

March Meeting Preview

March Meeting and Zoom Reminders

Tuesday, March 8

Unusual, Interesting and Uncommon Herbs

Presented by Theresa Mieseler, Co-founder of Shady Acres Herb Farm, and author of the book *Beyond Rosemary, Basil, and Thyme*

6:45 PM Business meeting

7:00 PM Program

You will receive an email with a link to this Zoom (only) meeting.

I want to say thank you for your patience to everyone who has accessed our monthly presentations from home recently. Providing hybrid programs for both on-site and at-home audiences has been quite challenging. Working with a new speaker each month also seems like starting at the beginning again.

Our March meeting should be better organized as it will be by Zoom only, at our speaker's request. **EVERYONE PLEASE REMEMBER TO MUTE YOURSELF** during the program. We will be monitoring the CHAT, so you can ask questions or comment that way.

If you have a question about using Zoom, [contact me](#) before the meeting and I will try to help.

-- Kathy Lenarz

From the February meeting:

Guest speaker Laverne Dunsmore speaking about



peonies.

From the President Mary Barsness

“In like a lion, out like a lamb” is a proverb most likely started as a reference to astronomy. It refers to the constellation Leo, a lion, and Aries, a lamb, in the night sky. This well-known proverb means that March is a month in which you can experience a Lion's fierce roar of frigid cold, the long white teeth of biting wind; and the gentle softness like a newborn lamb. In Scotland they say, "March comes in with adders' heads and goes out with peacocks' tails." (An Adder is Scotland's sole venomous snake.) In the Netherlands, they say; "Maart roert zijn staart," which means "March stirs its tail" -- evidence of the variety and extremes that can come day to day this time of year.

There are other weather-related proverbs that reference the month of March. How many of the following have you heard?

- So many mists in March you see. / So many frosts in May will be. Let's hope that one doesn't come true.
- A peck of March Dust, and a Shower in May / Makes the corn green and the fields gay.
- March many-Weathers rain'd and blow'd / But March grass never did good.

As I look at all the gardening catalogs, I wonder what will March be like in 2022? Your guess is as good as mine!

Deane Project Update

Veterans' Adult Day Center Courtyard Garden

The courtyard garden is still sleeping under a blanket of snow, but Steve Shubick and his crew of fellow volunteers have begun planning for the 2022 season. Thanks to the generosity of the MWGCM Board in agreeing to convert the original Deane Grant of

2019 to a Legacy Project, the future care and maintenance of the Veterans' Courtyard Garden is assured. The Day Center clients and staff are very appreciative of our efforts.

We will begin with creating a blueprint for the garden with correct measurements and depicting existing larger shrubs and small trees, which will be the base for future designs. For the 2022 season, we will focus on the middle bed which is currently planted with donated hostas and ferns. Half of it is in full sun and needs to be redesigned and replanted with sun-loving shrubs and perennials. We are also talking about adding a crabapple tree and coming up with an attractive way to protect the group of five clematis from hungry rabbits.

Steve relies on a regular group of 6-7 club members to meet about four times a year to plant, weed, water, prune, sweep, and keep the courtyard garden tidy and ready for events and get-togethers. We will keep you updated on our efforts and progress. This is a very worthwhile project, and anyone wishing to participate on a one-time or regular basis is certainly welcome!

-- *Beate Lundstrom*

Tour Committee

Robert Kean, Chair

The Tour Committee Plans Two Summer Tours

The first tour (tentatively Tuesday, June 21, or Tuesday, June 28) would be a progressive tour format as in previous years featuring appetizers and drinks at the first garden and desserts at the second.

Please contact me if you would be willing to be one of the gardens. If you are considering it but have any questions or concerns, please [contact me](#) or call 612-250-7693 and we can discuss.

Annual Plant Sale

Gary Geister, Chair

More Plant Sale Volunteers Still Needed

Thanks to all who have already volunteered to help out with our Club plant sale. We still need more!

The list of volunteer opportunities can be found [here](#).

We especially need help during the sale: assisting shoppers on the sale floor, and working at the checkout/cashier stations. We also need more help distributing signs and picking them up after the sale.

If you can help with any of these tasks, please [email Mary Maynard](#)

80th Anniversary Party Sandra Mangel, Chair

Save the Date

Mark your calendars and join us for MWGCM 80th Anniversary party celebration on Saturday Aug 13th at 5:00 PM.

It will be at Curt and Bette Fenton's gorgeous garden in Hopkins. Details and reservation info at a later date.

Food, Flower and Foto Show Mary Barness and Sue Clark, Co-chairs

FFF Show Featured Flower for 2022 is Celosia

The 2022 FFF show will be held on August 20th and 21st at The University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum.

Want an easy to grow, colorful, and long-lasting flower? If so, grow Celosia! You can even dry the blooms to enjoy in the Winter.

Celosia is a member of the amaranth family and is a very common plant in Minnesota annual gardens due to their ease of care and wide array of flower structures and colors. Leaves of this plant are edible and have a spinach-like taste while the plant is young but after flowering, the leaves turn bitter.

There are three distinct types of Celosia based on flower structure: plumed, wheat and cockscomb.



Plumed cultivars (*C. Plumosa*) have multiple flower stalks and blooms with a feathery appearance. They are often between 8 and 24 inches tall.



Wheat cultivars (*C. Spicata*) have a singular flower stalk and are similar looking to the head of a grain crop. These cultivars are often between 12 and 36 inches tall and are the most limited in colors compared to the plumed and cockscomb varieties.



Cockscomb cultivars (*C. Crostata*) have coral or brain-looking blooms that are often large and heavy so they must often be staked. They grow between 12 and 36 inches tall.

Growing tips:

Grow celosia in full sun - at least 6 to 8 hours a day.

Well-drained, nutrient-rich soil keeps plants growing strong.

Use a liquid plant food every couple of weeks, especially if it's been rainy or really hot: Lots of rain can wash away nutrients and temperatures above 95 degrees F slow growth. You may need to stake taller varieties, especially the cockscomb types with their heavy blooms. Push a bamboo stake in the ground within a few inches of the stem at planting time and attach it with a piece of twine in a figure-eight pattern as it grows.

-- *Kathleen Lenarz*

Membership Corner

Tami Hagen, Chair

Directory Information

We handed out directories at our January and February meetings to members who able to join us at Lake Harriet United Methodist. We will be mailing them to members who were not in attendance. When you receive yours, please open it to your own information and check it for accuracy. We try for perfection, but occasionally slip up. Notify [Kathy Lenarz](#) or [Mollie Dean](#) if you spot any errors. We will send out a separate email with corrections. (We already have a couple.)

Every member bring a member.

Please welcome these new members who joined recently. Formal introductions will be done in coming months.

Linda Minch

Ginny Halloran

Crystal Stump

Board Meeting Highlights Sue Clark, Recording Secretary

Highlights from the February, 2022 Board Meeting:

The Board discussed and approved plans for the 80th Anniversary Party, as presented by Sandra Mangel. We are looking forward to the Garden Party on August 13, and thank Bette Fenton for hosting!

For a complete copy of the February, 2022, Board minutes, please see the [attached](#).

Treasurer's Snapshot Bill Clark, Treasurer

As of February 17, 2022

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| U.S. Bank Balance: | \$ 37,129.42 |
| Royal Credit Deane Fund: | \$ 71,539.94 |
| Total Club Funds: | \$108,669.36 |

2022 Meetings & Events

March 8

Herbs
Theresa Mieseler
Zoom meeting

August 13

80th Anniversary Party

April 12

Nature-based Therapeutics
Heather Benson
Lakewood Cemetery Mausoleum

May 10

Annual Plant Sale
St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church

June 14

Rose Garden Tour
Andrew Gawboy
Lyndale Park Gardens

July

Club Garden Tour

August 20 and 21

Flower, Food & Foto Show
U of M Landscape Arboretum

September 13

Placing Plants
Diane McGann
Lakewood Cemetery Mausoleum

October 11

Soil Action Summer to Fall
Bob Dahm
Lakewood Cemetery Mausoleum

November 8

Feng Shui in the Garden
Carole Hyder
Lake Harriet United Methodist Church

December

TBD

2022 Club Officers & Directors

Club Officers

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Mary Barsness
Prior Lake

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Kathy Lenarz
Richfield

Membership Secretary

Tami Hagan
Minneapolis

Recording Secretary

Sue Clark
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Linda Thompson
Minneapolis

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