

October Meeting Preview

Kathy Lenarz, Chair

This is our final meeting at Lakewood before we move to our winter location.

Tuesday, October 11, 2022

6:00 PM Social Gathering/Dinner (RSVP required for meal. See below.)

6:45 PM Business Meeting

7:00 PM Presentation: Soil Action Summer to Fall, by Bob Dahm

**Lakewood Cemetery Garden Mausoleum Reception Room
3600 Hennepin Avenue
Minneapolis**

We are hoping to resume a buffet-style meal, but as yet our menu is still to be determined. We will update you by email when plans are finalized. Also, we will not be using the old permanent reservations list, as it has not been revised since before Covid. **Everyone who intends to dine with the group needs to RSVP.** Email [Linda Wilkins](#) or call or text 612-597-6200 with your RSVP and name **by Thursday, October 6th**, at 4:00 PM. The cost is \$14.00.

We will once again provide a Zoom link for those who are not able to join us in person. Expect the link in your email closer to the meeting date. If attending via Zoom, please turn off your camera, stay muted, and use the Chat feature for questions or comments. We will have someone monitoring it.

If attending in person, you may want to bring a flashlight for walking to your car after the meeting. The nights are falling earlier now!

From the President

Mary Barsness

Greetings to All,

Fall is rapidly arriving which signals that another gardening season will soon come to an end. Life is similar to a gardening season; it has a beginning and an end. Unfortunately for our club, the life of a long-time club member, Bob Olson, recently came to an end. In the past years, our club has lost quite a few long-time and involved members. I would like to recognize the contribution that all of these people have made to our club. Members are what make our club so great.

I would like to share some of my personal memories of Bob. I joined the club in 2014, so I do not consider myself an “old-timer,” however I do have some fond memories of Bob. When I joined the club, my main gardening interest was hostas. The first club event I attended was the public garden tours. While on the bus, Sandy Abraham introduced me to Bob. With his classic “twinkle in his eye” he engaged me in conversation. We talked and talked, mostly about hostas. Later in the day, I pulled Sandy aside and asked, “Is that Bob Olson, THE Bob Olson of the Hosta World?” Every year I would volunteer to be a judging clerk at the FFF show. I would try to be assigned to Bob, who would judge hostas. I always learned a lot by clerking for him. Clerks are not to talk to the judges. Judy Berglund would frequently have to “scold” me for talking to Bob. After my scolding, I would return to clerking and Bob would try to engage in conversation. I would try to tell him that I wasn’t supposed to talk to the judges. He would smile, get that twinkle in his eye and just keep talking. I’ve always wanted to say to Judy, “You try to clerk for Bob and not talk to him. It’s impossible.”

In honor of Bob and the other members we have lost recently (Carol Ann and Doug Brekke, Jo Batty-George, Nancy Bjerke to name a few), I would like to commit myself to being an active member of our club and hope everyone else will do the same.

Scholarship Committee

M. T. Pulley, Chair

Greetings from the scholarship committee. The maples are turning crimson, pumpkins are appearing, and our scholarship season is in full swing. Minnesota higher education schools with horticulture curricula have been notified about our 2022 scholarship program. We plan to award four \$1,000 scholarships this year.

Kate Ladner has updated our Scholarship Pages (see [our website](#)) and Linda Minch has joined our committee. We thank you for your continued support of this important MWGCM community service program.

Minnesota State Fair Committee

Deanna Lane, Brenda Schultz, Co-chairs

Our Club was given the opportunity to host the “small” flower room in the Horticultural Building at the State Fair on August 31st and September 1st from 9 AM – 9 PM. Our

committee's vision was to create a beautiful, educational, and participative room showcasing our Club, as well as a variety of garden societies, and fun games with prizes.

When Brenda Schultz and Gary Geister toured the room on August 15th, it was overwhelming since the "small" flower room was HUGE. We knew it would be a serious challenge to fill the room and that's when Gary said, "We're going to need a truck."

For more details about the event, please see the [attached](#).

-- Brenda Schultz



Bev, Deanna, Brenda and Judy, at the Anniversary party, requesting volunteers for the State Fair event.



Gary, and Marie Lefebvre, State Fair contact, touring the room before the event.



The flower room was full of people most of the time. They just kept coming ...



Club's flower display



Gary's Reduce, Reuse, Recycle table



Deanna and Wini hosting the room

Brenda and Bev hosting the Garden Wheel



Bev, Gary and Nancy loading the truck at the end of the day, September 1st

Membership Corner Chair open

Here are two new members for us all to get to know:

Mary Windhorst

Mary joined the MWGCM in July. She learned about the club through the internet while searching for garden tours. Mary hopes to learn more about gardening in general and environmentally friendly methods. She plans to retire in a couple of years and wants to deepen her hobbies.

She is interested in shade and native plants as well as any tips on how to "combat squirrels". If anyone has answers to the squirrel problem, please *let all of us know*. Mary enjoys the tranquility of Japanese gardens. She attended the 80th anniversary commemoration and was impressed with what she saw and learned that day. Welcome to the club, Mary!

Erik Peterson

Erik Peterson, who located the club from our website, does hydroponic and container gardening, and is interested in all kinds of gardening. He has volunteered at the Minnesota Seed Bank, collecting native seeds from the Gibbs Farm in St. Paul, among other gardening ventures, and was pleased to be invited to keep some of the bee balm and cornflower seeds for his own use. His volunteer efforts with our club will be limited to weekends. He greatly enjoyed the Flower part of the FFF Show this year. He is a photographer, and also interested in our spring Plant Sale. Welcome, Erik!

-- Kirky Otto

Membership Renewal

This is the time of year when we ask members to renew for the next year, so that we have all our information together for our printed directory. Your membership in MWGCM runs from January to December, following the calendar year. If you are a new member who joined after July 1st, you are not required to pay the \$20 dues for the following year. If you are an honorary member, and are not required to pay dues, please fill out the form to be sure we have all your contact information correct.

This year we are asking everyone to please renew online. Here is the [link](#).

With members entering their own information, we hope to increase accuracy and will definitely decrease worktime for the volunteer members who complete the process. On behalf of the club, I want to give a hearty thanks to Mollie Dean, who has been the lead on this annual project for a number of years.

I know of a very few members who do not use a computer, so will mail them a paper form. I will also bring my laptop to the October and November meetings for those who are having difficulty. If you need a paper form and did not receive one, or have questions, please [email me](#).

-- Kathy Lenarz

Every member bring a member

In Memoriam

Bob Olson

What can you say about a friend of almost 40 years in a few paragraphs? I met Bob Olson through the Garden Club. He joined a couple of years after I did in the early 1980s and we bonded quickly as two of just a few members under 50. We had common interests in gardening (of course) and photography, and also a shared sense of humor. I miss him greatly.

Here are some memories that stand out involving Bob and the Garden Club.

-- Andy Marlow

[Read members' recollections of Bob.](#)

[Obituary.](#)

Website Committee Kate Ladner, Chair

Two new pages have been added to the website: [Club History](#) and [Ask an Expert](#).

The Club History page is found under the About Us menu, and is a list of the major events from the founding of the club until now. If you think there is something missing, please let us know.

The Ask an Expert page is found under the Garden Resources menu, and is a place where fellow club members can share their knowledge. Watch YouTube videos created by club members or send in a question for a member to answer. We are looking for members to help field questions, or even take on the role of monitoring the email account and farming questions out to other club members. So far Peter Olin has volunteered to answer questions about trees and shrubs, and more.

Link to the [Name Change Petition](#).

Board Meeting Highlights Sue Clark, Recording Secretary

Highlights from the September 8 Board Meeting:

Brenda Schultz presented a review of our Club's exhibit and activities at the State Fair Small Flower Room. All agreed it was a smashing success, and the Garden Gnome Hunt, the People's Choice Photo Contest, and the recycled towel cement pots were hits of the Exhibit.

The Nominating Committee also presented their slate of candidates for Board officers and directors for 2023.

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

Treasurer's Snapshot Bill Clark, Treasurer

As of September 20, 2022

US Bank:	\$ 32,358.09
Royal Credit Deane Fund:	\$ 62,614.20
Total club funds:	\$ 94,972.29

2022 Meetings and Events

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

Annual Awards Banquet

2022 Club Officers and Directors

Club Officers

President

Mary Barsness
Prior Lake

Vice President

Kathy Lenarz
Richfield

Membership Secretary

Open

Recording Secretary

Sue Clark
Minnetonka

Treasurer

Bill Clark
Minnetonka

Past President

Linda Wilkins

Directors

Sandra Mangel
Minneapolis

Brenda Schultz
Minneapolis

Linda Thompson
Minneapolis

Richfield

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Men's & Women's Garden Club of Minneapolis

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