



May 2016

## The Garden Spray

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Plant Sale Schedule

# ANNUAL MWGCM PLANT SALE AND AUCTION

Tuesday, May 10  
St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church  
3450 Irving Avenue, Minneapolis

## Schedule of Events

2:00 Country Store (plant sale) opens\*

3:00 Pre-order plants available for pick-up

6:00 Country Store closes

6:00 Dinner is served in the dining room overlooking Lake Calhoun

6:45 Live auction begins as soon as everyone is finished with dinner

\*Please note the Country Store opens one hour earlier this year.

***We will accept MasterCard and Visa for your plant purchases.***

Spring has Sprung: To the MWGCM Plant Sale We Will Run

For the third year we will have our annual plant sale and auction in the great hall at St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church. Again note the Country Store will be open an hour earlier than in the past, from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. Please let neighbors, co-workers, relatives and other gardeners know about this sale.

Last July, JoAnne and I toured a number of wholesale trial gardens in southern Michigan and we have purchased a number of new plants that we saw on this tour. It was a feast for the eyes.

If you have any plant tray containers collecting dust at home, bring them to the sale. Also if you have plants for the Country Store or the live auction, you can drop them off at the church after 4:00 p.m. Monday before or anytime the day of the sale.

You will find many new plants at the sale plus a lot of plants new out on the market. I think I went overboard!

-- Gary Geister

Plant Sale Dinner

Bonnie Haehn

Menu for May Dinner following the Plant Sale

Turkey Gorgonzola Salad with Craisins  
Fresh Green salad  
Bread  
Fresh Fruit  
Rum Cake

- Permanent reservations are in effect.
- Dinner is \$13.
- Reservations or cancellations are required no later than Friday, May 6.
- Email [Carole Ann Brekke](mailto:CaroleAnnBrekke@gmail.com) or call (952) 435-6029.
- For last-minute cancellations, call Alan Gallaher at (952) 933-1713. If he can sell it, you won't be billed.

## Plant Sale List

Gary Geister, Chair

### A PARTIAL LIST OF PLANTS AVAILABLE AT THE MAY 10 PLANT SALE

#### Plants of Note

'Ketchup 'n' Fries™' -- A tomato plant that has been grafted on to a potato plant.\*

'Night Sky' petunia -- Dark blue-purple petunia with star-like specks.\*

Gryphon Begonia -- Non-flowering, shade-loving\*

Homalocladium 'Ribbons and Curls' -- A great nonflowering filler plant for containers.

Mexican Sunflower -- 5- to 6-ft. foot tall butterfly magnet

'Dragon Wing' begonias -- In pink or red; blooms all summer.

Calynopsis Dark -- Red or red with yellow with small pouch-shaped flower

Night-blooming Cereus

FFF Vegetable of the Year: Tomato

FFF Flower of the Year: Petunia

\* These plants were featured in the [March Garden Spray](#).



*Homalocladium 'Ribbons and Curls'*



*Origanum 'Amethyst Falls'*

#### Annuals

Alternanthera 'Burgundy Threads'  
 Amaranthus 'Love Lies Bleeding', 'Green Cascade'  
 Argyranthemum 'Pink Reflections'  
 Asparagus Sprengerii  
 Begonia 'Dragon Wing Red', 'Dragon Wing Pink', 'Nonstop Mocca' 'Deep Orange', 'Pink Charm,' 'Moroccan'  
 Bractrantha 'Cottage White'  
 Calibrachoa 'Magenta Mayhem'  
 Calynopsis (deep red, red with yellow)  
 Celosia 'Forest Fire'  
 Cosmos (lavender)  
 Crossandra 'Orange Marmalade'  
 Cyprus Papayrus 'King Tut'  
 Dichondra 'Silver Falls'  
 Dorotheanthus 'Candy Apple Red'  
 Euphorbia 'Soft Pink'  
 Four O'clocks (mixed)  
 Geraniums (red, red with cream)  
 Guara 'Little Janie'  
 Helichrysum Licorice 'Grey', 'Icicles'  
 Homalocladium 'Ribbons and Curls'  
 Impatiens 'Variegated Salmon Spread'  
 Lophospermum (wine red, compact white, compact red)  
 Marigolds 'Lemon Gem'  
 Mexican Petunias  
 Mexican Sunflowers  
 Nicandra 'Variegated Apple of Peru'  
 Origanum 'Amethyst Falls', 'Kents Beauty'

Oxalis 'Burgundy Gold'  
 Pentas 'Graffiti Lipstick'  
 Persian Shield  
 Petunias 'Night Sky', 'Headliner Pink Star', 'Surfina Heavenly Blue', 'Surfina Deep Red', 'Tidal Wave Silver', 'Tidal Wave Red Velour'  
 Plectranthus 'Zulu Wonder', 'Hillardiae Red'  
 Purple Fountain Grass  
 Rudbeckia 'Cherry Brandy'  
 Salvia 'Black, Blue', 'Hotlips', 'Argentea', 'Sallyfun™ Snow White'  
 Scaevola 'Diamond'  
 Setcrecea 'Purple Heart'  
 Shrimp Plant (bright yellow flower)  
 Snapdragons 'Day and Night'  
 Solanum Jasminoides 'Variegata'  
 Sweet potato vine 'Camouflage', 'Blackie', 'Margarita'  
 Talinum (Jewels of Opar)  
 Texas Hummingbird Sage  
 Verbena 'Lanai', 'Twister Pink', 'Homestead Purple', 'Bonariensis'  
 Vinca 'Wojo's Gem'  
 Wire vine (muelenbeckia)  
 Zinnias Scabiosa mix, 'Whirly Gig', 'Elegans Pinca', 'California Giant', 'Hidden Dragon', 'Peppermint Stick', 'Cactus,' 'Masurkia'



*Begonia 'Dragon Wing' red*

**Coleus**

Bright Ruffles  
 Cracklin' Rosie  
 Dark Ruffles

**Perennials**

Allium 'Millennium'  
 Angelina Gingas  
 Bergenia 'Sakura', 'Purpurascens'

Florida Sunshine  
Inky Fingers  
Kingwood  
Nightmare  
Pistachio  
Red Ruffles  
Roaring Fire  
Ruffles  
Sangria  
Silk Sunset  
Solar Sunrise  
Stormy Weather  
Tapestry

### **Novelty Annuals**

Cardoons-Artichokes  
Cotton  
Ornamental poinsettia peppers  
Pumpkin on a Stick

### **Succulants**

Crassula falsata  
Crassula perferata vareigatea  
Crassula princess pine  
Kalanchoe beharensis  
Sempervivium 'Hopewell'  
Sempervivium 'Oddity'  
Sempervivium 'Red Ruben'

### **Vines**

Cardinal vine  
Cypress vine corkscrew vine  
Hops (perennial)  
Hyacinth bean  
Lemon Lace™  
Morning Glory  
Scarlet runner bean

### **Tomatoes**

Beefsteak  
Brandywine  
Cherry Falls  
Roma

### **Herbs**

African Blue basil

Climbing Bleeding Heart (bi-annual)  
Dianthus 'Cherry Jolt'  
Echinacea 'Pow Wow Berry', 'Kim's Knee High'  
Geum 'Triflorum', 'Cocktail Sangria'  
Hibiscus 'Pink Swirl'  
Iris 'Contrast in Styles'  
Japanese Painted Fern  
Knautia 'Thunder and Lightning'  
Lobelia Cardinalis  
Monarda Bergamo  
Mukdenia 'Karasuba'  
Persicaria  
Phlox 'Flame Coral'  
Rodgersia 'Chocolate Wings'

### **Heucheras**

Berry Smoothie  
Brazen Raisin  
Cinnamon Curls  
Fire Alarm  
Grape Soda  
Mega Caramel (the largest heuchera)  
Melting Fire  
Midnight Rose  
Rave On  
Ruffles and Truffles

### **Clematis**

All are Zone 4 or lower  
Avant Garde: red flowers with pink petaloid stamens  
Contesse de Bouchaud: velvet rose-pink flowers  
Diamantina: blue-purple double flowers  
Giselle: New for 2016, purple-pink flowers  
Hercleifolia, Mrs. Robert Brydon: bluish-white flowers.  
Kilian Donohue: early bloomer, repeat summer bloomer  
Samaritan Jo: New for 2016, silvery pink edged in purple  
Sweet Summer Love: multi-colored cranberry and violet

### **Hostas**

[14 varieties, described in April Spray.](#)

### TIPS FOR COMPETING AT FLOWER AND VEGETABLE SHOWS

Join us Tuesday, June 14 when Judy Berglund, Margaret Hibberd, Mary Maynard and others clue us in on what it takes to be a contender. They'll demonstrate tips and strategies for showing floral arrangements, cut flowers, potted plants and vegetables at our own FFF Show and the flower shows at the Minnesota State Fair.

The judges at our FFF show always tell us that the FFF is the best show around for horticultural specimens. Get ready to join the fun!

### From the Editors

Tom McKusick, Nancy Felice

Last May I wrote in the *Spray* about how the MWGCM Plant Sale and Auction is my favorite of all our club's events. It's a day where I can combine one of my favorite things--shopping for plants--with talking to people about plants, especially the more unusual ones that Gary Geister grows for our sale.



I've always marveled at the eclectic assortment of plant material that Gary grows at home, but my appreciation for his efforts was really enhanced last year when I went to his house to help transport plants to the sale. There I found Gary in the nursery he sets up in his backyard each year, surrounded by a sea of plants of all types and sizes. The variety was really quite remarkable, and to see it all packed into such a confined space made it even more so. One thing was clear: Gary does it as a labor of love for the club, but also because he just loves growing plants so much. And we are the ones who benefit, both as shoppers who take home some stunning and unusual plants for a great price, and as club members who benefit from the revenue we raise through sales. I can't wait to see what he has in store for us this time. See you at the sale!

-- *Tom McKusick*

### 2016 FFF Show

Judy Berglund, Chair

2016 FLOWER, FOOD AND PHOTO SHOW

Saturday & Sunday, August 20 & 21 at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum

[2016 Flower and Vegetable Show Rules](#)

[2016 Photo Contest Rules](#)

We hope that all club members will consider bringing a few of their favorite flowers, vegetables and floral designs to the show this year. I will be on the hunt for some great petunias and tomatoes, our featured flower and vegetable, at the May plant sale.

The general rules are all on the club website along with all of the entry classes. (See link above.) There is even an example of how to fill out your entry tags. If websites are not your thing, please pick up one of the 2016 FFF Show booklets at the May plant sale/club meeting.

Happy gardening and see you at the FFF Show!!!

*--Judy Berglund*



### **Photo Contest 2016**

It's not too soon to start thinking about the 2016 Photo Contest! (See link above for rules.) There are two parts of the Photo Contest:

**Juried contest.** Entrants can submit up to 20 photos in digital format in 12 categories. Entries are due by July 31, 2016, and results of the judging will be announced at the Flower, Food and Foto Show in August. This contest is open to members and non-members. Certificates, ribbons and a traveling trophy are awarded.

**People's Choice contest.** Members can submit up to two prints, and attendees at the Flower, Food and Foto Show will vote for their favorites. Gift certificates are awarded for first, second and third place winners. The People's Choice contest is open to MWGCM members only. Entries for this part of the contest are also due on July 31.

If you're new to the photo contest, I encourage you to review your photos and choose a few to enter this year. If I can do it, anybody can! If you'd like to see some examples from previous years, [here's a link to the slide shows of winning photos from the past several years](#).

*--Mary Maynard*

## WHAT'S IN A NAME?

For the past 10 years I have been the chair of the Lyndale Park Garden Committee. From 2002 to 2005, it was called the Perennial Garden Committee. Last year club members formed a new garden committee also located in Lyndale Park. They focus on growing pollinator friendly native plants, and picked the name Native Garden Committee.



*Lyndale Park/Mixed Border Garden  
2013*

The 2015 Board of Directors (in the updated Handbook) continued to call my committee the Lyndale Park Garden Committee. But this gets confusing, since both committees work in gardens in Lyndale Park. To clarify, the directory and membership renewal forms call the two committees "Lyndale Park," followed by the name of the garden. The names of the two committees became "Lyndale Park/Mixed Border Garden" and "Lyndale Park/Native Garden."

So what is a Mixed Border? Many drop the word "mixed" and call it the "border garden." This is not correct--all of the gardens in this area of Lyndale Park are border gardens. In his 1925 landscape drawing, Theodore Wirth labeled them all border plantings. The name Mixed Border Garden is not commonly used in the U.S., but those from England would know right away what kind of garden this is. Google "mixed border garden" and you will get all kinds of beautiful photos of lush gardens.



*2014*

Here are a couple definitions: "A Mixed Border is just that: a section of the garden that consists of a mix of all kinds of garden plants, including trees, shrubs, sub-shrubs, vines, perennials, annuals and bulbs, all designed to work together as a whole." (From Mt. Hood Gardens, Inc.)

Another page says: "The Mixed Border is a proven horticultural concept, which originated in England, and advocates a natural, less formal landscape approach.

Small trees, dwarf conifers, and deciduous or evergreen shrubs are combined with dense plantings of suitable perennials and annuals, to form a harmonious plant community. The trees and shrubs provide the structure and vertical elements of the border. Perennials, ornamental grasses, and ground covers furnish flower color, later season interest, and the ground layer. The focus is not just on color, but also texture and shape of plants and garden features. Both harmony and contrast, and the balance of the two in a planting, are essential."

If you are interested in how we design and plant the Mixed Border Garden, or what plants we use, stop down on our



workdays. We are happy to share information. We will work every Tuesday morning in May (except for May 10, plant sale day). Check with us regarding our schedule, or send any garden questions to [mgcmgarden@q.com](mailto:mgcmgarden@q.com). In future *Spray* issues I will write about the garden-size conifers and new shrubs and trees we are planting this season.



2015

## Lyndale Park/Native Garden

Kirky Otto, Chair



*Early pollinator on sharp-lobed hepatica in the Native Garden. Photo by Kathy Lenarz.*

## SPRING EPHEMERALS

Stop by the Native Garden at Lyndale Park (across the street from the east end of the Rose Gardens at Lake Harriet) any time now, and you'll see that spring has begun.

The Buttercup (Ranunculaceae) family is one of the first to bloom there, and both sharp-lobed hepatica (*Hepatica acutiloba*) and rue anemone (*Anemonella thalictroides*) are shining examples. The flowers are very similar, but the leaves are distinctly different. The Geum triflorum (Prairie Smoke) are sending out their first flowers, nodding red-pink balls, which will soon give way to their seed heads, which look like smoke blowing in the breezes. The Jacob's Ladder are sturdy green clumps right now, but will be sending out blue flowers shortly. We'll need to deadhead them regularly so they don't take over the entire garden, but that's easily done when the Native Garden crew meets on Wednesday mornings.

There are no pasqueflower (*Anemone patens*) to bloom in the Native Garden yet, but

they've been ordered and there are examples in the Japanese garden right now. A year from now they should be blooming in the Native Garden as well! We are anxiously waiting to see whether the dozens of Jack-in-the-Pulpit pips that were donated last fall will come up, and looking for signs of the Dutchman's breeches, bloodroot, bluebells, trout lily, and half a dozen other gifts from club members.

The photo above was taken on Wednesday, April 13; having these charming blossoms in early spring is a gift that takes the sting from the short season they have to bloom. Get out in the garden early and often to enjoy their bounty!

## Membership Corner

Judy Brooke, Chair

### WELCOME THESE NEW MEMBERS

#### BETTE FENTON

Bette is a freelance marketing and communications director. She lives with her husband Curt in Hopkins on Hollyhock Lane, an appropriate address for a gardener. Her home sits on a large corner lot where she cultivates her gardens on all four sides blending perennials and bedding plants with her unique landscaping. Her backyard is surrounded by mature trees pruned to allow hundreds of shade-loving plants to flourish. Her many container designs are artfully created, overflowing with vibrant color combined with various leafy foliage. Her four grandchildren enjoy planting veggies and herbs which are picked fresh for summer recipes. What inspires Bette is "the sheer joy of watching something mature and grow." She is interested in garden design and maximizing her growing space.

-- *Sandra Mangel*

#### ANDRA HALL

Andra is a surgical nurse at Children's Hospital in Minneapolis. She has lived in her home for 20 years. "I purchased my home in the winter months and couldn't wait to see what would come up in the spring. Sadly, three tulips showed up!" Andra's co-worker Sandy Abraham has been giving her advice through the years and encouraged her to join our club. Andra has three grandchildren and started a tradition by planting a tree to honor the birth of each. "Every year I expand my garden taking away more lawn." She plants her boulevard, too. She likes to shop at Mother Earth, The Friends School Sale, and Farmers Market and says, "I am concerned about neonicotinoids, so I shop the co-ops too. I buy what I like with no major plan. Somehow it seems to work." Andra is excited about meeting gardeners who can share their trials and tribulations.

-- *Sandra Mangel*

Also please welcome Andrew Gawboy and Kay Harris. More about Andrew and Kay in the *June Garden Spray*.

*EVERY MEMBER BRING A MEMBER*

## In Memoriam



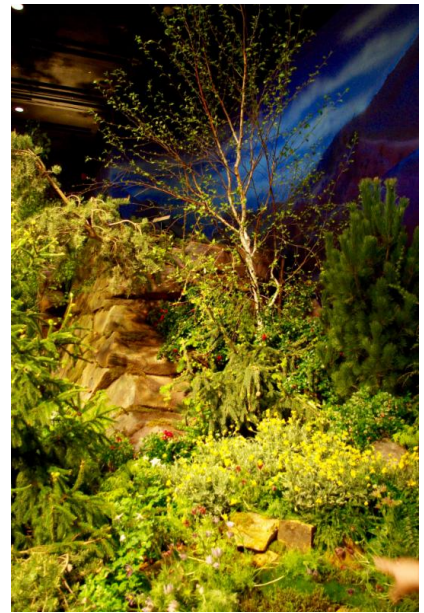
### Farewell to Don Morgenweck

Our friend and 20-year member Donald Morgenweck passed away on March 30, after a brief illness. Don had been a teacher in the Edina school system, and he joined the club after his retirement. Don opened his immaculate garden in St. Louis Park for club tours at least twice. (I particularly remember his hedge, which was trimmed to textbook perfection.) He will always be remembered for his kind and gentle nature. Our condolences to his wife Irene and the rest of his family. Rest well, Don.

-- *Mary Maynard*

## Flower Show Photos

Thanks to Andy Marlow for sharing photos from the 2016 Macy's Flower Show featuring Gardens by Bachman's. This year's theme was "America the Beautiful."



## Treasurer's Snapshot

Alan Gallaher, Treasurer

AS OF APRIL 14, 2016

|                                  |          |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| Checking Balance                 | \$86,278 |
| Designated Funds                 |          |
| Lyndale Park/Mixed Border Garden | \$2,983  |
| Scholarship                      | \$3,796  |
| Deane Fund                       | \$65,033 |
| Working Balance                  | \$14,466 |
| Petty Cash                       | \$100    |
| CD                               | \$5,282  |

## Meeting & Event Calendar

### May 10

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

### June 14

### September 13

Grow Native: Bringing Natural Beauty to  
your Garden  
Lakewood Cemetery

### October 11

Tips for Competing in Plant Shows  
Judy Berglund, Mary Maynard and Friends  
Lakewood Cemetery

Hydroponic Gardening  
Larry Cipolla  
Lakewood Cemetery

**July & August**

Garden Tours  
Dates and time TBA

**November 8**

Low Maintenance Lawn Care  
Sam Bauer  
Lake Harriet Methodist Church

**August 20 & 21**

Flower, Food and Foto Show  
U of M Landscape Arboretum

**December 13**

Holiday Party  
Location TBD

## 2016 Officers & Directors

### Club Officers

**President**

Judy Brooke  
Minnetonka

**Vice President**

Board shares responsibilities

**Membership Secretary**

Judy Brooke

**Recording Secretary**

Laurie Levin  
Golden Valley

**Treasurer**

Alan Gallaher  
Edina

**Past President**

Tom McKusick  
Minneapolis

### Directors

Judy Berglund  
Minnetonka

Bonnie Haehn  
Minneapolis

Dave McKeen  
St. Louis Park

Steve Shubick  
St. Paul

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