

1942-2017



MEN'S & WOMEN'S

GARDEN CLUB

OF MINNEAPOLIS

June 2018

The Garden Spray

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IN THIS ISSUE

June Meeting Preview

From the President

From the Editors

2018 Tour Announced

Plant Sale Recap

2018 FFF Show

Lyndale Park Gardens/Mixed Border Garden

Lyndale Park Garden/Native & Shade Gardens

Marketing & Publicity Committee

Membership Corner

In Memoriam

Board Meeting Highlights

Treasurer's Snapshot
Meeting & Event Calendar
2018 Officers & Directors

June Meeting Preview

Anne Spenningsby, Programs Chair

BUTTERFLY BOOTCAMP: GARDENING TO ATTRACT BUTTERFLIES WITH JAN WELSH

Tuesday, June 12

Location: Lakewood Cemetery Mausoleum

Jan Welsh, Nongame Wildlife Education Specialist with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, will share information on plant selection to create a lively butterfly garden.



Menu

6:00 Social Time

6:15 Dinner

7:00 Business Meeting

7:30 Program

Wild Rice Chicken Salad

Marinated Vegetables

Fresh Fruit Salad

Ice Cream Sandwiches

- Permanent reservations are in effect.
- Dinner is \$13.00.
- Reservations or cancellations are required no later than Friday, June 8.
- Email Sharla Aasang at resmwgcm@juno.com, or call (612) 623-9341 and leave a message.
- NOTE: For last-minute cancellations call or email Sharla. If she can sell it, you won't be billed.

From the President
Mary Barsness

First, a big thank you to everyone involved in our plant sale. Thanks to the efforts of many, the sale was well attended and ran smoothly--from Gary growing all of those amazing plants to those who helped transplant, transport, advertise, set up, man the floor, check out people, and helped clean up and tear down, Thank you, thank you, thank you.

June flowers: rose and honeysuckle



The **rose**, beloved for its beauty and fragrance, has a long history of symbolism. The ancient Greeks and Romans associated the rose with goddesses of love Aphrodite and Venus, which led to the red rose symbolizing love in modern culture.

In religion, the red rose was adopted as the symbol of blood shed by Christian martyrs, and later it was associated with the Virgin Mary.

A bouquet of roses means sincere gratitude, whereas a single rose's meaning varies by its color:

- Red: love
- Pink: grace, lesser feelings of love
- Dark pink: gratitude
- Light pink: admiration, sympathy
- White: innocence, secrecy, friendship, reverence, humility.
- Yellow: dying love or platonic love, jealousy and infidelity
- Yellow with red tips: friendship, falling in love
- Orange: passion
- Burgundy: beauty
- Blue: mystery
- Green: calm
- Black: slavish devotion (as a true black rose is impossible to produce)
- Purple: protection (paternal/maternal love)

What's your favorite? Mine is orange.

Interesting facts about roses:

- The oldest rose fossil dates back 35 million years.
- Roses are grown on every continent.
- The Netherlands leads the world in rose exports.

The **honeysuckle** (*Lonicera*) symbolizes everlasting bonds of love. It appears, either as a shrub or vine

throughout the Northern Hemisphere. Out of 180 species of honeysuckle, China alone boasts 100. Europe and North America have about 20 species each.



Its oval leaves range from 1-10cm in length. Many species have bell-shaped white, yellow, pink or red flowers with a sweet, edible nectar. They contain a small red, blue or black berry which is mildly poisonous.

Two species are used medicinally: the Fly Honeysuckle is a common homeopathic remedy used for asthma, breathing difficulties and syphilis. The less common European honeysuckle is used to treat irritability with violent outbursts.

Interesting honeysuckle facts:

- The ancients used honeysuckle berries to make dye.
- A honeysuckle sachet under the pillow is thought to bring pleasant dreams.
- During Victorian times, honeysuckle was planted by the front door to keep witches away.

From the Editors

Nancy Felice, Tom McKusick, Co-editors



First of all, a shout-out to Bette and Curt Fenton for the great cover story in the May/June issue of *Northern Gardener*. Those who went on the 2017 tour were treated to an up-close look at their beautiful gardens.

Second, I'm looking forward to hearing our garden mentors at the Sunnyside Gardens Spring Expo on Saturday, June 9 ([see info in the Marketing and Publicity Committee section](#)). I live a few blocks away from Sunnyside and have enjoyed watching it evolve into a beautiful place with way too many tempting plants and garden items. You may want to plan some extra time in the neighborhood, too. There are a number of places within walking distance to have coffee or lunch, as well as some unique shops.

-- Nancy Felice

Tour Committee

Robert Kean, Chair

2018 MEMBER GARDEN TOUR, SATURDAY JULY 7 RESERVATIONS DUE BY MONDAY, JULY 2

Saturday, July 7

8:45 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (motorcoach leaves promptly at 9:00 a.m.)

Cost: \$28 includes box lunch

Visit three beautiful gardens plus the Tangletown Garden Farm via air-conditioned motorcoach, box lunch included. The cost is \$28. Prepaid reservations are required by July 2. [Please fill out the reservation form](#) and return it, along with your check made out to "MWGCM," to Denise Rust by the deadline.

The bus will leave from the parking lot of the 7-Hi Shopping Center at the northwest corner of MN Highway 7 and Hennepin County Road 101 in Minnetonka. Look for the bus at the north end of the parking lot near Caribou Coffee just north of SuperTarget.

Garden 1

Ross and Lori Ruschmeyer

Victoria, MN 55386

Visit the meticulously maintained, terraced backyard filled with plants, shrubs, walking paths, and something that will appeal to every gardener. You will be amazed when you walk from the front to the back of this property. The front yard is great but the back is amazing.

Garden 2

Farm of Tangletown Gardens

Plato, MN 55370

See how the farm practices sustainable agriculture to supply nursery items for Tangletown Gardens and vegetables and meat for their restaurant The Wise Acre Eatery. This will be a wonderful learning experience. Box lunches will be available to eat on the way to our next stop.

Garden 3 and Garden 4 are neighbors. You can visit in either order.

Garden 3

Julie Carley and Gary Mosiman

Minnetonka, MN 55345

Visit the nationally recognized hosta gardens of Julie and Gary, You will never look at a hosta the same way again. What they have done is nothing short of amazing. Every hosta is labeled and they have hundreds of varieties. Their knowledge base is second to none.

Garden 4

Steve and Laura Hanson

Minnetonka, MN 55345

Steve and Laura are the chairpersons of the Arboretum Plant Sale. They have wonderful knowledge about all kinds of plants, trees and shrubs. Their property is filled with annuals, perennials, and unusual trees. Their large backyard is fully landscaped.

-- *Andy Marlow*

2018 MWGCM Plant Sale Recap

Gary Geister, Chair

A huge thanks to the Plant Sale Committee and club members who helped before, during and with final clean up. We were able to have everything loaded and out of the church shortly after 8 p.m.

Sales, including pre-orders, were a little over \$17,000, which I believe is an all-time high.

We will have a post plant sale meeting immediately following the June 12 club meeting. If you have any recommendations for next year's plant sale, let me know.

Mark your calendar: Our 2019 plant sale will be Tuesday, May 7, once again at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church.

2018 Flower, Food & Foto Show

Judy Berglund, Chair

Saturday, August 18 & Sunday, August 19
Minnesota Landscape Arboretum

[Find complete rules, entry classes, and sample entry tags on the MWGCM website.](#)



We hope all club members will consider bringing a few of their favorite flowers and vegetables to the show this year. I found some great sunflowers, our featured flower, at the May plant sale, and my set onions, our featured vegetable, are finally showing some signs of life. How I wish we could get an inch of rain!

Find the complete rules on the club website or pick up

one of the green 2018 FFF Show booklets at our June club meeting.

Happy gardening and see you at the FFF Show.

Lyndale Park Gardens/Mixed Border Garden

Kay Wolf, Chair



Tuesday crew after planting 300 annuals on May 22. Back: Beate Lundstrom, Paul Waytz, Judy Eiden, Steve Shubick, Kris Olson, Kathy Lenarz. Front: Kay Wolfe, Mollie Dean, Sharla Aaseng.

ALWAYS A TRIAL GARDEN

It was a long, hard winter and many plants in the Mixed Border Garden are either gone, are missing branches, or have winter burn.

We lost 10 out of 12 Geranium 'Rozanne.' The Japanese forest grass, Hakonechloa macra 'Aureola' is smaller than usual, but looks like it will recover. Patches of ajuga are missing. Most notable is the shrub dieback on Weiglea 'Spilled Wine.' The small barberries such as 'Crimson Pygmy' and 'Helmond Pillar' also lost branches, but the older, more invasive varieties no longer sold in nurseries, such as 'Rose Glow' and 'Golden Carousel' are just fine! The new 'Deborah Waxman' larch we put in last year is only growing from the bottom. Its top branches still bend so we hope they will sprout. Many of the conifers--yews, arborvitae, and chamaecyparis--got winter burn. If the dead growth is lightly sheared off they will grow again.

From 1999 until 2013, our border garden held a Perennial Trial Garden. Developers of new plant varieties such as Proven Winners and Blooms of Bressingham would send their plants to the University of Minnesota Department of Floriculture to be

grown at five sites around the state. Gardeners would take data and report back how their new plant varieties tolerated the Minnesota seasons.

Hardy Geranium 'Jolly Bee' from Proven Winners was in our trial from 2005 to 2009. Now Geranium 'Rozanne' from Blooms of Bressingham is listed as "replacing Jolly Bee." It was a 2008 Perennial Plant of the Year. Both varieties have wonderful clear blue flowers and are long season bloomers. Since we lost so many Rozanne this year, I wondered if Jolly Bee had been more hardy. Searching online I found different sites list Rozanne in different hardiness zones--some zone 4 and others zone 5. Then I discovered after a seven-year court battle, in 2010 a court ruled that Rozanne and Jolly Bee are too similar and the Dutch breeder of Jolly Bee must "cease and desist" growing and promoting Jolly Bee. I wonder if the court took into consideration the hardiness characteristics of the two varieties.

Our committee is planning to replace the lost Rozanne geranium. It is well worth risking another harsh winter. This geranium variety is sterile and produces lovely blue flowers for many months. And we will be pruning and coaxing along all of our damaged shrubs. We call it the "Trials of Gardening." How is your "trial garden" doing this year?

Lyndale Garden/Native & Shade Garden

Kirky Otto, Carol Schreier, Co-chairs



Next time you're near Lake Harriet, you are invited to stroll past the gardens designed and maintained by the Native and Shade Garden Committee. Here's the latest batch of plants the Park Board has bought for use in that area. It includes three flats of Pennsylvania sedge which we recently planted on the ridge at the back of the shade garden. The sedge will make soft mounds of foliage and will crowd out the Virginia creeper and buckthorn shoots that want to grow there (design by Carol Schreier). The gardens have come a long way in a short time!

-- Kirky Otto

*Photo: Becca Gross,
Minneapolis Park &
Recreation Board*

Marketing and Publicity Committee

CLUB MEMBERS TO PARTICIPATE IN SUNNYSIDE GARDENS SPRING EXPO

Saturday, June 9

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

3723 West 44th Street, Minneapolis

Join six MWGCM mentor gardeners and members of the Membership and M & P Committees for a spring expo at Sunnyside Gardens. The mentor gardeners will share their expertise with demos/presentations on six different topics beginning at 9:00 a.m.

The Membership and M & P Committees will be available in the greenhouse to answer questions and share information about club activities and events. Below is the demo/presentation schedule. Come on out and support our mentor gardeners.

Time	Topic	Presenter
9:00 - 9:20 10:00 -10:20	<i>Some things You Didn't Know, That You Wanted to Know About Hostas</i> The care, feeding and dividing of Hostas	Bob Olson
9:20 - 9:40 10:20 -10:40	<i>Composting</i> Starting your garden compost	M.T. Pulley
9:40- 10:00 10:40 - 11:00	<i>Square Foot Veggie Gardening</i> Getting the best results while utilizing small spaces for vegetables	Judy Berglund
11:00 - 11:20 Noon - 12:20	<i>Native Plants: Good for You and Good for Pollinators</i>	Kirky Otto
11:20 - 11:40 12:20 - 12:40	<i>Dahlias</i> How to plant, care for and over-winter Dahlias	Larry Larson
11:40 - Noon 12:40 - 1:00	<i>Containers for Sun and Shade</i> How to design, plant and care for flowering containers	Bette Fenton

Membership Corner

Kathy Lenarz, Chair

May is traditionally a big month for new members, this year especially. We have eight new members, bringing our total to 127. I plan to introduce a few each in each Spray. The new members are: Cheryl Bates, Kathy Byrn, Laura Donnelly, Marilyn Ganje-Fling, JoEllen Haugo, Mary Pickard, Paul Waytz, and Brenda Schultz. Please welcome them all.

JOELLEN HAUGO

JoEllen has known about MWGCM for a while, and she decided to join at the Plant Sale.

She describes her garden as postage-stamp size, but she manages to raise many perennials, (including some from our plant sale), a boulevard hosta bed, a tiered backyard with room for an apple tree, and herbs in the window well. She has tried cherry tomatoes in the past, but the squirrels enjoyed them too much. Hoping that a new oak tree will fill the squirrels with acorns, she recently purchased some tomato and sweet pepper plants. As JoEllen readily admits, "Gardeners are eternal optimists!"

A native Minnesotan, she is originally from Kasson, a small town near Rochester. She is a retired librarian. In addition to gardening, JoEllen and her husband enjoy hiking, camping, and canoeing.

-- *Kathy Lenarz*

PAUL WAYTZ

Paul joined the club because he enjoys gardening and volunteering. He liked the idea of contributing to the Mixed Border Garden at Lyndale Park Garden, and the Tuesday morning volunteers are enjoying his energy and knowledge.

Due to the loss of some trees at his home of 40 years near Lyndale Park, he is creating sun gardens in his boulevard and backyard. His backyard is entirely grass free and he loves filling it with natives and old-fashioned peonies as well as vegetables. His dad grew tomatoes when Paul grew up in a Chicago suburb, so he naturally gravitated toward vegetable gardening.

Paul is a retired physician who specialized in rheumatology, and he continues to do research in the field. He and his wife have three married sons and several grandchildren, so his life is full of new growth and joy.

-- Mollie Dean

TRACY SANDERS

Tracy came to a MWGCM meeting at the invitation of Becky DeLaCruz. Tracy and her late husband were friends and colleagues of Becky and her husband.

While traveling extensively for work, Tracy lived for many years in apartments and condos. She is now settled in St. Paul with a large yard and has spent the last 10 catching up on her gardening. She has trees and shrubs, many perennials and natives, along with herbs and other edibles.

Tracy grew up in rural Southern Illinois, a grain-farmer's daughter. She links her interest in horticulture to her grandparents, who grew everything from apples, cherries and pears to rhubarb, asparagus, and pecans, with lots of roses and a massive clematis, too.

Tracy also sings with a church choir, and has two German warmblood horses. She rides dressage and has ridden in competition.

-- Kathy Lenarz

Every member bring a member.

In Memoriam

ADA HEGION



Ada Hegion, MWGCM member since 1996, died on May 4, 2018. Ada grew up in the mountains of Alberta, Canada, and from an early age grew vegetables with her large family and rode her horse through the woods observing the plants she saw, sometimes skipping school to do so. Ada moved to Minnesota and received a doctorate in psychology at the University of Minnesota. She worked at Hennepin County Medical Center for over 30 years, becoming director of their Psychology Training Program. In this role she influenced many psychology students and also offered consultation on therapy for adults and children.

Long-time garden club member Bill Jepson, Ada's boss at HCMC, invited her to join the club because he thought the club would benefit from her gardening and organizational skills. Ada volunteered with the Lyndale Park Garden Committee and loved working quietly weeding and mulching. Even when she began to suffer memory loss, she continued to bring her special spirit to the garden. Her partner John Sims was also a club member.

A memorial service for Ada will be held at the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum in the Snyder Auditorium at 10:00 am Tuesday, June 5. Her obituary can be read on the [Holcomb-Henry-Boom-Percell Funeral Home website](#).

-- Mollie Dean

Board Meeting Highlights

Laurie Levin, Recording Secretary

MAY 2018 BOARD NOTES

The following motions were made, seconded and approved:

- To add an additional \$150 to the Trophy line item in the budget for cleaning and

polishing of the club's trophies.

- To add an additional \$365 to this year's Sunshine Club line item.

Other topics of discussion included honoring long-time club members, considering whether a long-term plan for membership should be developed, and further discussion regarding how to award funds from the Deane Memorial Fund.

Treasurer's Snapshot

Alan Gallaher, Treasurer

AS OF MAY 25, 2018

Checking Balance	\$ 38,618
Designated Funds	
Lyndale Park/Mixed Border Garden	\$ 1,551
Scholarship	\$ 4,413
Deane Fund at RCU	\$ 62,162
Working Balance	\$ 21,467
Petty Cash	\$ 100
MWGCM 19-month CD at US Bank	\$ 5,391

Meeting & Event Calendar

June 12

Jan Welsh: Butterfly Bootcamp:
Gardening to Attract Butterflies
Lakewood Cemetery Mausoleum

October 9

Fiona Lennox: Native Plants
Lakewood Cemetery Mausoleum

July 7
Garden Tour

August 18 & 19
Flower, Food & Foto Show
Minnesota Landscape Arboretum

September 11
Barbara Ronningen: Overwintering
Ornamental Plants
Lakewood Cemetery Mausoleum

November 13
Mary Meyer: Minnesota Landscape
Arboretum Grasses
Lake Harriet United Methodist Church

December 11
Holiday Party

2018 Officers & Directors

Club Officers

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Mary Barsness
Prior Lake

Vice President
Anne Spenningsby
Minneapolis

Membership Secretary
Kathy Lenarz
Richfield

Recording Secretary
Laurie Levin
Golden Valley

Treasurer
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