



The Garden Spray

Bulletin of the Men's and Women's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc.

2015, Volume 73, Number 1
January

Upcoming Events

Date	Location	Event
Jan. 13	LHC	Gardening for Bees And Butterflies
Feb. 10	LHC	New Plants for 2015
Mar. 10	LWC	10 Plants You Should be Growing
Apr. 7	Macy's	Macy's/Bachman's Flower Show
May 12	SMG	Plant Sale and Auction

LHC = Lake Harriet Methodist Church, 4901 Chowen Avenue South, Minneapolis
 LWC= Lakewood Cemetery, 3600 Hennepin Ave. S, Minneapolis
 SMG= St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church, 3450 Irving Ave S, Minneapolis

More calendar information on Page 11

Note: Permanent reservations are in effect. Dinner is \$13.

Reservations or cancellations are required by Friday, Jan. 9 – **no later!** Call or e-mail Carole Ann Brekke (952-435-6029, numsix24@comcast.net) for your reservation or cancellation.

For last minute cancellations, call Alan Gallaher at 952-933-1713. If he can sell it, you won't be billed

Menu for January Dinner Meeting

- Stuffed Cabbage/Peppers with Rice and Ground Pork
- Pickled Beets
- Tossed Salad
- Dinner Rolls
- Cupcakes

January Program: Gardening for Bees & Butterflies by Heather Holm

Learn about the life cycles of bees and butterflies including where and when they nest, forage and seek shelter and food in our landscapes. Learn about pollination and which native plants are specifically pollinated by bees or butterflies. The top native plant species for different habitats will also be highlighted for both bees and butterflies including butterfly host plants.



Author of the recently released book *Pollinators of Native Plants*, Heather Holm is the owner of a Minnesota-based landscape design and consulting business specializing in native landscapes. She is a passionate advocate for the use of native plants to attract and support pollinators, beneficial insects, and wildlife in home landscapes, organic farms, and restored landscapes. Heather writes for the social media website Houzz about pollinators and native plants.

www.pollinatorsnativeplants.com

Looking ahead: February Program New Plants for 2015 by Meleah Maynard

Notes from the Prez

-- Tom McKusick

As we begin the new year, the MWGCM has a lot to look forward to. We saw unprecedented growth in 2014 – adding 19 new members – and they'll bring their ideas and energy to our club. I look forward to meeting all of them and learning about their gardening interests.



I also think the schedule of programs we have for next year promises to be a good one, with topics that span a wide range, and some of the most engaging presenters on the local scene. Take a look at the list on page 11 – I hope you will agree.

Speaking of programs, I'm excited about the topic at our January meeting, "Attracting Bees and Butterflies to Your Garden", presented by Heather Holm. I met Heather a little over a year ago when she contacted me about advertising her new book in *Northern Gardener*. She told me the title, "Pollinators of Native Plants," and I thought to myself, now that's a timely subject. Little did I realize just how timely it would become. As we all know now, the issue of bees and threats to them and to other pollinators exploded as one of the biggest stories of the year, and not just among gardeners. You could hardly open a newspaper without reading a story about the "pollinator crisis", and Heather's book was perfectly timed to ride the wave of interest. And for good reason; it's an expertly researched, comprehensive overview of the many beneficial insects that pollinate over 65 perennial plant species native to this region and to other parts of the US and southern Canada. Packed with 1600 photos, it's been widely praised and has quickly become a standard resource for anyone interested in pollinators. By the way, Heather will have copies of her book available for purchase at the meeting.

When I reflect on the past year, I'd like to give a special thanks to two people. I'm grateful to Sandra Abraham for the advice and help she has given me as Vice President. And I'd also like to thank Randi Larson for her service as club President. Even though both she and Larry encountered some health issues this year, she always approached her duties with her customary grace and generous spirit that we've come to know so well.

To all of you, a happy and healthy 2015.

Editor's Note

-- Mary Maynard

Happy New Year, everyone! This is the dangerous time of year, when the days are short and the shadows are long, and when everything seems possible when spring comes. We forget about our knees and our backs and our budgets and draw up ambitious plans for the coming season. Reality eventually strikes, but let's enjoy the rest and enthusiasm while we can.

A few things to note in this issue:

The proposed budget is printed on Page 10. The club will be voting on this budget at the January meeting.

And, if you're planning to attend the January meeting, don't forget to make your reservation for dinner. If you regularly attend, please talk to Carole Ann Brekke about getting on the permanent reservation list. It saves time!

And finally, we welcome a new contributor. New(er) member Theresa Rooney talks about being a plant geek on Page 9. I think many of us can identify with Theresa!

Treasurer's Snapshot

As of 12-15-2014

Checking balance	\$21,981
Designated Funds	
Lyndale Park Garden	\$ 2,731
Scholarship	\$10,890
Working Balance	\$ 8,360
 CD	 \$5,260

Membership Corner

Nineteen new members (a record number!) joined our club in 2014. Please help with membership retention by watching for their green name tags at meetings and reach out to them. Reinforce our being the **warm and welcoming club** we are.

Here's to a strong and vibrant club, continuing to grow and sharing a wealth of gardening knowledge in 2015!

Dinner Reservations, Please!

Judy Brooke, Catering Chair

As a club, we enjoy our catered dinners before the monthly programs. However, what's not so enjoyable is being the last person in the buffet line when the caterer is running out of food. But don't blame the caterer! He always brings extra. The problem: too many people don't make reservations!

The hospitality and catering committees took the dilemma to the Board's December meeting. Here's what was decided: **If you come to dinner without a reservation, you'll be asked to wait until those who have reservations have been through the buffet line. Those without reservations will bring up the rear.**

There's always a monthly reminder about dinner reservations in bold print on the front page of the "Garden Spray". If you have questions about the "permanent reservation" process, please contact Carol Ann Brekke at 952-435-6029 and she will explain it. Thank you and happy dining!

Every Member Bring a Member



Farewell to Melba Gustafson

Bob Olson



Long time MWGCM member Melba Gustafson passed away peacefully in October. She and husband Walt were devoted gardeners as well as active club members. When given a task they always exceeded expectations – for the Gustafsons obstacles and problems were only “speed bumps”. When the tour committee in 1986 needed a third garden for the August tour, Melba and Walt not only volunteered, they insisted on catering the event themselves--serving roast beef along with produce from their own garden. The Gustafson’s had a

large lot in Edina along the Minnehaha Creek. Their newly created terraced gardens (filled with many yards of black dirt and compost wheeled up the hill by Melba) were overflowing with superb vegetables (some got blue ribbons at the FFF).

Fifteen picnic tables filled by hungry members were called one at a time to the buffet – but those at the end of the line never complained. Carafes of wine were in ample supply while they waited.

Once all the diners were seated Melba and Walt, consummate hosts, visited each table to sure all was well and to thank their guests for coming.

Years later people still talk about the visit to Melba and Walt’s. The Gustafsons never did anything halfway.

December 2014 Board Meeting Highlights

Laurie Levin, Recording Secretary

Departing board members were thanked for their service, and new members Bonnie Haehn and Steve Shubick were welcomed to the board. Meeting dates and locations were set.

In addition to dealing with routine business matters a discussion regarding meals at our monthly meetings continued from prior meetings, with two procedural decisions made:

1. Members who have not made a meal reservation for a meeting will be asked to wait until all the members with reservations have gone through the buffet line before getting their meals, and
2. A motion was passed regarding the cost paid to our caterer for meals:

*Motion was moved, seconded and approved to raise the price of meals paid to the caterer from \$12.03 per plate to \$12.33 per plate plus tax.

The full minutes are available to any member who'd like more information after the minutes have been approved by the Board. Please get in touch with Laurie for a copy.



Bachman Award Goes to Maury Lindblom

By Margaret Hibberd, 2013 Awardee

One of the greatest joys is to get something totally unexpected long before you think you deserve it – like a nice big promotion at work, years before you would ever expect it. This was how I felt last year in my emotional state when I received the Bachman Award and would like to again thank the committee that selected me.

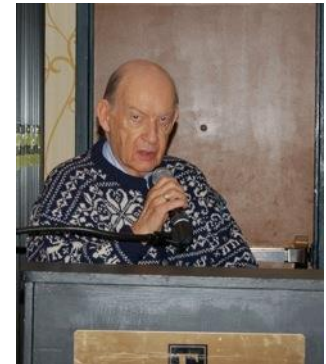
This year I chaired the committee made up of other available previous awardees Dave McKeen and Carole Ann Brekke. There were many good candidates to consider but this year's awardee stood out.

Our selected great gardener has been making contributions to the club since joining in middle age in the 1990's. This gardener served several years on the board including as President.

This gardener was an active tour participant having his garden on tour and showing how his garden evolved as he learned to grow more things in pots. To paraphrase our old friend, Eldon Hugelen, you need to grow plants to know him and this gardener did this in the same way many other things were studied. He knows his plants. This Renaissance man has travelled everywhere and is interested in many things beyond gardening and it is always a pleasure to talk to him about many things. Bob Olson refers to him as a walking (or maybe that was virtual) encyclopedia.

He is quiet yet dependable and you can count on him to show up and work as he has for many years on the FFF committee. He not only brought great material to the shows but showed up most days to help with the work of putting on the show. He was a strong competitor but always took time to help those who needed a little extra advice in how to show their plants. He also showed with Mary Maynard and me at the State Fair flower shows and in later years helped his young grandchildren with their own entries.

It is my great please to give this year's Bachmann Award for Outstanding Service to Maury Lindblom.



– Photo by Lloyd Wittstock

President's Award Goes to Larry Larson



Each year the President's Award goes to the Club member not on the Board who has provided the most help to the President. This year, the award went to First Gentleman Larry Larson. According to Randi, Larry was exceptionally helpful with anything related to the computer, and was always willing to provide gentle reminders of deadlines and deliverables. Since Larry was himself president in 2008, he was in a great position to provide insight and moral support throughout the year.

Thank you, Larry! Have fun keeping that silver cup polished!

--Photo by Lloyd Wittstock

Lehman Trophy Inexplicably Goes to Mary Maynard

Robert Kean

The Club handbook states that the Lehman trophy is: "Given to a member for the best garden on the summer tours. Selected by the Tour Committee, and as of 2000, limited to gardens on the members' tour."

There were six club member gardens on tour this year:

June (public) tour

Steve Shubick, Jerry Shannon.

July club tour

Gary Geister, Roger Koopmans.

August club tour

Bob Olson, Mary Maynard



Since the gardens on the Public tour were not eligible, the committee restricted consideration to the four gardens on the July and August club tours.

Despite historic traditions, the Committee found no specific direction in the handbook/bylaws on this issue of whether the award could be given to a member more than once for the same garden. So committee members were free to consider that or not when voting.

When the votes were counted, Mary Maynard was this year's recipient of the Lehman Trophy. Thanks once again to the members who opened their gardens this year. They were all excellent and made for a great summer of tours.

Nobody was more astonished than your editor when this award was announced. This is the absolute last trophy she ever expected to see her name on.

– Photo by Lloyd Wittstock

FFF Trophies Awarded

Winners of the Flower, Food and Foto trophies were announced back in August, but the winners got to take their trophies home in December. The Blackburn Trophy for the most points won in the flower competition went to Margaret Hibberd (right), and the Foley Trophy for most points in the vegetable competition went to Judy Berglund (left).

The Smith Trophy for best first-time exhibitor went to Mary Barsness (not pictured), and the Photo Trophy for the most points in the photography competition went to M.T. Pulley, who maintains his perfect record of never having attended the Holiday Party.

--Photo by Lloyd Wittstock



Scholarship Winners Past and Present

Photos by Lloyd Wittstock



At left, this year's scholarship winner Sarah Johnson is introduced by Scholarship Committee Chair Kent Petterson. Sarah is a student at the University of Minnesota.

At right, former scholarship winner Laura Schwarz came back and lets us know what she's been doing since she won a scholarship from us a few years back. Laura now works at Tangletown Gardens, writes regularly for the *Northern Gardener*, and will be our speaker in September.

--Photos by Lloyd Wittstock

2014 Holiday Party Faux Awards

Andy Marlow, Mary Maynard, Bob Olson

Photos by Lloyd Wittstock

Tonight we'll be awarding all sorts of cups, plaques and trophies. They've all been considered and voted on by prestigious committees and past recipients. But they're all pretty serious. So a small group of us decided we needed some more light-hearted awards. So the following recognitions can be blamed solely on Mary Maynard, Andy Marlow and Bob Olson.

Our first award goes to Larry Larson. You all know about the First Lady. We're presenting Larry with the **First Gentleman Award**, for being the first member-consort of a President in MWGCM history. We considered naming the Prince Phillip Award after the husband of the British Monarch, but we decided Randi wields more power than Elizabeth!



The next award is a certificate of achievement. It's being given to Margaret Hibberd and Nancy Bjerke for sharing two club positions on the Board of Directors for two years among two people. But, considering the circumstances, they each only get half of the award.

(Hope you are feeling better, Nancy!)

Continued on next page

Faux Awards – *Continued*

The **That's Good Training Award** goes to Carole Ann Brekke. In case you don't know, for many years Carole Ann was a school bus driver. And we're giving her this award for applying her experience managing all the rowdy kids on the bus to the job of managing all the MWGCM members while taking dinner reservations for the last decade.



Roger Koopmans, come on up. You were scheduled to receive an award for **Best Food Ever on a Garden Tour**. But somehow Marlene Gustafson's name ended up on the certificate. Maybe you can get it to her.

We've had to create a totally new award for Gary Opperman. It's the **Pale Green Thumb Award** for best attendance at MWGCM events by a non-member. And we won't make you repeat the green thumb pledge.



Chuck Carlson should have gotten the Kodak Award many years ago for all the photos he's taken at MWGCM events. But times change and now that we've finally gotten around to honoring him, it's been renamed the **iPhone Award**.

The **Not-Quite-Arboretum Award** goes to Jerry Shannon (who was too quick for our photographers). The Shannon garden is undoubtedly for the second-most-toured garden in the Twin Cities. Thank you, Jerry and Lee, for always inviting us in!

Several of us have had experience with this, including a couple of the honorees coming up in a minute. The **Honorary Judeo/Catholic Award** for outstanding use of guilt in convincing members to have their gardens on tour and to serve on the Board of Directors goes to Robert Kean.



Many of us have hobbies in addition to gardening. Dave McKeen is no exception. He is the recipient of The High as a Kite award, not because he uses drugs or drinks to excess, but because he actually flies kites

Then we have a fake gift certificate to hand out to our President Elect Tom McKusick, who is also going to continue to manage our programs and has recently committed to be the next editor of *The Garden Spray*, we present a gift certificate for a copy Nancy Reagan's book *Just Say No* in case you aren't familiar with that concept.



Enabling my 'Plant Geekiness'

Theresa Rooney

I come by my love of gardening honestly. Both grandfathers had large vegetable gardens; one grandmother had a great flower garden. Mom always had flowers and vegetable gardens and lots of house plants.

As a teenager, my bedroom sported spider plants in every window (in my very own hand crafted macramé hangers), purple passion vine clambered up the side of the windows and rubber trees, dieffenbachia and of course the huge split leaf philodendron all jostled for space amidst the numerous books.

It didn't occur to me that every teenage girl's bedroom didn't look like mine!

That was a shock to me. Did you know that most people don't have tons of houseplants all over their living rooms either?

When I left home and my apartments were filled with plants. I had learned by now that I was 'different' from most people and they didn't really want to know that my Mother-In-Law Tongue was blooming, the petunia seedlings had succumbed to damping off or the pothos was threatening to take over the apartment. I kept that information to myself. The majority of my friends also were not aware of my nearly 'stalker-like' watching of garden and home improvement shows (before cable, thank you PBS). I was a 'plant geek' in secret. Then I purchased a home and started 'really gardening'.

All was going well- I mean I kept my geekiness under wraps- until I attended a seminar by a 'Master Gardener'. She loved plants and knew what she was talking about. I think I sensed a fellow 'plant geek'. After class I spoke with her and she encouraged me to apply. I did apply to the Master Gardener program, still I have no idea why they accepted me, but I am so glad that they did.

There are other 'plant geeks' out there! I am not alone. Other people get excited to learn about weird fungal growths in the garden. Other people are thrilled to see the 'newest' apples that the 'U' is promoting. Other people are really interested in learning about invasive species- plants and insects. My world suddenly opened up. I had found my 'tribe'.

Being a Master Gardener does not mean I know everything, in fact most MGs will admit they know little. But we often know where to find the information, how to ask questions to get to the 'real issue' and we have access to the best information from the University of Minnesota.

I love being able to share what I learn with my neighbors and others in the Metro area. And when I get together with other MGs we all know that we can be 'plant geeks' and we are in a safe place.

Of course as a Master Gardener I am able to 'find' other connections too. Like this Garden Club! I am so excited to be a part of this group and look forward to learning from my fellow 'plant geeks' and sharing whatever knowledge I have with this group.

Editor's note: Theresa Rooney is a new MWGCM member. You may remember that she and Kate Netwal were our speakers last October. Theresa is the one who has chickens.

Proposed MWGCM 2015 Budget

To be approved by the membership at the January meeting

Category	2014 Actual	2014 Budget	2015 Budget	
Income				
MWGCM Dues	\$1,960.00	\$1,300.00	\$1,800.00	
Holiday Party	\$1,385.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	
Holiday Party - Silent Auction	\$698.00	\$650.00	\$650.00	
Hospitality - Meals	\$5,416.00	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00	
Plant Auction	\$6,308.02	\$6,000.00	\$6,500.00	
Donations (to general fund)	\$160.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	
Tours - Club	\$1,130.00	\$750.00	\$750.00	
	\$17,057.02	\$17,400.00	\$18,400.00	
Expenses, Fixed				
Hospitality - Room Rental	-\$600.00	-\$500.00	\$0.00	
Hospitality - Meals	-\$5,489.34	-\$7,000.00	-\$7,000.00	
Hospitality - Other	-\$142.46	-\$100.00	-\$100.00	
Programs	-\$218.00	-\$1,000.00	-\$800.00	
Arboretum Membership (sustaining)	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$500.00	
Directory	-\$175.08	-\$250.00	-\$250.00	
Garden Spray	-\$142.46	-\$350.00	-\$425.00	
Insurance (liability)	-\$265.00	-\$275.00	-\$275.00	
Office Supplies	-\$139.95	-\$125.00	-\$150.00	
President's Contingency fund	-\$128.09	-\$200.00	-\$200.00	
Membership	-\$75.69	-\$225.00	-\$150.00	
Website (renewed every 2 years, \$275)		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Expenses, Committees				
Arbor Day	-\$200.00	-\$200.00	-\$200.00	
Awards and Trophies	-\$117.17	-\$125.00	-\$125.00	
Flower, Food & Foto Show	-\$805.73	-\$800.00	-\$800.00	
Historian	\$0.00	-\$50.00	-\$25.00	
Holiday Party	-\$1,942.01	-\$1,500.00	-\$1,500.00	
MWGCM-TV	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Lyndale Park Garden	-\$235.16	-\$150.00	-\$500.00	
Photography	\$0.00	-\$100.00	-\$50.00	
Plant Auction	-\$3,555.43	-\$3,500.00	-\$3,500.00	
Publicity	-\$491.53	-\$400.00	-\$400.00	
Sunshine	-\$43.96	-\$250.00	-\$200.00	
Tours Club	-\$1,113.46	-\$500.00	-\$750.00	
Tours Public	-\$620.47	-\$200.00	\$0.00	
Expenses, Donations				
MN Landscape Arboretum	-\$500.00	-\$500.00	\$0.00	
MN State Hort. Society	\$500.00	-\$200.00	-\$500.00	
		-\$18,500.00	-\$18,400.00	
Income minus Expenses	\$556.03	-\$1,100.00	\$0.00	
Designated Funds				
(For Information only)	Prebal. + Donate	Expense	Balance	
Memorials/Park Garden	\$3,507.00	\$776.00	\$2,731.00	
Scholarship	\$11,890.00	-\$1,000.00	\$10,890.00	

Calendar of Events

January 13, 2015

Gardening for Bees and Butterflies
Heather Holm
Lake Harriet Methodist Church

February 10, 2015

New Plants for 2015
Meleah Maynard
Lake Harriet Methodist Church

March 10, 2015

Ten Plants You Should be Growing
Ted Beverly
Lakewood Cemetery

April 7, 2015

Macy's/Bachman's Flower Show
Macy's

May 12, 2015

Plant Sale and Auction
St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church, Minneapolis

June 9, 2015

Martagon Lilies
Frans Officer
Lakewood Cemetery

July, 2015 (Date TBA)

Garden Tour?

August 15-16, 2015

Flower, Food and Foto Show
U of M Landscape Arboretum

August, 2015 (Date TBA)

Garden Tour?

September 8, 2015

Laura Schwarz of Tangletown Gardens
Gardening in the Minneapolis Downtown
Improvement District
Lakewood Cemetery

October 13, 2015

Roses Return: New Hardy Shrub Roses for the
North
David Zlesak
Lakewood Cemetery

November 10, 2015

TBA
Lakewood Cemetery

December 8, 2015

Holiday Party

This Month's Contributors: Thank You!

Printed Content: Nancy Bjerke, Judy Brooke, Alan Gallaher, Margaret Hibberd, Robert Kean, Laurie Levin, Andy Marlow, Mary Maynard, Tom McKusick, Bob Olson, Theresa Rooney.

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**MEN'S and WOMEN'S
GARDEN CLUB OF
MINNEAPOLIS, INC.**



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Club Officers:

President: Tom McKusick
Minneapolis
Vice President: Judy Brooke
Minnetonka
Recording Secretary: Laurie Levin
Golden Valley
(Membership Secretary: Judy Brooke)
Minnetonka
Treasurer: Alan Gallaher
Edina
Past President: Randi Larson
Minnetonka
Directors:
Judy Berglund
Minnetonka
Bonnie Haehn
Minneapolis
Steve Shubick
St. Paul

The Spray

The *Garden Spray* is published monthly by the Men's and Women's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc. for its members. The Men's and Women's Garden Club of Minneapolis is a not-for-profit, equal opportunity organization.

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The Garden Spray

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First Class Mail

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