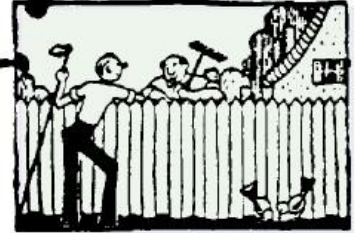




# The Garden Spray

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

2011, Volume 69, Number 7



## Upcoming Events

Date	Location	Event
July 12	East Metro	Club tour
August 7		Club tour
Aug 20-21	Arb.	FFF Show
Sept 13	LHC	Moonlight Gardens <i>Shirley Mah</i> <i>Kooyman</i>
Oct 11	LHC	Apples (Talk, Tasting) <i>Larry Enter</i>
Nov 15	LHC	Winter Containers <i>Duane Otto</i>
Dec 13	LHC	Holiday Party

LHC = Lake Harriet Church, 4901  
Chowen Ave S., Mpls. (Lower level)  
Arb=U of M Landscape Arboretum

**Note: Permanent reservations are not in effect for the July tour. Reservations must be received by July 9. See Page 4 for reservation form.**

## July Club Tour: Two New (to us) Gardens A Visit to the East Side of Town

Gary DeGrande and Nona Johnson will be opening their gardens to us on the evening of Tuesday, July 12. Thanks, Nona and Gary, for giving us a chance to get out to the east side of town!

This will be a drive-yourself tour. Here's the schedule:

**6:30-7:30** Gardens of Gary DeGrande (appetizers)  
**7:30-8:00** Drive time between locations  
**8:00-9:00** Gardens of Nona Johnson (desserts)

Cost for appetizers and desserts: \$8.00



Nona's patio



Gary's deck

-- Photos by Nona Johnson and Gary DeGrande

Directions, information about the gardens and reservation form on pages 3 & 4



## Notes from the Prez:

-- Kay Wolfe

Today is the Summer Solstice! Hooray—we have made it to summer. It is dark and rainy today, however, but summer is here none the less. The June outdoor program was fabulous. We had not had rain in many days/weeks, and our June event brought on a downpour. Everyone still seemed happy—we are not a bunch to have dampened spirits. However, touring the gardens at Kent's bookstore and at Jerry & Lee Shannon's was a bit wet. Kent had a good crowd gathered in his bookstore—I bought a copy of Vita Sackville-West's *Garden Book*. And Kent's miniature worlds in his window boxes were wonderful. And after Jerry showing us around his garden, I found more specimens that I want to try and grow. He and Lee have such an amazing collection and beautiful garden—one always learns something new the minute one walks onto their grounds—even if you are tucked under an umbrella. And they opened up their house for dessert and coffee so we didn't have to be in the rain. Thanks so much to all for a lovely and educational evening!

And now a word about dining. MGCM is a dining club. The Men's Garden & Dining Club of Minneapolis? I am certain that I have spent more time organizing where to eat the past two years than I have on gardening programs. And not only do we line up places to eat and the menus, we have members that take dinner reservations, collect dining fees, and set up and set tables—lots of effort every month. Unfortunately, the club needs help again. We need to find a new caterer in order to continue our dining tradition. If we do not get some volunteers, I am not sure that we can continue with this all important pastime. So, if you too believe MGDCM should continue, please volunteer! Otherwise, we will just be MGCM.

## Dining Committee Volunteers Needed ASAP!!

Club members are needed for a dining committee. Even 2 or 3 might easily fill this role. I am looking for members to find a new caterer, get them ready to serve the September 13 club meeting, help coordinate menus, and continue communication with them in future. I have one lead that our recently retired caterers gave us. However, the choice is yours--the new committee can recruit anyone they wish. I have info on how many we feed, recent costs, the 2011 menus, and how much labor the club provides. I can either meet with the new committee or we can share info via email and phone. This should not be much work—once we have a caterer that knows us, everything pretty much runs on auto-pilot. So—all of you MGCDM foodies out there—shoot me an email and help out! Now is your chance to plan menus and choose the food! What an opportunity! If I don't get volunteers, I cannot promise any more dining. You can reach The Prez at [kaywolfe@q.com](mailto:kaywolfe@q.com) or 952-922-0762.

## Editor's Note

-- Mary Maynard

It was too bad that we had a rare rainy day for our June event. Thanks to Kent and Jerry and Lee for inviting us to their places, however damp!

Thanks, too, to Chuck Carlson for submitting his article on new hosta seedlings. I encourage all of you to write for the Spray. We have a lot of knowledgeable members, and we welcome submissions.

I am looking forward to our July club tour. Gary's garden sounds wonderful, and I have seen Nona Johnson's so-called "work in progress". The only reason Nona can call her garden unfinished is that she and Vince keep adding new features. It is a very fine garden. See you there!



## July Club Tour Information

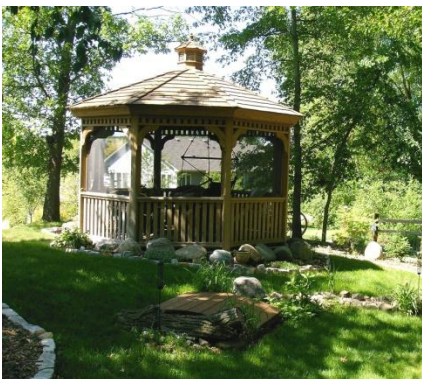
We're visiting just two gardens on our July club tour, and it looks like they will be well worth the drive!

We start with Gary DeGrande and Mary Boss's gardens at [4100 Oakmede Lane, White Bear Township](#)  
Here is Gary's description of their gardens:

"Our site is fortunate to have a lot of variety: hilly and flat, dry and wet, sunny and shady. It also abuts a natural wetland where we can encourage native plants. One's focus is initially drawn to the 20' x 25' pond that abuts the patio where hand feeding of the many beautiful Koi is a daily pleasure. A gentle waterfall soothes the spirit while numerous water lilies attract the eye. Walking the path around the pond showcases a variety of perennials, most common, some unusual, and takes you to a lower 8' x 10' pond fed by a split waterfall and stream, surrounded by a variety of ferns. Other paths meander through the gardens where a wide variety of perennial plantings takes advantage of the particulars of that area. The front yard garden takes advantage of all day sun and a path down the hill to the backyard takes advantage of our kind neighbor's sprinkling system! Tons of Dresser trap rock and an upper deck looking down on the entire backyard further enhance the experience. Bring your camera!"



Then we will drive from White Bear Township to the south tip of Maplewood, to Nona Johnson's garden.  
Here's what Nona has to say about her gardens:



### [2513 Haller Lane E., Maplewood](#)

"From brambles and buckthorn to a country garden – that is what I would say best describes the work that has been completed in my garden. Over the years I have added new gardens to various parts of my yard and updated existing ones. You will enjoy walking through the grassy paths in the shadier part of the garden, sitting in a comfy chair in the screened gazebo or listening to the water running from the waterfall to the two fountains located in various parts of the garden. The best way I can describe my garden is 'A Work in Progress'."



## July Club Tour – Directions and Reservations

### First Stop: Gary De Grande and Mary Boss 6:30 – 7:30

4100 Oakmede Lane  
White Bear Township, MN 55110  
651 653 3958 (home)  
651 792 5596 (cell)

- Take 35E north
- Exit 35E onto Highway 96
- Turn right (east) on Highway 96
- Turn right (south) at the first stop light, which is White Bear Parkway
- Follow White Bear Parkway (winding road) for about 1.5 miles to the second stop sign
- Turn left at the second stop sign onto Oakmede Lane
- We are the fifth house on your right (the one with the most beautiful garden in front, *bien sur*, but wait til you see the backyard!)

### Drive time: 7:30 – 8:30

### Second Stop: Nona Johnson

2513 Haller Lane E., Maplewood  
651 738 1292 (home)

#### Directions from Gary DeGrande's garden:

- Take 694/494 south – take exit for Maxwell/Bailey Road and take a left at the top of the exit.
- Follow Bailey Road up the hill (through one stoplight)
- At the top of the hill take a left onto Sterling Ave – this road comes up pretty quick and is right across the road from Bailey Lot #1.
- Follow Sterling about 1/4 mile – at the top of a hill take a right onto Haller Lane. My house is the second one on the left side.
- Park on the street – or if the driveway looks too steep for walking safely, feel free to park in front of the garage.

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### Reservation Form

Your check to MGCM for \$8 will give you appetizers, desserts and water/iced tea during the garden tour. Send your check for the appropriate amount to:

**Nona Johnson**  
**2513 Haller Lane E**  
**Maplewood, MN 55119**

Please send your reservation to Nona by July 9<sup>th</sup>

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Guests: \_\_\_\_\_

For any questions you can email [Nona.M.Johnson@HealthPartners.com](mailto:Nona.M.Johnson@HealthPartners.com)



## Treasurer's Snapshot

As of 6-22-11

Checking balance	\$13,822.78
CD	\$5,000.00
Designated Funds	
Memorials/Park Garden	\$1,446.00
Scholarship	<u>\$2,303.43</u>
Working Balance	\$10,073.35

## Membership Corner

No membership news this month!

## August Events: Club Tour on Aug. 7, FFF Show on Aug. 20-21

### August 7 Tour Preview

- Dave Johnson (Fridley)

There will be an August Club Garden Tour on Sunday afternoon, August 7th. It will consist of 5 gardens- two in the Roseville area (Richard & Shirley Friberg, whose garden has been written up in the Star Tribune and has been on many tours, and Yul Yost, whose unique garden has also been on a number of tours) plus three in South Minneapolis (our own member, MT Pulley, and two of his neighbors). There is the possibility of a 6th garden. The gardens are varied and all very attractive, ranging from grand to unique to interesting, and will provide an afternoon well-spent for all garden lovers. A bus is being considered if there is deemed sufficient interest. Final details with garden descriptions, directions, and cost will be in the August Spray.

### Reminder

Photo contest entries are due by **July 31!** See Foto Contest rules on our website for details.



**2011 FFF SHOW – AUGUST 20 & 22**  
*at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum*  
-- Judy Berglund

We hope that all club members will consider bringing a few of their favorite flowers and vegetables to the show this year. The general rules are all on the club website along with all of the entry classes. 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 yellow FFF Show booklets at our club garden tour.

Our featured flower is the annual / China Asters, which may be exhibited as 3 uniform blooms of one variety or in planters. Beets are this year's featured food, which may be exhibited as 3 uniform specimens. Beet tops should be trimmed to 1 ½ inches and the tap root should be trimmed to 2 inches. Oh, and do not forget about this year's creative floral design division.

We encourage all of you to get on the band wagon and enjoy the fun and camaraderie of showing off the best of the best of what we all enjoy the most – GARDENING.

So – come one, come all and bring your best flowers, food, and fotos to the best show in town on August 20 & 21.

SEE YOU THERE!!!

**A STROLL DOWN MEMORY LANE—IN PHOTOS**  
**2011 Photo Contest**  
-- Lloyd Wittstock

The 2011 Photo Contest is a chance to review your photos from this year (or earlier) and recall the time you were there in that sunny--more likely rainy--garden or landscape.

In these days of inexpensive, unlimited digital photography, the contest offers the rare opportunity to look back at the year and even more rare, to print out a photo or two. Of course, there is a bit of work involved. First, reading the rules at the club website, [minneapolisgardenclub.org](http://minneapolisgardenclub.org). Then, of course, finding the digital niche you stored your files in. Next, organizing your entries, up to 20 in 13 categories for the juried contest, writing up a list, and finally sending the jpeg files to Chuck or Lloyd.

A bit of work, yes, but a chance to revive memories and share your photos with the members. Now for the printing, and this part is **for members only**. You can print one or two favorite photos, with horticultural content, of course, and mail them to us, all before July 31. This is for the People's Choice, a separate contest decided by ballots cast at the Flower, Food and Foto show in August, and a chance to compete for gift cards of \$25, \$15 and \$10 value.

So join in, review your photos for both contests or for just one part. And we'll see you at the Arboretum on August 20 or 21.



## New Plants

-- By Chuck Carlson

### Have you ever found seedlings in your garden that you didn't plant?

This year I have found a number of seedlings through out the garden. I most likely didn't cut of the blossoms soon enough and they developed seeds pods. This has happened to me a couple years ago when a various items went to seed because of my physical inability to do the gardening. This year I had hundreds of pasque flowers so sometimes there is a benefit when the seed pod ripens and blows around like a *Taxaxacum officinale*. But now I have a whole passel to dig up and toss since they are hard to transplant because of their deep roots.

I also found two Hosta seedlings not too far away from a H 'Stiletto'. See the image below.



Hosta Seedling probably from H. 'Stiletto'

-- Photo by Chuck Carlson

*(Continued on next page)*



## New Plants – Continued

I just had to email our illustrious hosta guru member, Bob Olson, for his opinion and find out if this is what H. 'Stiletto' looks like when it is a baby. I found other little green hostas also and asked the question if they are worth keeping. I know seedlings don't necessary come true to the parents but it is interesting to see them pop up. I hate to throw any plant away so I also asked how many years it takes to see what they will look like as a mature hosta.

Bob's answer was,

*"Many of us have small 'volunteer' seedlings that come up around our garden. I have a lot of seedlings of hostas--undoubtedly because I grow a lot of hostas. Usually I just pull them up because they are 'not supposed to be growing there'. However, I tend to leave some small ones growing in the spaces between the large stones on my garden path--but only the cute little ones. There are a few volunteer ferns and gingers growing there, too.*

*"But when they get bigger they almost always just make the place look unkempt rather than being cute. Rarely, you find a really good one--and your green seedling from H. 'Stiletto' looks like it could be one of these.*

*"It will take you two to three years to get a good idea of its potential (but only if you coddle it to make sure it thrives). I'd take your nice looking seedling and grow it in small pot in a mixture of compost and potting soil with a little Osmocote--and water it a lot. Grow it in morning sun or all-day indirect bright (filtered) light."*

I plan to keep most of the hosta seedlings.

This may be a way to increase the number of plants you have without cost and have fun gardening. Of course there are other ways to increase your plants. Most of these other ways will also grow plants that are true to the parents. I have tried root pruning, dividing, stem cuttings, air layering, ground layering, splitting bulbs and of course from seeds. It is fun to see the results.

Good reproducing to you and have fun!

### **Reminder: Dining Coordinators Needed**

Volunteers needed to select caterer and coordinate meals at club meetings. Contact Prez Kay if you can help. See Page 2 for details.





## Dinner at Shamrock's

*Photos by Andy Marlow*

*Including: Nancy Bjerke, Tom McKusick, Robert Kean, Tim Rosener, Rodger Sefelt, Jan Johnson, Jerry Shannon, Dave Johnson, Peter Olin, Laura and Lloyd Wittstock*





*Carol Schreier, Lynda Carlson, Judy Brooke, Judy Berglund, Ruth and Howard Berg, Don Morgenweck, Nancy Bjerke*



## **Kent Petterson's Miniatures**



-Photos by Kay Wolfe



# 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 20<sup>th</sup> Ave. SE, Minneapolis

**Treasurer: Andy Marlow**

10700 Minnetonka Blvd, Hopkins

**Past President: Don Untiedt**

12070 48<sup>th</sup> Ave. No, Plymouth

### Directors:

**Gary DeGrande**

4100 Oakmede Lane, White Bear Twp.

**Maury Lindblom**

6105 Lincoln Dr. #332, 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.

The Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis is a not-for-profit, equal opportunity organization.

Return To:

## The Garden Spray

Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc.

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**First Class Mail**

*July*  
*2011*