



# The Garden Spray

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

2015, Volume 73, Number 11  
November

## Upcoming Events

Date	Location	Event
Nov. 10	LWC	Bob Olson, Hosta Hunting in Japan
Dec. 8	ES	Holiday Party
Jan.	LWC	Peonies (Mary Yee)

LWC= Lakewood Cemetery, 3600 Hennepin Ave. S, Minneapolis

ES= Embassy Suites 2800 American Blvd West, Bloomington

More calendar information on Page 11

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

Reservations or cancellations are required by Friday, Nov. 6 – **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 November

Pork Roast with Gravy  
Red Potatoes  
Strawberry Romaine Salad  
Squash  
Lemon Bars

## November Program Hosta Hunting in Japan Bob Olson



In the summer of 1995 Roger Koopmans, Bob Olson and a group of hosta aficionados traveled to Japan looking for Japanese species growing in the wilds, and to visit Japanese specialty nurseries in search of mutants, sports and exotic hybrid hostas.

Photo "Hypoleuca on Mountainside" by Bob Olson.  
More information on Page 4

## Schedule for Tuesday, November 10

6:00 Social time at Lakewood Reception Room  
6:15 Dinner  
7:00 Business meeting  
7:30 Program



## Looking Ahead to December: Holiday Party!

Reservations are due by **December 1!** All the details and reservation forms start on Page 6.

## Notes from the Prez

-- Tom McKusick

Currently, the MWGCM is blessed with enviable financial reserves. The wonderful Deane Estate gift, combined with results of remarkable fundraising efforts by both the Scholarship and Lyndale Park Garden committees, has resulted in a surplus that should insure the club's solvency for some time to come, along with providing a solid funding source for its various charitable endeavors.

Yet for some time the board has been hearing concerns that club funds aren't always allocated fairly, so in response to that we began to take a close look at the budget structure – especially as it relates to committees that have their own designated funds. Treasurer Alan Gallaher and I had many lengthy discussions about it, and we arrived at a plan that we hoped would address the issue of unfairness while creating a budget structure that was clear and equitable for all committees. In fact, this President's note was originally written to include a detailed description of that plan.

However, just as this edition of the Spray was about to be published (thanks, Mary, for "stopping the press"!) objections to the plan were raised by one of the affected committees, so we're reworking it to hopefully satisfy any concerns. Stay tuned for a full report in the next Spray.

In other news...

### **Nominating Committee**

Unless a last-minute candidate comes forward before the November meeting, the Nominating committee will be presenting a slate of officers for approval that doesn't include a Vice President in 2016. The duties of the VP will be assumed next year by board and committee members, to be decided at the November board meeting. The 2016 slate of officers:

President: Judy Brooke  
Past President: Tom McKusick  
Recording Secretary: Laurie Levin  
Treasurer: Alan Gallaher  
Director: Judy Berglund  
Director: Bonnie Haehn  
Director: Dave McKeen  
Director: Steve Shubick

### **Deane Fund Committee**

The first meeting of the Deane Fund committee will be held after the club meeting on November 10.

## Editor's Note

-- Mary Maynard

Another very full issue. My thanks to all of the writers and photographers who contribute material for the Spray each month. This newsletter would be nothing without you!

I am looking forward to Bob's presentation at the Club meeting. For those of you have never heard a presentation by Bob, you are in for an entertaining and informative time. See you there!



## Treasurer's Snapshot

As of 10/21/2015

Checking balance	\$88,538
Designated Funds	
Lyndale Park Garden	\$ 4,063
Scholarship	<u>\$10,950</u>
Working Balance	\$ 73,525
Petty Cash	\$ 100
CD	\$ 5,282

## Membership Corner

Welcome New Member Katherine Schafer. More about Katherine in the December *Spray*.

Reminder: It's Membership Renewal Time. See instructions for renewal on page 4.

**Every Member Bring a Member**

## Welcome New Member: Paul Aarestad

As Lakewood Cemetery's Greenhouse Manager, Paul's love of plants started when he was a young boy helping his grandfather garden on Saturdays. When he was ready for college and trying to decide on a major, Paul recalls his grandfather, a successful accountant, saying to him, "If I had it all to do over again, I'd be a gardener". This led to Paul's majoring in horticulture at Anoka Technical College. Not long after graduation, he was hired as a seasonal worker at Lakewood Cemetery. When his boss became ill, Paul took over the boss's duties. At that time because of the energy crunch in the 70's Lakewood had stopped their greenhouse operation. By 1982 Paul convinced them with modernization and standard growing practices, a greenhouse was the way to go. Now with 30+ years of growing and learning, Paul declares, "I have the best job in the world"! Paul and his wife Debra live in Delano and a fun fact is that after growing flowers most of his life, he and Debra have now developed a passion for vegetable gardening.

Another fun fact: 25 years ago Paul was first introduced to our garden club when he was a guest speaker at one of the programs. He recalls how impressed he was then with the club, "they were just a great organization, everyone enjoyed gardening and had fun together". When encountering us this time around, Paul said his earlier impression of the club was reinforced.

## It's Renewal Time!

More information on club membership renewals on Page 4.

Also, do you know that there is a Garden Club membership rate for the Minnesota Horticultural Society/*Northern Gardener*? It's renewal time for that, too. Garden Club memberships start at \$37, which is a very good deal! You can sign up at the November club meeting, or call MSHS at 651-643-3601.



**November Program: Hosta Hunting in Japan** – *Continued from Page 1*

Hostas are a plant species native to Japan. With very few exceptions all hostas originated there, and the thousands of cultivars now available are the result of mutations and/or hybrids of about 40 Japanese species.

With the aid of a Japanese guide and professional plant hunters Bob and Roger and friends climbed mountains, forded raging streams and trekked to hidden waterfalls to find them.



*Left to right: Raging streams on Oshima Island, Island in inland sea, Mark measures hypoleuca  
Photos by Bob Olson*

**It's Renewal Time!**

*Mollie Deane*

Thank you to the members who renewed at the October 13 club meeting or who mailed in their renewals. If you still need to renew, you will have an opportunity at the November 10 meeting. The renewal form is on page 5 of this Spray. Note the form tells you how to send in your renewal if you are unable to come to the November meeting.

The Membership Committee would really appreciate you renewing by Nov 10.

**The Membership Renewal Form is on the next page.**



## Membership Renewal Form: Men's and Women's Garden Club of Minneapolis

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Annual dues are \$20.** Make your check payable to **MWGCM** and bring with you to the October 13 or November 10 club meeting. You can also mail this form to the Membership Secretary: Judy Brooke, 4728 Temple Rd., Minnetonka, MN 55345

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse/Partner \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ -

I am a Master Gardener:    yes    no

I am willing to be listed as a mentor gardener in the club director (enter specific gardening topic/s such as perennials, roses, propagation): \_\_\_\_\_

**Committees:** I am currently serving on, or am willing to serve on the following committees:

- |  |   |   |                                       |
|--|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arbor Day               | <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality          | <input type="checkbox"/> Marketing/Publicity  | <input type="checkbox"/> Programs     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Awards/Trophies         | <input type="checkbox"/> Lyndale Park Garden/ | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership           | <input type="checkbox"/> Scholarship  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flower/Veg Show FFF     | <input type="checkbox"/> Mixed Border Garden  | <input type="checkbox"/> Photography          | <input type="checkbox"/> Sunshine     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Garden Spray Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Lyndale Park Garden/ | <input type="checkbox"/> Plant Sale & Auction | <input type="checkbox"/> Tours/Club   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Holiday Party           | <input type="checkbox"/> Native Garden        |   | <input type="checkbox"/> Tours/Public |

What would you most like to learn about this year?

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My gardening interests are:

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Other horticultural affiliations: \_\_\_\_\_

Other experience/knowledge that could help the club (please circle): writing, accounting/financial, computer skills, public relations/marketing, leadership, fundraising, legal, public speaking, other:

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## Holiday Party: Back to Embassy Suites Dec. 8

*Larry Larson, Holiday Party Chair*

It seems hard to believe but yes, it's true, the annual MWGCM Holiday Party is right around the corner, Tuesday, December 8 at the Embassy Suites motel in Bloomington. The address is 2800 American Blvd. West, Bloomington (this is the Embassy Suites near Southtown, NOT the one near the airport!) This is the same location as last year's party. For new members, Embassy Suites is located south on Penn Avenue off of 494, then right at American Blvd to the motel.

There has been a considerable remodeling of Embassy Suites but that will not affect our party. It will take place in the same room as last year. The bar and restaurant at the front of the motel is completely gone. They have been moved to the back of the restaurant, but still on the first floor.

The party begins at 6 pm in the banquet hall. Please turn left after entering the front of the motel and follow the hall around to the right to the hall. Dinner will be served at 7 pm.

The dinner this year will include turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, sweet carrots, dinner salad, desert, coffee, milk and/or water. The meal will cost \$23, same as last year. There will be punch and cheese and crackers inside the banquet hall; there will also be a cash bar inside the hall. If you need a vegetarian meal or other meal considerations, please call Larry Larson at 952-949-9668.

There will be entertainment this year. His name is Benny Weinbeck. He plays the electric piano. He will play old jazz favorites plus holiday music.

The silent auction will take place in the same location as last year. Bidding will be open from 6 pm until 7:30 pm. An announcement will be made when there are five minutes remaining in the auction and also when the auction ends. Holiday committee members will circle the winning bid in red pen after the auction ends to ensure the winning bid is secure.

Winning bidders can pick up their bid sheet after the program and bring it to the checkout table. There will be 3-4 cashiers available to make checkout easier. We will not be able to make change on large bills. Checks made out to MWGCM will be accepted.

Silent auction items can be brought to the home of any holiday committee member prior to the party. It is highly recommended you do that if possible to make it easier to have the bid sheet filled out. You can also bring them to the motel the evening of the party beginning at 5:30 pm. Please contact Elaine Spiegel, silent auction chair, at 952-927-9539, or Larry Larson, 952-949-9668, with questions concerning the silent auction. A list of recommended items to bring to the auction is listed below. People making silent auction donations should include a value on the description line of the reservation form and a minimum bid for each item donated.

Please fill out the form below and send to Larry. He must receive this form by **December 1**. Enclose a check for \$23 for each person attending. See you at the party!



**RSVP Form for the MWGCM Holiday Party and Silent Auction**



**Tuesday, December 8, 2015 at 6:00 pm at Embassy Suites  
2800 American Boulevard West, Bloomington**

To RSVP and to donate items for the silent auction, please fill out this reservation form and enclose a check made out to MWGCM. Please send reservation form to ARRIVE BY Monday, Dec. 1, 2015.

**Mail to:** Larry Larson  
15225 Wild Wings  
Minnetonka, MN 55345

**Phone:** 952.949.9668  
**Email:** [daddu777@msn.com](mailto:daddu777@msn.com)

*For questions about the Silent Auction please contact Elaine:  
E-mail: [ELspiegs18@comcast.net](mailto:ELspiegs18@comcast.net) (preferred) Phone: 952-927-9539*

<b>Member &amp; Guest</b>	
<b>Names:</b> _____	
<b>Total check enclosed (\$23 per person):</b> _____	
<b>Item(s) for the Silent Auction:</b>	
<b>Description:</b> _____	
<b>Size (space required for display):</b> _____	<b>Minimum Bid:</b> _____
<b>Submitter/contact:</b> _____	
<b>Description:</b> _____	
<b>Size (space required for display):</b> _____	<b>Minimum Bid:</b> _____
<b>Submitter/contact:</b> _____	
<b>Description:</b> _____	
<b>Size (space required for display):</b> _____	<b>Minimum Bid:</b> _____
<b>Submitter/contact:</b> _____	

**Need ideas or suggestions for the silent auction? See next page!**



## Suggestions for Silent Auction Contributions for Holiday Party:

- Tickets (movies, theater, opera, or sporting events)
- Homemade or hand crafted items (crafts, note cards, embroidery, quilting)
- Tools, plants, statues, books, bird feeders, bird baths
- Gift certificates (for 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.

### Holiday Committee Members (Accepting Auction Items)

Larry Larson - Chair  
 Jan Johnson  
 Nona Johnson  
 Janet Langfield  
 Randi Larson

Sandra Mangel  
 Wendy McKinnis  
 Jane Sheedy  
 Anne Spenningsby  
 Elaine Spiegel

## News from the Lyndale Park Garden Another Garden Season

*By Kay Wolfe*

We might think the garden season is over – except for fall clean up. The Tuesday work crew of the Lyndale Park Garden Committee pulled the dead annuals on October 20. And all the shrubs and small trees instantly came into view! The bones of the garden had been obscured by the prolific annuals – the coleus in particular grow unusually large in our border. The gardening season has not ended – we have moved on to the fall season. Each has season its own unique beauty. Here are photos of the border taken from the same spot – in August and in October. Thanks to the committee for all the hard work this year – everyone said this was the garden’s best year ever!



*Photos on August 8 and October 24 by Kay Wolfe*



## Progress in the Native Garden

-- Kirky Otto

The Hummingbird Garden at Lyndale Park has been renamed the Native Garden by the MWGCM, and it's lovely to see lots of other progress in that area as well. A couple weeks ago Andrew Gawboy, the Park Board employee in charge of the area (who visited our October meeting), made a permanent marker for each type of the native plant in the Native Garden. The photo below shows Nancy Felice (who applied the markers to their standards) and Kathy Lenarz (who placed the markers) showing off the first one. The twenty or more markers will help the public identify plants they may want to buy for their own gardens. In addition, the committee is marking every plant in the bed with coated hardwood stakes, so that when spring comes and the winter mulch is pulled back, we'll be able to see what to expect where. Last spring was a nightmare, with a record of previous plants that had been put in the garden, but no ideas of locations. The committee's major mapping project, plus the yellow markers, will help next year. Those markers will be tucked behind plants, but will enable us to keep track of what we have.

Another terrific addition to the Native Garden is the donation of 14 pots of native plants -- thank you so much, Judy Berglund! Judy split and dug that many of her plants from her marsh and woodland beds to share with us, and the Native Garden committee installed and watered them a day or two later -- thanks, Jo Batty-George, Carol Schreier, and Steve Shubick. The support we've had from club members and from passers-by in the park are wonderful, and keeps us working happily to improve the 'jungle' of natives that decorate that area of Lyndale Park. Thanks to all!



*Left: Intrepid gardeners Nancy Felice and Kathy Lenarz show off the first formal plant marker installed in the Native Garden at Lyndale Park. Photo by Nancy Felice.*

*Right: Nancy Felice assembles plant markers supplied by the Park Board. Photo by Kathy Lenarz.*

## **Gardening in the Fall: Getting Ready for Next Year**

*Theresa Rooney*

If you want a better yard and garden next spring there are many things you can do in the fall that will help make that happen.

**Turf:** While we are past the timing for seeding, fertilizing, aerating or dethatching your lawn, you should still be watering and mowing. Lower the mower height during the autumn. Ideally the final mowing that you do should be about 2-2-1/2" inches. **Gradually** lower the height so you don't cut into only grass stems, resulting in a not so attractive lawn and an opportunity to increase the thatch layer. Lawns still need ¾" to 1" of water per week till the ground is nearly frozen. Remove leaves- mulching them is fine. Always remove the leaves if you can't see most of the grass. By removing the extra grass and leaves just before the snow you minimize the chances of snow mold in the spring and the damage from voles and mice during the winter.

**Gardens:** Your gardens, veggie gardens and annual beds should be cleaned up to the bare ground, perennials can be left standing if they are not diseased or were hit with 4 lined plant bugs. Personally, since I am a lazy gardener I prefer to leave as much standing for 'winter interest' and plant crown protection as I can. Any newly planted plants (this year) and tender plants should be mulched just as the ground begins to freeze. Putting down your winter mulch too early will allow mice and voles a great home for the winter and your plants will suffer. Add any compost or soil amendments that you wish, but no fertilizers of course. All bare ground should be covered or protected from the winter with a layer of mulch or grow a cover crop. Keep watering till the ground is nearly frozen.

**Trees and shrubs:** NO PRUNING – all pruning should have been done by August 1<sup>st</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup>. If you must prune due to a branch or cane in the way for winter, minimal pruning is ok- 1 branch, 1 cane. The rest can wait till the ground is frozen and the plant is dormant. A better time to prune would be February-April. Again keep watering till the ground is nearly frozen.

**Clean up your toys and tools.** Bring all your non winter proof containers inside and keep them up off of the concrete. Get containers ready for the winter arrangements that you may want to feature.

**Take lots of pictures of your garden,** what works and what doesn't for study during the winter and to help you when perusing all those garden catalogs in January.

**Want a new garden?** Site it now and 'install' it. Decide where you want the garden, cut the grass and weeds short, water well. Add a layer of newspaper 5- 20 pages deep (deeper for tough weed issues) and wet this newspaper layer. Top with a layer of compost/leaves or mulch and again water. By next spring you will be able to plant easily- if mulch is used just pull the mulch back, dig the hole, plant and then replace mulch. No digging, no soil horizon damage and the soil structure remains intact. All of the microbes/bacteria/fungi etc. will be healthy and help your plants to grow well.

**And of course- plant spring blooming bulbs.** You can plant the tulips till the ground is nearly frozen! (I put in 1300 bulbs this year, daffs, tulips, crocus, fritillaria etc. Whew!)

A little (and I stress little) work now can pay big dividends next year.

## Calendar of Events

### November 10, 2015

Hosta Hunting in Japan  
Bob Olson  
Lakewood Cemetery

### December 8, 2015

Holiday Party  
Embassy Suites  
2800 American Boulevard **West**  
Bloomington

### January 12, 2016

Peonies  
Mary Yee, Minnesota Peony Society  
Lakewood Cemetery

## Another Great Program in October



*David Zlesak with "The Fairy" at the October meeting. Photo by Lloyd Wittstock*

### This Month's Contributors: Thank You!

Printed Content: Judy Brooke, Mollie Dean, Alan Gallaher, Bonnie Haehn, Larry Larson, Mary Maynard, Tom McKusick, Bob Olson, Kirky Otto, Theresa Rooney, Kay Wolfe.

Photography: Nancy Felice, Kathy Lenarz, Bob Olson, Lloyd Wittstock, Kay Wolfe, Microsoft



**Happy Thanksgiving!**

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



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**Inside:**

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<b>Page 1</b>	<b>Nov. Program, schedule, Dec. preview</b>
<b>Page 2</b>	<b>Notes from the Pres &amp; Ed.</b>
<b>Page 3</b>	<b>Treas., Mbrship.,</b>
<b>Page 4-5</b>	<b>Membership Renewal</b>
<b>Page 6-8</b>	<b>Holiday Party Info &amp; Reservation form</b>
<b>Page 8</b>	<b>Lyndale Park Garden</b>
<b>Page 9</b>	<b>Native Garden News</b>
<b>Page 10</b>	<b>Fall Gardening</b>
<b>Page 11</b>	<b>Calendar, Contributors</b>

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**Club Officers:**

**President: Tom McKusick**

Minneapolis

**Vice President & Membership Secretary:**

**Judy Brooke**

Minnetonka

**Recording Secretary: Laurie Levin**

Golden Valley

**Treasurer: Alan Gallaher**

Edina

**Past President: Randi Larson**

Minnetonka

**Directors:**

**Judy Berglund**

Minnetonka

**Bonnie Haehn**

Minneapolis

**David McKeen**

St. Louis Park

**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.

Return To:

**The Garden Spray**

Men's and Women's Garden Club of Mpls., Inc.

Mary Maynard, Editor

4375 Dart Avenue

St. Louis Park, MN 55424

**First Class Mail**

*November*  
*2015*