



The Garden Spray

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

2009, Volume 67, Number 10



NOVEMBER PROGRAM
PETER OLIN
ARBORETUM DIRECTOR
RETIRED IN 2008

Note: Peter was originally scheduled to speak last October, but was unable to come at that time. He currently works at the Arb half time, doing a wide variety of tasks, and will continue to do so through 6/11.

Peter Olin began as a landscape architect after receiving a Master's Degree from the U. of Massachusetts. He worked in Vermont, Massachusetts and Connecticut in that field, and taught landscape architecture at the U. of Massachusetts and the U. of Minnesota. In 1984 he was named Interim Director of the MN Landscape Arboretum and stepped up to become the Director the following year. When Peter took the helm, the Arboretum was struggling to achieve a membership of 4,000 and bring 100,000 people through the gate annually. Today the membership is at 19,000 and the annual gate number is 288,000 visitors. During Peter's tenure the Arboretum has also grown in visibility, donations, volunteers and sheer impressiveness for its beautiful garden spaces and buildings. Today's Arboretum encompasses 17 model landscapes, 48 plant collections and 32 display gardens, has seen the expansion of the Andersen Horticultural Library and the Marion Andrus Learning Center for children, and has welcomed the addition of the 45,000 square-foot Oswald Visitor Center in 2005.

Prior to Peter's tenure the Arboretum and the Horticultural

Research Center (formerly the U. of MN Fruit Breeding Farm) worked independently and sometimes in competition; today, they work as partners and are celebrating their 50-year and 100-year anniversaries, respectively. This has given the general public more access to knowledge about the research and to the understanding of plant breeding and has provided better access to Minnesota hardy plant varieties for the home garden. Innovations at the Arboretum in recent years have included huge growth of programming aimed at families, a therapeutic horticulture program, and inclusion of research and models of conservation and sustainability research. Peter has received numerous citations for his service, most recently induction into the Minnesota Nursery Landscape Association Hall of Fame for serving both the Association and the landscape industry.

We welcome Peter, a MGCM member, as our featured speaker as he reflects on his tenure as Arboretum Director and presents a not-to-be-missed collection of Arboretum views.

Tuesday October 13th, 2009

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. 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.

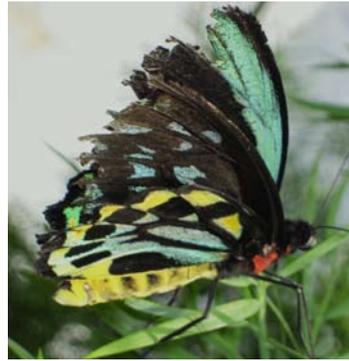
Thoughts from the Prez: Rusty Ramblings

by Denise Rust

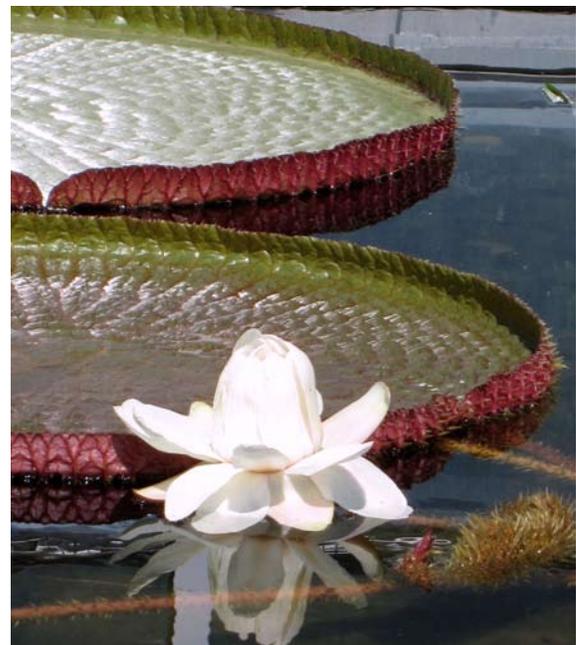
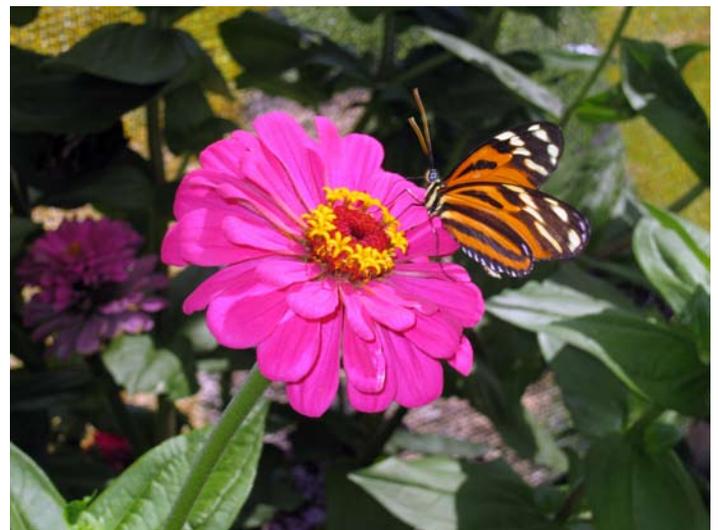
The plants in the yard are now battling for my time, competing with my school year schedule. No matter how much I seem to water it is never enough; I hope tomorrow's forecast for rain is accurate this time. A few things about this time of year I do appreciate: the annuals have reached their full size for the year and look mighty good (I'll miss you guys. . .); a few of my favorite perennials are currently blooming, such as bugbane (best fragrance!), yellow waxbells, ironweed and of course, the mums; lots of fresh tomatoes and other veggies (and my biggest crop yet of mini-pumpkins, all on one plant); and of course, great sleeping weather. But for everything there is indeed a season, and I also look forward to focusing my attention on my other pursuits for awhile, without the guilt of ignoring the yard.

I made it out to Como Park in August, and was so impressed that I took a group of red hatters a couple of weeks later. I really wanted them to see the marvelous Blooming Butterflies tent, and the Victoria water platters that have returned after a very long hiatus. I got to see the platters growing in big tubs in the greenhouse growing range last fall, and never expected them to turn out so lovely! And of course we toured the conservatory and checked out some of the zoo and, lo and behold, everyone wanted to ride the carousel as well! It was a great outing, followed by lunch and then a stop at the U. of MN (St. Paul) trial gardens, which none of the others had heard of before. Do check out the attached pictures!

It is also a busy time for the club as well, back to monthly meetings, choosing officers for next year, working on the new budget, continuing work on the Lyndale Park Gardens and the new cable TV effort, getting ready for the Holiday Party, awarding of trophies and scholarships, and doing some preliminary



planning for a public tour. We do hope you will participate regularly in activities, share your ideas, and step forth when your time and talents are needed for various tasks. Meanwhile, get out there and enjoy those fall colors!



A Note from the Editor

Mary Maynard

Wasn't September beautiful? Except for our water bills? It's been interesting to see how plants have performed during this cool, dry growing season. The dahlias are thriving. Some of the warm-season annuals that just sat there all summer have perked up a little. And the impatiens are as big as I've ever seen them.



Ginger and Mums

I was sorry to have missed the September club meeting. Bob O. and Andy always do wonderful presentations, and I'm sure I would have learned a lot. I definitely could have benefited from any photography tips. I'm looking through the photos we took on our fall driving trip to the mid-Atlantic states and have concluded that my photography skills are substandard.

We visited Longwood Gardens in Pennsylvania, the Sarah P. Duke Garden in Durham, NC. and the



Biltmore Estate in Asheville, NC. The gardens were interesting. None of them were at their peak -- it's kind of a "shoulder season" between summer and fall, so we saw several gardens in transition. But the fall can be a good time to see the "bones" of a garden without all those flashy flowers distracting you! Longwood Gardens is immaculately maintained, the water features are everywhere, and the immense conservatory has a pipe organ in it. The Sarah P. Duke Garden at Duke University is a comparatively young garden, but very enjoyable. It has a lovely Japanese garden. And I don't think I have enough space to describe Biltmore. Huge house (only 75 rooms are open to the public!), landscape by Frederick Law Olmstead, conservatory, winery, and much more. The mountain views are fabulous, too. I even came across some fall-blooming iris.

(Cont. on page 4)



Brugmansia



(Editors Note: cont. from pg. 3)

After visiting Biltmore, we crossed over the mountains into eastern Tennessee, where I have a cousin who lives near Knoxville. My cousin has always been a gardener, and he has flowers and trees everywhere. He is in Zone 8. I was again struck by Zone Envy! Most years, dahlias and cannas winter over (although he digs and stores a few just in case). His vegetable garden will produce into late October, sometimes November. He has Angel's Trumpets (Brugmansia) casually scattered around his property that are eight to ten feet tall. Peaches, pecans, tropicals are everywhere. It's a lot of work, but the results are fabulous.

Elsewhere in this edition, you will see the proposed slate of officers for 2010. We will be voting for 2010 officers in November. The Nominating Committee has done a fine job of recruiting new officers and directors, and I am grateful for everyone who has agreed to be on the slate. I am also grateful for the current board members who are rotating off the board after this year. We all appreciate the contribution you have made to the club.



Sarah P. Duke Gardens

Upcoming Events

Date	Location	Event
October 13th	LHC	Peter Olin
November 9th	LHC	Paul Aarested: Lakewood Cemetery
December 14th	LHC	Holiday Party
January 11th	LHC	Tom Tennant - Out Back Nursery



BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVES 2010 OFFICER SLATE

By Bob Olson

The nominations committee consisting of Lynda Carlson, Ann LeFlem, Robert Olson, Jason Rathe and myself Kent Petterson met during August to discuss the 2010 leadership for MGCM. Our incoming President, Don Untiedt had suggested that the Board wished to have a slate recommendation from us for a September Board meeting review. It was a pleasure to work with the group. Due to strong belief in our club an outstanding group of leaders have stepped forward to volunteer their help for next year. Our thanks is to them for saying yes when asked.

Since I was out of town for the Board meeting, I asked Bob Olson to fill in for me with the report to the Board. The following is his summary:

Our Nomination Committee was given a very free hand by Don Untiedt, which proved a double edged sword. We needed to determine what directions the membership felt the club needed to be going, which positions were becoming vacant, and then find the best qualified persons to fill the slots in order to achieve the desired goals.

We individually contacted many members of the club in order to get their views and then shared them at our meetings. Although there were many ideas and concerns identified two items stood out.

1. A concern about the declining membership numbers.

2. Concern regarding the financial health of the club.

We discussed these concerns (and others) with many of the candidates. However, we stopped short of making it a litmus test. There was also a consensus that our charge was to select the best people we could for the Board positions--and not to give direction or counsel to the Board.

Our strategy was to fill the key position of Vice President first, then the other officers, and once accomplished to fill out the Board with a combination of seasoned experienced members to provide institutional memory along with at least one new-to-the-Board member who could impart novel ideas.

(cont. on page 6)



(cont. from page 5)

We were very pleased that when we asked so many fine people rose to the challenge. We believe this to be an outstanding group that will be well able to address the needs of the club.

Bob Olson

We offer this list of the volunteer candidates approved by the Board of Directors for membership approval in November.

- President-----Don Untiedt
- V President-----Kay Wolfe
- Membership Secretary-----Sharla Aaseng
- Recording Secretary-----Jan Johnson
- Treasurer-----Dave McKeen
- Past President-----Denise Rust

- Director-----Morrie Lindbloom
- Director-----Andy Marlow
- Director-----Jason Rathe

New Members

Charlie Alward
4117 Sheridan Ave. S.
Minneapolis, MN 55410
612-926-9788
wk: 952-993-4846
alwards@hotmail.com

Jean Strande
11 Hanley Road
Golden Valley, MN_ 55426-1309
763-544-4984
stevors@aol.com
committees: Arbor Day & Park
Garden



A Note from an FFF Judge

Here's a note we got from Esther Filson, who heads up the judging team for the flower and vegetable portion of the Flower, Food and Foto (FFF) Show:

*Dear Mary,
Again, the Minneapolis Men's Garden Club put on a lovely display of cut flowers, vegetables, arrangements and potted plants for the public to view. Thank you so much for the opportunity to help judge the show. The dahlias and heirloom tomatoes [educational displays - ed.] were such a nice addition. I hope they continue to be exhibited. We all thought that the container of mixed herbs [Best in Show, Judy Berglund] was total perfection. The Monkshood [Reserve Champion Flower - Margaret Hibberd] was the largest blooming specimen too that we've seen.*

*Keep on growing and showing!!
Esther Filson*

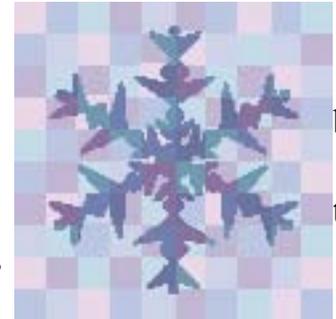
TREASURER REPORT

CD	\$ 5,000.00
Checking	\$ 5,623.35
Designated funds	
General Fund	\$ 4,517.17
Memorial (Park Garden) Fund	\$ 1,106.18
Scholarship Fund	\$ 0.00



DECEMBER 8TH! MGCM HOLIDAY PARTY - SAVE THE DATE

It is just around the corner! The 2009 Holiday Party will be on December 8 - the second Tuesday, at Lake Harriet Church. Relax, mingle and share memories. Hours will be from 5:00 to 9:00 pm. There will be time for socializing and Silent Auction bidding, punch and hors d'oeuvres. Catered dinner will be served at 6:40 pm. Next there will be the Awards Ceremony and entertainment. The results of the silent auction complete our evening.



Watch for more information and the reservation form in the November Garden Spray. Also, start to think about donations to the Silent Auction. Here are a few ideas and suggestions:

- * Tickets (movies, theater, opera, or sporting events)
- * Homemade items (crafts, baked goods, note cards, decorations)
- * Tools, plants, books, or membership in a specialty garden club or society
- * Gift certificates (for hotel, resort, garden center, bookstore, or restaurant)
- * Time, talent or services (garden consultation, custom art/craft, teaching a craft or skill, make a meal or host a special party)

If you have questions or this is your first year attending the MGCM Holiday Party, please call or e-mail Elaine. Early information about your items and bid minimum is appreciated, too.

Elaine Spiegel
Holiday Party Chair
E-mail: elspiegs@comcast.net
Phone: 952-927-9539 – tell me how you prefer response (e-mail or phone)



Minutes of the MGCM Board

Meeting date: September 1, 2009

Present: Denise Rust, Don Untiedt, Dave McKeen, Sharla Aaseng, Larry Larson, Kay Wolfe.
Absent: Judy Berglund, Elizabeth Hamilton, Elaine Spiegel.

Meeting called to order by President Denise and agenda passed out.

President's Report: Planning meetings for the 2010 budget will begin soon. All committee chairs should submit their budget requests for 2010.

Vice-President's Report: October speaker is Peter Olin. November speaker is Paul Aarested, head gardener at Lakewood Cemetery.

Treasurer's Report: Income and expenses in all categories were compared to the 2009 budget. Dave will present this information in a written report at the next meeting. Projections look like we will be in the black at the end of our fiscal year, possibly by \$1000. Many committees have spent less than their budgeted amount. \$686 of CD interest was added as income; only the \$5000 principal reinvested in a new CD. Report was approved on a motion by Sharla, second by Don.

Recording Secretary's Report: Minutes of the June 2, 2009 meeting were approved on a motion by Sharla, second by Larry.

Membership Secretary's Report: Membership renewals for 2010 will be taken at the Sept. and Oct dinner meetings. Deadline for 2010 renewal is Nov. 1. Membership Committee has had two meetings. New members are being assigned sponsors who will welcome them, invite them to meetings and introduce them. New member packets will be given out when new members are inducted.

Committee Reports:

FFF (Flower, Food & Foto): A very good show on August 15 and 16.

Lyndale Park Garden: Garden looks good; a conifer garden and new perennials were planted.

Photography: Photos from the FFF will be shown at the Sept. meeting, and are on our website.

Plant Auction: The date is May 11 for 2010.

Programs: Are planned through Feb. 2010.

Scholarship: Two were given at \$500 each.

Tour, Club: 46 attended the July tour; beautiful gardens and a great dinner.

(cont. on page 10)



(Board Minutes, cont. from page 9)

Tour, Public: There will be a meeting in September.

Old Business:

Nominating Committee: Bob Olson attended representing the Nominating Committee and presented the slate for 2010. President: Don Untiedt; Vice-President: Kay Wolfe; Treasurer: Dave McKeen; Recording Secretary: Jan Johnson; Membership Secretary: Sharla Aaseng; Past President: Denise Rust; Directors: Maurice Lindblom, Andy Marlow, and Jason Rathe. While talking to the membership, Bob mentioned members are concerned about the club size shrinking and about the financial health of the club. On a motion by Larry, second by Kay, the slate for 2010 was accepted. The slate will be published in the October Spray, and voted on by the membership at the November business meeting.

MGCM-TV: The committee is filming "segments" for two pilot half-hour TV programs to be completed by the end of 2009. Each program will have one long segment (topics are Boulevard Gardens and Hostas) and one short (topics are Alternative Lawn Grass and Heirloom Tomatoes.)

New Business:

MGCM Account at Bachman's: Kay found there is an MGCM account at Bachman's. It was a retail account (with Leroy's address), and now has been changed to a wholesale account (with Kay's address) for use at the Wholesale Store in Farmington. Does this change affect any committees?

Rookie of the Year: The Board needs to pick the winners of the Rookie of the Year Award to be given at the Holiday Party. Sharla will get names of members who joined in the past year.

Next Board meeting: Tuesday, October 6 at 7 PM at Kay's.

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Dave, second by Don.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay Wolfe (for Judy Berglund, Recording Secretary)



September Meeting

The September meeting included introductions of new members (pictured here) as well as a great presentation on what makes a great garden photo by club member's Robert Olson and Andy Marlow.



New Member Russ Henry



New member Charlie Alward speaking to MT Pulley.



Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc.

Inside

Page 1	Oct Program
Page 2	From the Prez
Page 3-4	Editors Notes
Page 5-6	2010 Officers
Page 8	Holiday Party
Page 9-10	Board Minutes
Page 11	September Notes

Club Officers:

President: Denise Rust
7933 Girard Court, Brooklyn Park
Vice President: Don Untiedt
12070 48th Ave. N., Plymouth
Recording Secretary: Judy Berglund
Membership Secretary: Sharla Aaseng
1025 20th Ave. S.E., Minneapolis
Treasurer: David McKeen
2834 Vernon Ave. S., St. Louis Park
Past President: Larry Larson
15225 Wild Wings, Minnetonka

Directors:

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