ____ gardening ____ propagation

____ House plants ____ foliage ____ flowering

____ Hydroponics

____ Landscaping

____ Lawns

____ Trees and shrubs

____ Vegetables

____ Other _____

Signature of New Member _____ Date _____

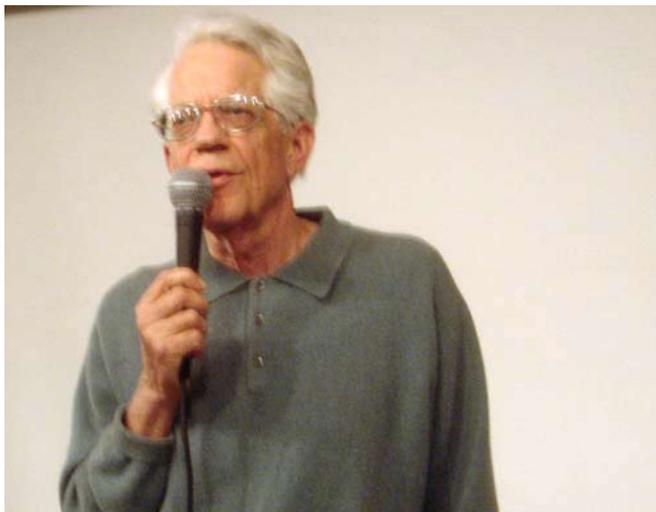


October Meeting

Jay Hutchinson took garden clubbers on a visual and verbal tour of China and Tibet in October. His journey showed familiar garden plants like toad lily, Rodgersia and Ligularia in their native environs - as well as a surprising number of plants closely related to our own birches, mountain ashes and larches. Even though it seems a world away, apparently China and the United States have much in common.



Bob Vogt brought a pumpkin to auction to the highest bidder



October speaker, Jay Hutchinson



President Kristine Dieters



HOLIDAY PARTY SILENT AUCTION

Holiday Party Silent Auction: It is that time again. I hope you are all thinking about ideas and items for the silent auction. Our holiday theme/title is Holiday Carnival. I think the silent auction adds a carnival atmosphere to our celebration. The money helps pay for the party needs and the rest goes back to the club. The items do not necessarily need to be garden/gardening related. So, please give it some serious thought. You all make it work. Bring the items to the party between 9:30 and 11:30 that morning or 5:00 and 6:00 that evening so we can set up the displays. When you have your item(s), please send this information ahead of time: the name of the item, its size, a description, and a minimum/starting bid. Include your name and phone number/email in case there are any questions. If you need a copy of the official request with the letterhead, call Sharla Aaseng at 612-623-9341 or email me at <nsaaseng@earthlink.net>.

Send the information to:
Elaine Spiegel
4814 West 41st Street
St. Louis Park, MN 55416
952-927-9539
spiegel.elaine.les@usgo.net

Preparing for our November meeting presentation here are some recommended books on designing landscapes using native plants:

Gardening with Prairie Plants. Wasowski, S. and A. Wasowski. 2002. University of Minnesota Press. Minneapolis MN. 285 pp.

Got shade? : a “take it easy” approach for today’s gardener. Harstad, C. 2003. Indiana University Press, Bloomington IN. 383 pp.

Landscaping for Wildlife. Henderson, C. 1987. Minnesota Dept. of Natural Resources. 146 pp.

Landscaping with Native Plants of Minnesota. Steiner, Lynn. 2005. Voyageur Press. 191 pp.

Lakescaping for Wildlife and Water Quality. Henderson, C., Dindorf, C., and Rozumalski, F. 1999. 175 pp.

Plants for Stormwater Design: Species Selection for the Upper Midwest. Shaw, D. and R. Schmidt. 2003. Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

September 26, 2006

Present: Sharla Aaseng, Kris Deters, Denise Rust, Elaine Spiegel, Don Trocke.

Absent: Leroy Cech, Elizabeth Hamilton, Margaret Landry, David McKeen.

President's Report The major order of business for the November meeting will be the 2007 budget.

Vice President's Report The October and November programs are planned and the Holiday Party in December is being planned by said committee.

Secretary's Report A summation of the work of the Club Tour Committee was given. The July and August tours were well received. The club lost a bit of money on the two tours. Tour Committee voted on the recipients of the Lehman Trophy, to be presented at a future meeting. The Committee made note of those who said they would probably be willing to be on a club tour next year, and also put together a list of members they would like to see on a Biennial (Public) Tour next year.

Treasurer's Report A CD will be cashed in October. Following monetary intake from 2007 dues and the Holiday Party earnings we will be well ahead.

Membership Secretary's Report Club is in the midst of membership renewal for next year. The MSHS deadline of November 1 for memberships to that organization makes it imperative that people renew ASAP. Those not registered by the October meeting will be contacted by e-mail or mail. An Excel program will be run with the membership lists and the members' interests. Question was raised about the possibility of starting a sponsorship program to assist new members in getting involved.

New Business Hope Presbyterian would like a quantity discount for ordering plants through our May plant sale. The discount would be somewhere between our cost and retail. Question was raised about responsibility for the church picking up plants prior to setup of the Country Store as there will be no room to store a lot of extra plants.

The caterers wish to raise the price of meals to offset their costs. Board agreed to raise the cost to \$10 per meal and the price increase will be communicated to the members by e-mail or mail, as well as the November Spray.

Next meeting of the Board will be held Tuesday, November 28 at 7:00 PM at the home of Leroy Cech.

***** It's Coming *****



OUR *HOLIDAY CARNIVAL*

DECEMBER 5, 2006
SOCIAL HOUR AND AUCTION SET UP 5 – 6:30 P.M.

M. T. PULLEY AND HIS RUSTY DEBRIS

SILENT AUCTION

To give objects for the silent auction, contact ELAINE SPIEGEL,
Spiegel.elaine.les@usgo.net, 952-927-9539
(see page 8)

CATERED DINNER

**** Please complete the following reservation form and mail to Jackie Overom,
14024 Frontier Lane, Burnsville. MN 55337-4728 by November 30, 2006.

NAME _____

NUMBER OF GUESTS _____

CHECK ENCLOSED FOR \$19 PER PERSON (TOTAL) _____

DESCRIPTION OF ITEM(S) BEING SUBMITTED FOR SILENT AUCTION:

Title _____

Size (space required for display) _____

Minimum Bid _____

Submitter _____



Fifteen Years Of Scholarships Continue Tradition Of Community Service

The seed of the annual MGCM Scholarships was planted during a conversation between members Ed Culbert and Kent Petterson on their return car trip from the MGCA/TGOA National Convention in Des Moines, Iowa. An opportunity for that seed to germinate arrived on the occasion of MGCM's 50th Anniversary celebration.

Our wonderful club summer garden tours were expected to be a part of our 1992 celebrations. The organizing committee for the celebration led by Bill Hull adopted the idea of organizing the garden tours as a part of the 50th Anniversary and as a fund raiser for scholarships for horticulture students. The plan was recognized as a way of continuing the long club tradition of community service in a new and exciting way. In addition the tours, as a rallying club activity, provided a vehicle for publicizing the club and the incredible gardens of club members.

The 50th Anniversary organizing committee made the initial commitment to guarantee that at least one \$1000.00 scholarship could be awarded, in the hope that enough money would be raised by selling tour tickets. Future scholarships were hoped for but not guaranteed. The continued success of the entire program was only assured when the Board Of Directors stepped forward to support future funding through the club Biennial Garden Tour Committee. It is the hard work of the tour committee, our many member gardeners who have offered their home gardens for tour, and the support of the entire membership that has made the scholarship program one of our most successful activities.

As the club's scholarship award criteria suggest, we

award \$1000.00 to students that 'demonstrate career interest in areas such as gardening and landscaping consistent with the interests of home gardeners' such as our members. With exceptions as noted below in our list of recipients, the club has generously offered three scholarships each year to Minnesota resident students enrolled at accredited schools within the State Of Minnesota.

This years recipients are three students from the University of Minnesota.

Hilary N. Bullock, St. Paul, MN is a sophomore in Environmental Science. A photographer with a Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts, her recent wide range of experience in horticulture is reflected in the landscaping at her 1879 Victorian home in St. Paul.

Benjamin David Dill of Mendota Heights, MN is a freshman in Landscape Design. We don't often award to college freshman because their career goals and presentation skills often aren't fully formed. Benjamin's inspired record and goals deserved our support.

Amanda Rae Clementson of Erskine, MN is a graduate student in Landscape Architecture. Following on with her undergraduate degree in Environmental Design, Amanda hopes to study abroad and work for a landscape architecture firm.

**Coming Next Week:
Fourteen years of scholarships
given by the Men's Garden Club**



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. S.E., Minneapolis

Treasurer: LeRoy Cech
212 Interlachen Rd., Burnsville

Past President: David McKeen
2834 Vernon Ave. S., St. Louis Park

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.

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First Class Mail

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