

1942-2017



MEN'S & WOMEN'S

GARDEN CLUB

OF MINNEAPOLIS

November 2017

The Garden Spray

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November Meeting Preview

Mary Barsness, Programs Committee Chair

NOVEMBER 14 PROGRAM: BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE FRIENDS SCHOOL PLANT SALE WITH HENRY FIELDSETH



Henry Fieldseth founded the Friends School Plant Sale in 1989, and continues today as one of the volunteers who selects the plants and runs the sale on Mother's Day weekend. He'll talk about what goes into planning the sale and how the plants are selected.



Menu

6:00 Social Time
6:15 Dinner
7:00 Business Meeting
7:30 Program

Roasted Pork
Squash
Salad
Bread
Apple Crisp

- November meeting location: **Lake Harriet United Methodist Church.**
- Permanent reservations are in effect.
- Dinner is \$13.00.

- Reservations or cancellations are required no later than Friday, November 10.
 - Email Sharla Aasang at resmwgcm@juno.com, or call (612) 623-9341 and leave a message.
 - For last-minute cancellations, call Alan Gallaher at (952) 933-1713. If he can sell it, you won't be billed.
-

MENU PLANNER NEEDED BEGINNING IN JANUARY

Bonnie Haehn is looking for someone to take over the menu-planning duties for our monthly meetings next year. These include:

- Discuss menu ideas with the caterer at the beginning of the year.
- If possible, plan several months at a time.
- Identify different menu ideas which include a main course (with protein), vegetable, salad, bread and dessert.
- Provide menu for publication in the *Garden Spray*.

If you are interested or want more information, contact [Bonnie Haehn](#).

Holiday Party

Larry Larson, Sandra Mangel, Co-chairs

MAKE YOUR RESERVATION NOW FOR OUR ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

Tuesday, December 12
Banquet Hall
Embassy Suites, Bloomington
2800 American Blvd. West (near Southtown)

6:00 p.m. - Social hour
6:00 -- 7:30 p.m. - Silent auction
7:00 p.m. - Dinner followed by awards

Cost: \$25 per person



As temperatures and snow begin to fall, that can only mean one thing: the annual MWGCM Holiday Party is almost here! Once again the party will begin at 6:00 p.m. in

the Banquet Hall at Embassy Suites. The motel's bar is conveniently nearby.

Dinner Menu & Entertainment

Punch & cheese bar
Dinner salad
Turkey & dressing
Mashed potatoes
Sweet carrots
Dessert

If you need a vegetarian meal or other meal considerations, please email [Larry Larson](#) or call (952) 949-9668 before Monday, December 4, or indicate your request on the return form.

By popular request, pre-dinner entertainment will again be Benny Weinbeck playing jazz favorites and holiday music on the electric piano.

Following dinner, the club will announce the winners of many of the year's most important trophies, including the Bachman Award, President's Cup, Lehman Trophy, Blackburn Trophy, Foley Trophy, Smith Trophy, photo award, and the Rookie of the Year.

A special invitation to new members or other who haven't attended previous holiday parties: it's a special night you won't want to miss!

Make your dinner reservation before Monday, December 4.

[Use this link to get a printable version of the Holiday Reservation Form.](#)

Send your completed form to:

Sandra Mangel
4100 Bryant Ave. S.
Minneapolis, MN 55409

She must receive your form by December 4 for an accurate count and payment to Embassy Suites.

Silent Auction
Becky DeLaCruz, Chair



Watch for more details over the next several weeks regarding this year's Silent Auction at the Holiday Party. Becky DeLaCruz and the Silent Auction Committee are working to generate donations from businesses to specifically support the scholarship fund. We're excited about the potential to raise money to further the scholarship effort.

We'll need your donations also, of course, because your auction items will contribute to the holiday party funds, as in past years. [You'll find space to list your silent auction donations on the Holiday Reservation Form.](#)

So bring a little extra cash incentive (checks are accepted, too!) to the auction to bid on these higher-valued items.

Email your questions about the Silent Auction to [Becky DeLaCruz](#) or call (727) 644-0176.

Suggestions for Silent Auction Contributions

- Tickets (movies, theater, opera, or sporting events)
- Homemade or handcrafted items (crafts, note cards, embroidery, quilting)
- Tools, plants, statues, books, bird feeders, birdbaths
- Gift certificates (hotel, resort, garden center, bookstore, restaurant, or membership in a specialty garden club)
- Time, talent or services (garden consultation, custom art/craft, teaching a craft or skill, make a meal, host a theme party)
- Homemade baked goods, candies, etc.

From the President

Sandra Abraham

November is the month when we elect new officers, look back at how we have promoted our shared interest of gardening, and renew our memberships. What a year our 75th anniversary has been, filled with wonderful gatherings.

Our May plant sale brought in more of the public than ever before and kept all of us on our toes answering questions.

In June we learned about the world of pollinators. One thing I remember about that talk was how some of the pollinators overwinter. While cleaning out your gardens this fall try to keep some of the hollow stems for those pollinators to hibernate and lay

eggs.

Our 75th Anniversary Garden Party at Lee and Jerry Shannon's brought over 80 attendees to enjoy the gardens and celebrate our past and the friends we've cultivated over the years.

We continued our tradition of featuring glorious gardens for our public garden tour in July, and in August we staged another memorable Flower, Food and Foto show at the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum.

September's meeting showcased a panel of experts made up of club members. We are very fortunate to have members who are so knowledgeable and willing to share that wealth of information.



In honor of the club's October 1942 charter, we continued celebrating by enjoying a lovely video presentation of MWGCM historical data and saluting new members and seasoned members with a champagne toast, a delicious meal and beautiful cupcakes.

I encourage all of you to send in your membership renewals or be prepared to fill out the forms and pay your dues at our November 14 meeting. Please sign up for the committees you want to work on in 2018 and also consider an extra donation to one of the designated funds listed on the renewal form.



You will also see requests for donations to the annual holiday party silent auction. It is not too soon to start thinking about something special to offer to the festivities.

As we begin this holiday season may you all think back on this bountiful year and give thanks for what we have accomplished together.

From the Editors

Nancy Felice, Tom McKusick

START SEEING CONIFERS

Even though the October program didn't quite go as planned (technical snafus happen) I came away, as I always do, having learned something. In this case, I have

a new appreciation for plants I previously hadn't given much thought: conifers.

On my walk the next morning, I noticed how many different conifers there are right in my immediate neighborhood, and found myself wondering: Is that a dwarf or miniature? How old is that? Is it supposed to grow that way?



In my own yard, I've planted exactly two conifers. I don't remember what they are (no big surprise there). One is a lumpy bush that is missing a big chunk in back but fills a corner nicely. I almost dug him up this year, but I admire his perseverance. So he's not perfect, so what? The other started out at about two feet tall and has slowly grown to 10 feet or so. I got him at a nursery in Duluth for two reasons: being from Duluth, I figured he



would be hardy, and he was supposed to be slow growing. Right on both counts. Thanks to this tree and a nearby spirea, I can now call this unintentional group of plants my "mixed border garden."

After the meeting, I have a new appreciation for my conifers. They mind their manners and don't hassle the other plants. And they are a constant presence year 'round.

Another common occurrence after a garden club meeting, I find myself wanting more of [insert meeting topic here].

-- *Nancy Felice*

Lyndale Park Gardens/Native & Shade Gardens

Kirky Otto, Carol Schreier, Co-chairs

NATIVE AND SHADE GARDENS ARE READY FOR WINTER, DESPITE LATE BLOOMERS

Take a look at the spring-blooming pasqueflower that Kathy Lenarz photographed in late September in the Lyndale Park Native Garden, and join me in wondering whether it has to do with climate change. What I've found learned suggests one possible cause -- spring blooming plants sometimes rebloom in the fall when cold weather is followed by a warm period, since the amount of sunshine the plants get is about the same in the spring and the fall. This could be the reason

the blue iris in the sunniest corner of the shade garden rebloomed last November. We also had a couple of geum triflorum (prairie smoke) plants rebloom in the front edge of the garden this fall. All these occasions have delighted us, although we worry a bit about whether the energy required to put out a second bloom will mean fewer flowers in the spring. Time will tell.



A perfectly normal delight in the shade garden is a new planting of great blue lobelia that is blooming like mad somewhat later than their normal time. Although they were very ordinary looking after planting, they have become a great favorite since they started to bloom in late August. Check them out this year or next if you'd like blue flowers in a moist spot in the autumn. They tolerate heavy shade, and will be going into my deep-shade garden in the dampest part of my yard, next to the garage where they get runoff from that roof. Ours at Lyndale Park are about a foot tall, although some do get taller.

Now that the fall mulch is tucked around the plants (a little earlier than we'd prefer, but it's no fun to apply mulch in sleet and snow), our gardens are ready for winter. If you'd like to join the native and shade garden group at our monthly winter coffee meetings on the third Thursday of most winter months, let me know and I'll add you to the e-mail list.

-- [Kirky Otto](#)

Announcements



FFF VISITORS, PLEASE JOIN US

Eighteen FFF show visitors signed up to receive the Garden Spray for three months. If you're one of those and now you'd like to join the Men's and Women's Garden Club of Minneapolis, please go to the [Membership page of the MWGCM.org website](#). We'd love to

welcome you.

NEED A RIDE TO MEETINGS?

If you have difficulty driving to the club meetings, contact [Lynda Lundstrom](#) and she will arrange a ride for you.

Plant Sale Committee

Gary Geister, Chair

SHARE YOUR SUGGESTIONS FOR OUR MAY 8, 2018 PLANT SALE

Hope everyone had success with the plants purchased at this year's plant sale. Each year we try some new plants, some more successful than others.

I've already started ordering some plants for next year's sale, but there is plenty of time to add to the list. If you had plants this year that you would like to order again, or if you had success with something new and think it would be a great seller at the next sale, email [Gary Geister](mailto:gary.geister@me.com), call (651) 683-9136, or see me at the next club meeting.

One of the new plants I'm ordering is a climbing sweet potato vine. Typically sweet potato vines are trailing vines. The photo is a combination of the 'Solar Tower Lime' and black *ipomoea* (sweet potato vine) climbing a trellis. Be the first in your neighborhood with this plant!



-- Gary Geister

Nominating Committee

Judy Brooke, Chair

SLATE OF MWGCM OFFICERS FOR 2018

The Nominating Committee proposes the following slate of officers for approval at the annual business meeting on November 14th, at the Lake Harriet United Methodist Church.

President: Mary Barsness

Vice President: Anne Spenningsby

Recording Secretary: Laurie Levin

Membership Secretary: Kathy Lenarz

Treasurer: Alan Gallaher

Past President: Sandra Abraham

Directors: Dave McKeen, Linda Thompson, John Cooke

Membership Corner

Judy Brooke, Chair

PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP BY NOVEMBER 14

Thank you to the members who renewed at our October meeting or mailed their renewals. If you still need to renew, you will have an opportunity at the November 14 meeting. You can also print out the renewal form found in this edition of the *Spray*. The form explains how to send in your renewal if you are unable to come to the November meeting

The Membership Committee would really appreciate your renewing by November 14. At the meeting, committee volunteers will eagerly await your renewal forms with your check or cash. Dues remain \$20.

To renew your membership:

- [Print the Membership Renewal Form available here.](#)
- Or complete a renewal form at November club meetings.
- Return your form at the November meeting or mail it with your dues to Judy Brooke at the address on the form.

THERE'S A COMMITTEE FOR EVERYONE

Committee involvement is one of the best ways to get to know members and feel like part of the club. It's also vital to the club's health. You'll find all committees and their members listed in your club directory. For more information, committee description sheets will be available at the membership renewal table during the November meeting. If you're a new member and know which committee(s) you'd like to join, or have questions about committees, let one of the membership committee members at the renewal table know, or contact [Judy Brooke](#).

-- *Judy Brooke*

(Editor's note: Due to my error the renewal form was not available in the October *Garden Spray*. The link has been fixed, but if you have a problem, please contact Nancy at spray@mwgcm.org.)



New MWGCM members from our "class of 2017" who attended were recognized at our October meeting.

Every member bring a member.

Treasurer's Snapshot

Alan Gallaher, Treasurer

AS OF OCTOBER 26, 2017

| | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| Checking Balance | \$ 26,386 |
| Designated Funds | |
| Lyndale Park/Mixed Border Garden | \$ 2,486 |
| Scholarship | \$ 2,976 |
| Deane Fund at RCU | \$ 62,348 |
| Working Balance | \$ 20,924 |
| Petty Cash | \$ 100 |
| MWGCM 19-month CD at US Bank | \$ 5,352 |

Meeting & Event Calendar

November 14

Behind the Scenes
at the Friends School Plant Sale
with Henry Fieldseth
[Lake Harriet United Methodist Church](#)
[4901 Chowen Avenue South](#)
[Minneapolis](#)

December 12

Holiday Party
[Embassy Suites](#)
[800 American Boulevard West,](#)
[Bloomington](#)

2017 Officers & Directors

Club Officers

President
Sandra Abraham
Eagan

Vice President
Mary Barsness
Prior Lake

Membership Secretary
Judy Brooke
St. Louis Park

Recording Secretary
Laurie Levin
Golden Valley

Treasurer
Alan Gallaher
Edina

Past President
Judy Brooke

Directors

Judy Berglund
Minnetonka

Bonnie Haehn
Minneapolis

Dave McKeen
St. Louis Park

Steve Shubick
St. Paul

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