

## From the President Kathy Lenarz

It's garden tour season! Our club garden tour committee has come up with an exciting variety of places to tour this year. Private gardens, a community garden, a cut-flower urban farm and even a mushroom farm.

Did you happen to notice the Star Tribune Home and Gardening section on Sunday, June 18? It listed several garden tours, including ours, with a brief descriptive paragraph. The accompanying article by Rhonda Hayes did not mention any tour by name, but did say "Beyond pretty flowers, you also might come across those specializing in hydroponics, beehives, cut-flower farming and organic mushroom production." Doesn't that sound familiar?

In addition to the newsprint, I have been receiving emails from other groups asking me to pass on information for their own tours:

**Hennepin County Master Gardener** Volunteer Learning Garden Tour, Saturday, July 8, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, featuring 8 home gardens and a communal garden, across the northern half of Hennepin County. [More information.](#)

The **South St. Paul Garden Club** is hosting a garden tour on Sunday, July 9, 11 AM to 6 PM, including 11 beautiful gardens. [More information.](#)

The **Minnesota Water Garden Society** is hosting a self-guided tour of 10 metro-area water gardens on Saturday and Sunday July 29-30, 9 AM to 5 PM. For tickets and information see the Society's [website](#),

The growing season may be somewhat short here in Minnesota, but we do know how to appreciate it. I'll see you at the MWGCM Garden and Urban Farm Tour July 22, and perhaps in a garden somewhere else too.

## MWGCM Hosts the Horticultural Building's Flower Room

Given last year's success, the Minnesota State Fair awarded us the opportunity to host the small flower room in the Horticultural Building at the 2023 State Fair on August 30 and 31 from 9 AM – 9 PM.

Our State Fair committee's vision is to create a beautiful, educational and participative room showcasing our club; as well as a variety of garden venues and societies and fun games with prizes that align with our room's theme of "Minnesota Garden Treasures."

New this year will be a "Spotlight Plant" display focusing on begonias and a garden-to-table vegetables display. We are also reaching out to garden venues that represent not only the Twin Cities but greater Minnesota.

There will be many opportunities for you to join the fun and excitement that is the State Fair. Volunteers are needed to prepare club table displays and plants, staff the membership and games tables and to set-up and take-down the room. To volunteer please contact [Judy Berglund](#).

-- Brenda Schultz



State Fair committee:

Bev Galles, Brenda Schultz, Kris Knowles, Wini Wu, Deanna Lane, Carol Scheier, Gary Geister, Judy Berglund, (not pictured)

## Garden Tours

Robert Kean and Brenda Schultz, Co-Chairs



### GARDEN AND URBAN FARM TOUR

Please join us with your family and friends on Saturday, July 22, 9 AM – 5 PM, for the **GARDEN and URBAN FARM TOUR** hosted by our club. This is a self-drive tour (rain or shine) of 5 private gardens, 2 urban farms and a community garden in the metro area. Each site will

feature hourly "Highlight Tours". Included is the largest urban mushroom farm in Minnesota; Bonsai and Native Plant Societies; cut flower growers and flower arrangements; some authors and artists. Proceeds benefit our club's horticultural scholarship program and environmental stewardship.

Thanks to club members who have volunteered to share their gardens and to prepare or host at each venue; to Andy Marlow and Lloyd Wittstock who will be sharing their photography knowledge at the bonsai garden; and to Larry Cipolla, a Master Gardener, who will host the community garden he founded in 2013. Volunteers are needed to host tour information tables at Bachman's on July 15 and 16 and gardens/urban farms during the tour on July 22. Please contact [Judy Berglund](#) if you would like to volunteer. Club members who volunteer for at least 4 hours receive free admission to the tour on Saturday or Sunday as the garden owners' schedule allows.

The tour committee is looking forward to a great tour and to funding several scholarship recipients. So please post [tour information](#) on your social media and invite your family, friends, book club, neighborhood groups, and colleagues to attend!

Tickets are \$20; children 12 and under are free when accompanied by a paying adult. For information about each of the gardens and urban farms and to **PURCHASE TICKETS** please visit the tour [webpage](#).

-- Brenda Schultz

## Lyndale Park Mixed Border Garden Robert Kean, Chair

The mixed border garden is growing well and ready for viewing with interesting plant

combinations and gorgeous color. It is worth stopping by and having a look. We get compliments from park visitors walking by. Let us know what you think.

This is the third summer we are “flying solo” (without relying on Kay's brilliant designer eye); so, recognition is due to the bay monitors, who have taken over responsibility for design and maintenance for portions of the garden and have done a wonderful job!

## Flower, Food and Foto Show

### Mary Barsness and Sue Clark, Co-Chairs

#### Foto contests

The juried digital photo contest is open to members and non-members of the club, while the People's Choice contest featuring prints is for members only. For both the juried contest and the People's Choice, all entries are due by July 31.

The 13 categories for the digital contest are: annuals, biennials and tender perennials grown in Minnesota as annuals; perennials that are hardy in Minnesota; roses; bulbous flowers (lilies, tulips, minor bulbs, dahlias, cannas, etc.); container grown plants; trees, shrubs, and woody vines; trees, shrubs, and woody vines with flowers; vegetables, fruits, herbs (any edible plant but not an edible flower); club activities; scenes of club gardens; groups of cultivated plants in flower beds or pools; wildflowers (in gardens or in the wild); natural landscapes (can include incidental artificial objects); and artistic expression. See the rules for more details and examples.

The digital entries are judged by some of the photo committee members and the winning entries are displayed during that August 12-13 show at the Arboretum. Prints are voted through a ballot box at the site of the FFF show and possibly at the State Fair. Complete information on your entries is explicitly stated in the rules, along with prizes and award information.

We hope for photos of club activities, gardens, woods and landscapes. Consider submitting pictures of your travel.

The club website has the rules for the “Foto” Contests. [Click here](#) for rules and suggestions for the July 31 deadline for both contests.

-- Lloyd Wittstock

#### Flower contests

The FFF Show is right around the corner. The more items you enter the better your chances of winning some ribbons. The 2023 FFF show booklet is now [online](#). If you are in need of a paper booklet, please [contact me](#). In addition, there will be several copies available at the show.

The floral design theme for this year is Hail Minnesota. The classes are less scripted than in the past and instead will allow for more individual creativity.

The individual classes are:

Minni-sota-nice: Miniature design utilizing pink and white flowers symbolizing the Lady Slipper orchid

Paul Bunyan: A vertical arrangement

North Woods: Arrangement utilizing at least 2 hosta leaves

Mighty Mississippi: A horizontal arrangement

Prairies Fair: Arrangement utilizing native flowers and grasses

SKOL to Good Health: Arrangement utilizing vegetables

By the Shores of Gitchigumi: Arrangement utilizing water as part of the design

I can't wait to see what our members create!

-- Mary Barsness

## Ask a Master Gardener

### Botanical Rotation

Let's be honest. How many of you really enjoy the thrill of the hunt, capture, and squishing of insects that have decided to dine on your veggies? What about soil diseases? Do you get all hyper-giddy and goose-bumpy when you see the leaves turn a nasty yellow and brown or get all spotty-yucky-looking? Well, cheer up. Help is on the way.

You can reduce the number of bad bugs and diseases in your garden using a very simple gardening method. It is called *rotation*, specifically it is called **Botanical Rotation**. What's the deal?

Generally, the insects that attack one botanical family will not attack plants from another family. Likewise, the diseases that attack a botanical family will not infect plants from another family. Every plant in the world belongs to a family, a botanical family. That makes this method of rotation easy and practical.

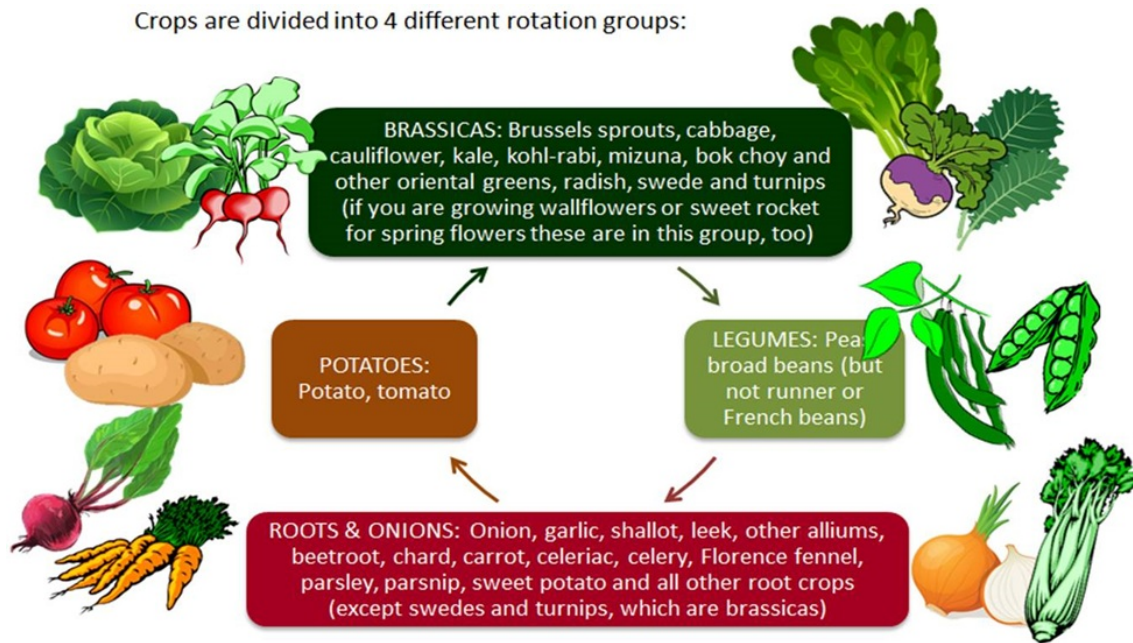
How does it work? First, outline your garden by length and width. Then create equal sections along the length. Plant the veggies that you want to grow from a specific botanical family in one section of your garden. Then plant different varieties from another botanical family in another section of your garden, and so on until each section has a different family. That is what you can do this year, Year One. Then next year, Year Two, if you want to plant the same families, you just move them from one section to another section. See how easy? Do this for at least three years, then in the fourth year you repeat the cycle. Create a map or photograph of what you planted where, so you don't forget what you planted where. Memory is fantastic until you forget whatever it was you were going to remember but forgot.

Botanical Rotation will work in a traditional in-ground garden, as well as in raised and elevated beds and containers. I am using the illustration below with three families—Brassicaceae (tomatoes), and Fabaceae (legumes), and a mixed family—to illustrate how you can apply this method of rotation to your garden.

[More here.](#)

-- Larry Cipolla

Crops are divided into 4 different rotation groups:



## Sunshine Committee Mollie Dean and Linda Wilkins, Co-Chairs

There are so many wonderful people in our club. If you know a member who is having health issues or has a need, please let [Linda Wilkins](#) or [Mollie Dean](#) know about it. We will contact the member and offer support, friendship or cards. You can let us know about close family members also. We will communicate to the whole club if the person wants that; otherwise, the information will remain private.

If you have a need, you could contact us yourself also.

Gardeners love to share information with other gardeners. Let's extend that sharing beyond gardening.

-- Mollie Dean

## Board Meeting Highlights Sue Clark, Recording Secretary

### Highlights from the June 6, 2023, Board Meeting:

Plans are underway to implement the club's name change to "Garden Club of Minneapolis." The Board heard from Becky DeLaCruz of the Marketing and Publicity

Committee with a comprehensive strategy, including sample communications and potential logos.

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

## Treasurer's Snapshot Peter Moe, Treasurer

As of June 26, 2023

US Bank:	\$41,935.71
Royal Credit totals:	\$72,235.00
Total club funds:	\$114,170.71

## 2023 Meetings and Events

### July 22

Public Garden Tour

[Club link](#)

### August 12 - 13

FFF show

Minnesota Landscape Arboretum

### August 30 - 31

Minnesota State Fair

Flower Room – Ag Hort Building

### September 12

Novel Tactics in Pest Management  
and Frontiers in Biorational

Insecticides

Vera Krischik

St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church

### October 10

Rock Gardening

Rick Rodich

St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church

### November 14

Growing Fruits in Minnesota

Faith Appelquist

St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church

### December 12

Annual Awards Banquet

## 2023 Club Officers and Directors

## Club Officers

### **President**

Kathy Lenarz  
Richfield

### **Vice President**

Brenda Schultz  
Minneapolis

### **Membership Secretary**

Vicki Olson  
Minneapolis

Linda Wilkins  
Richfield

### **Recording Secretary**

Sue Clark  
Minnetonka

### **Treasurer**

Peter Moe  
Chaska

### **Past President**

Mary Barsness  
Prior Lake

## Directors

Sandra Mangel  
Minneapolis

Martha Joy  
Richfield

Nancy Felice  
Minneapolis

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## Men's and Women's Garden Club of Minneapolis

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