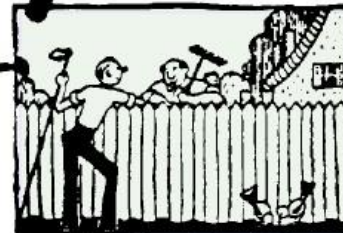




The Garden Spray

Bulletin of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc

2011, Volume 69, Number 2



Upcoming Events

Date	Location	Event
Feb. 1	R. Kean	Board Mtg.
Feb 8	LHC	Russ Henry: Permaculture
Mar. 1	J. Johnson	Board Mtg.
Mar 8	LHC	New Trends in water gardens
Apr 5	Bachman/Macy's	Flower Show
May 2	S. Aaseng	Board Mtg.
May TBD	WLC	Plant Sale and Auction
June	TBD	TBD

LHC = Lake Harriet Church, 4901
Chowen Ave S., Mpls. (Lower level)
WLC= Westwood Lutheran Church
9001 Cedar Lake Rd S, St. Louis Pk

February Program

Permaculture Principles in Urban and Suburban Landscape Design

Russ Henry and Stefan Meyer

From urban farming to rooftop gardens, from zero waste cities to edible urban forests, permaculture design principles represent sustainable human land use. Russ Henry owner of Giving Tree Gardens (and MCGM member) and Stefan Meyer of Growing Lots Urban Farm will speak on their use of permaculture principles in urban and suburban landscape design. Bring your sustainability questions.

Russ Henry, owner of Giving Tree Gardens has been leading a garden evolution since his feet hit the ground in Minneapolis a decade ago. Urban Farming, Habitat Creation, Award Winning Gardens, Restorative Justice, Garden Education, Waste Reduction, and Sustainability Consultation are among the passions that motivate Russ Henry's work. Learn more at givingtreegardens.com
Stefan Meyer, owner of Growing Lots Urban Farm is one farmer who's not about to let pavement stand in his way. Transforming a parking lot in the Seward Neighborhood into a CSA farm, Stefan Meyer is leading the way in the Minneapolis permaculture movement. Learn more at <http://growinglots.blogspot.com/>
(Schedule on p. 3)

Note: Permanent reservations are in effect. Dinner is \$12. Reservations or cancellations are required by the Friday before the meeting. Carole Ann is out of town. For this month only, call or e-mail Andy Marlow (952-933-5759, ajmarlow@comcast.net) for your reservation or cancellation. For last minute cancellations, call Andy. If he can sell it, you won't be billed.



Notes from the Prez:

-- Kay Wolfe

“State of the Club”
February is time for the “State of the Union” address, or the governor gives us the “State of the State”. What about the “State of the Club?” *“Our ‘By-Laws’ declare that from time to time, the President shall give to the ‘Board’ information about the state of our club. For ‘220 years’—oops! 59 years--our leaders have fulfilled this duty. They’ve done so during periods of prosperity and tranquility.”* And so on..... Well, not quite applicable to our club. So much for following the 2010 State of the Union address as an example!

But what is the State of our Club? Can we tell by looking at numbers? Last year the Board was very concerned about membership. At the end of 2010 we had 101 members. At the end of 2009 we had 97--a slight increase for 2010. The second most important concern of the Board was Programs--good programs make a good club. In 2010 we created a new Program Committee, which has already had a meeting in 2011 under the leadership of VP Robert Kean. Meeting attendance was up in 2010--roughly 10 % over 2009. Meetings like the Tomato Fest were well attended. But do we just count numbers?

How do we best evaluate the state of our club? There may be many opinions--different values for each of us. I think our 2010 programs were very educational. We have had a strong and diversified Board of Directors--and 2011 looks to be a good year. The club is well funded. End of year balances have increased in 2009 and 2010. Where does club funding come from? Dues that we all pay. But most of our club’s

income comes from the Plant Sale and Auction held in May. The club’s budget projects that this year’s sale will bring in \$3200, while dues revenue is \$1700. The third income source is the holiday party silent auction, with \$600 expected. Good funding makes a strong club.

Our club is dedicated to community service. It is important to give to our community--and we certainly excel here. Our two big projects are the Lyndale Park Garden and Scholarships. These involve three committees: the Lyndale Park Garden Committee, the Public Tour Committee which raises money for scholarships, and the Scholarship Committee, which determines the scholarship winners. The club donates the plant material for the display garden for the Lyndale Park project. The biggest donation is garden maintenance--the committee works about 300 hours per season. Translate that to dollars: 300 times \$50 per hour is \$15,000! Club members also donated many hours last year to hold public garden tours, and raised almost \$2400 for scholarships. These are the efforts of committed club members.

Attendance, educational programs, funding, and community service are not all. Being in a club must be FUN! In that spirit, I therefore declare we become the “Women’s Garden Club of Minneapolis” for 2011! And of course, it must be the “Year of the Hat.” Those of a similar persuasion are invited to join me—wear your favorite chapeau to the February meeting. Attend, learn, share knowledge, volunteer, raise funds, but most of all, let’s have FUN in 2011!

Kay Wolfe
MGCM President, 2011



Editor's Note

-- Mary Maynard

This is the time of year that I'm reaching for any little sign that spring is coming. Here are some astronomical or meteorological factoids that keep me going through the dark hours of winter in Minnesota.

(Based on Daily Averages for Zip Code 55424 on Weather.com)

December 4: Sun sets at 4:32 p.m. The sun never sets any earlier than 4:32.

December 16: Sun sets at 4:33. Sunsets start getting later. (Sunrises keep getting later, too, for a while, due to irregularities in the earth's elliptical orbit. [Don't ask for details!])

December 21: The solstice. The darkest of the dark days. It never gets any worse!

January 1: Sunrise at 7:52 a.m. Sunrise is never later than 7:52.

January 5: Sunrise is at 7:51 a.m. Sunrises start getting earlier! The day is getting longer at both ends.

January 17: Sunset is after 5:00 p.m.

January 18: Average mean temperature starts going up. From 12 degrees to 13!

February 4: Sunrise at 7:30 a.m.

February 7: Sunset at 5:30 p.m.

February 15: Many municipalities stop maintaining outdoor skating rinks because it is too warm!

February 24: Sunrise at 7:00 a.m.

March 1: Sunset after 6:00 p.m.

March 13: Daylight Saving Time begins.

March 21 (or thereabouts): Spring Equinox. Same amount of daylight at same parallel in northern and southern hemispheres. (Not, interestingly, the day where daylight and night are equal. That's more like March 17th or 18th.) We can make it from here!

Those of you who missed January's program with Prof. Gary Johnson missed an outstanding presentation. It was disconcerting to learn that pretty much everything we knew about tree roots was wrong, but at least now we know!

And in February we'll be hearing from our own member Russ Henry. I look forward to seeing all of you at the February meeting.



Professor Johnson genially pointing out that everything we (and he) learned about tree roots over the years is just plain wrong.

- Photo by Lloyd Wittstock

February Meeting Info (cont. from Page 1)

The Schedule:

- 6:00 Conversation Hour
- 6:30 Dinner: cost is \$12
- 7:15 Business Meeting
- 7:30 Program

Dinner Menu

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Caesar salad | Walleye with almonds |
| Dilled potatoes | Peas |
| Dinner Rolls | Chocolate mousse cake |
| Beverages: Coffee, Tea, and Milk. | |



2010 President's Award Winner: Elizabeth Hamilton

Extracts from 2010 President Don Untiedt's presentation at the January meeting

The President's Cup is awarded by the outgoing President to a non-officer, non-director who provided outstanding assistance to the President during the term. The Cup was donated by the nieces and nephews of club member Dr. Joseph Cohen to honor his memory.

Our 2010 Winner

In the year past this person has contributed immensely to what I and the board members have attempted to bring to MGCM.

- Our 2010 winner has been a club member since 2002.
- For 5 years from 2005 through 2009 she served the club as a Director.
- Remarkably, she perhaps became even more active having left the board serving on 4 committees this year—the plant sale, the club tour, the public tour, and for her excellent chairmanship of a committee that has immensely helped our club – hospitality.
- Perhaps the interest in the latter started by her volunteering for the juice bar at our social hour in 2009. With her hospitality chairmanship her contributions expanded to the introduction of “table talk” topics at each meeting. Who can forget all the centerpieces at our autumn meetings that were created by our 2010 Presidents Club winner Elizabeth Hamilton?
- Most of all though Elizabeth is known for her “green thumb” and her willingness to help us all become better gardeners. It is said that no one in the club knows more Latin botanical names of plants than Elizabeth. In 2010 she had a private sale of plants from her beautiful garden. She invited all of us and the gardening public.

- Clearly Elizabeth Hamilton is a model member of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis. Won't you join me in paying tribute to Elizabeth?



Unfortunately, Elizabeth was ill and wasn't able to attend the January club meeting. Here's a snapshot of Elizabeth in her lovely garden from a few years ago.

– Photo by Mary Maynard



The Cup

--Photo by Lloyd Wittstock



Treasurer's Snapshot

As of 1-17-2010

Checking balance	\$10,402.07
CD	\$5,000.00
Designated Funds	
Memorials/Park Garden	\$1,580.18
Scholarship Fund	\$2,303.43
Working Balance	\$6,518.46

Membership Corner

A couple of directory corrections and a question from Membership Secretary Sharla Aaseng:

1. Mollie Dean should be on the Master Gardeners list, and was the Rookie of the Year in 2006
2. Lloyd Wittstock is a member of the TV Committee
3. Does anyone know who was Rookie of the Year in 2005? If so, please let Sharla know!

Welcome, 2011 Officers and Board!

New officers and directors were installed in a solemn ceremony at the January meeting. We thank the new board for their service to the club.



L to R: Jason Rathe, Director; Don Untiedt, Past President; Jan Johnson, Recording Secretary; Kay Wolfe, President; Robert Kean, Vice President; Andy Marlow, Treasurer; Sharla Aaseng, Membership Secretary; Maury Lindblom, Director. Not pictured: Gary deGrande, Director. -- Photo by Lloyd Wittstock



2010 Rookies of the Year



Judy Brooke and Tim Malooly receive their Rookie of the Year awards from Awards Chairman Chuck Carlson. (Our third Rookie, Jean Strande, received her award in December.)



Lucy Dinsmore, a past scholarship winner, visited us in January. Here she is with outgoing Pres Don.



Green Thumb Awards



Lynda Carlson taking the Green Thumb pledge administered by Chuck Carlson. Green Thumb certificates are presented to members who attended every Club meeting or activity in the previous year. Not pictured: Judy Berglund, who will not get a Green Thumb Award for 2011!
-- Photos by Lloyd Wittstock

The Green Thumb Pledge

**I pledge my life to the Spade.
As long as I can spade in the shade.
With a heart that is clean,
And a thumb that is green.
Ah! That's the life that I crave!**

-Bill Hull



2010 Dirty Fingernail Awards: A New Award! Chuck Carlson

We all know the green thumb is something gardeners like to have. We should really be thankful for dirty fingernails too. It means that we got to go out and work in the garden!

So we decided to have a “Dirty Fingernails” award for perfect attendance at our dinner meetings. There were four individuals that met this requirement: Carole Ann Brekke, Chuck Carlson, Bob Livingston and Andy Marlow.



Chuck, Carole Ann, Bob and Andy.

– Photo by Lloyd Wittstock



FYI for Those of Us Over 70 ½

The tax law allowing us to send contributions directly from our required minimum distribution (RMD) to a 501(c3) and avoid income tax was renewed in the new tax bill. If you don't need or want your RMD, I'd suggest sending some to MGCM. My personal bias is the Scholarship fund, but there are other possibilities. I'd love to see us return to \$1,000 scholarships to reflect the soaring cost of tuition. Contact your financial advisor for the correct procedure.

---Jan Johnson

2011 FFF Featured Flower and Vegetable

The Flower, Food and Foto Show Committee has selected beets and annual asters as this year's featured vegetable and flower. It's not too soon to browse through the catalogs and pick up a few varieties to grow. There are some very interesting beet varieties these days, and annual asters are usually at their peak for the August show.



--Photos courtesy of Park Seed.



Getting to Know Your Board Member: Andy Marlow, Treasurer

Andy has been a member of MGCM since 1980 and has served the club in a number of capacities. He's been secretary, vice-president, president, past president and a director. He has chaired the Flower and Vegetable Show (before it became FFF), Holiday Party and *Garden Spray* Committees. He is currently the MGCM webmaster and serves as unofficial parliamentarian for the Board. He co-chairs the MGCM-TV committee and is active on the Photography Committee, frequently serving as a judge for the annual photo (or Foto) contest when he isn't entering his own work.

For six years Andy was editor of the *Garden Spray* and adapted it to electronic layout. Before that it was pieced together and literally pasted up for photocopying. Andy had apprenticed under 22-year editor Ed Culbert, a master of physical cut-and-paste, before assuming the reins himself.

Andy was awarded the Bronze Medal (predecessor to the Bachman Distinguished Service Award) and his name is engraved on the President's Cup. He is also proud to have received both the Green Thumb and Dirty Fingernail awards for meeting attendance.

Andy's gardening interests are hostas, shade gardening and garden photography and videography. He retired in 2009 after 36 years working at the University of Minnesota's radio station KUOM, also known as Radio K.





Minutes of MGCM Board

January 3, 2011

Present: Kay Wolfe, Robert Kean, Sharla Aaseng, Andy Marlow, Jason Rathe, Maury Lindblom, Gary DeGrande, Don Untiedt

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 by President Kay Wolfe.

Recording Secretary's report: The November 2, 2010 minutes were approved.

Treasurer's report: Andy presented the year-end budget report. We ended the year with a surplus. The budget for 2011 was presented, discussed and approved for presentation to the general membership at the January meeting.

President's report: Kay presented the committee chairs and board liaisons. Board liaisons agreed to the assignments. She asked liaisons to attend committee meetings and report to the Board.

Vice President's report: The February program will feature MGCM Russ Henry speaking about permaculture as it relates to landscaping in February. March topic is new trends in the industry. Macy's flower show in April will be the program.

Membership Secretary's report: Sharla said that we had 101 members at the end of 2010 and so far 87 members have renewed or joined this year. We have 7 honorary members. The directory will be available at the January meeting. The club is 40% women.

Old Business: Table set up and clearing was discussed. Sharla agreed to organize the process for January and figure out how to do it the rest of the year. Vice President Kean will be in charge of the microphone.

Dates for the club and board meetings and activities were discussed and approved. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Johnson, Recording Secretary

MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.



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Club Officers:

President: Kay Wolfe

2740 Florida Ave S, St. Louis Park

Vice President: Robert Kean

3136 James Ave. S, Minneapolis

Recording Secretary: Jan Johnson

3005 Scott Ave. N., Golden Valley

Membership Secretary: Sharla Aaseng

1025 20th Ave. SE, Minneapolis

Treasurer: Andy Marlow

10700 Minnetonka Blvd, Hopkins

Past President: Don Untiedt

12070 48th Ave. No, Plymouth

Directors:

Gary DeGrande

4100 Oakmede Lane, White Bear Twp.

Maury Lindblom

6105 Lincoln Dr. #305, Edina

Jason Rathe

116 Cedar Lake Rd. S, Mpls.

The Spray

The Garden Spray is published monthly by the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc. for its members.

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Return To:

The Garden Spray

Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc.

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First Class Mail

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