



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

**2014, Volume 72, Number 12  
December**



**Upcoming Events**

**Holiday Party on December 9!**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Event</b>
Dec. 9	ES	Holiday Party
Jan. 13	LHC	Gardening for Bees And Butterflies
Feb. 10	LHC	New Plants for 2015
Mar. 10	TBA	10 Plants You Should be Growing
Apr. TBD	Macy's	Macy's/Bachman's Flower Show
May 12	SMG	Plant Sale and Auction

The Holiday party is fast approaching so quick like a bunny send that check for \$23 for each person attending to me by Dec. 1. For all of you new members, this is a can't-miss event. The party is at the Embassy Suites, 2800 American Blvd., West, Bloomington. It is right off 494 and Penn Avenue.

The event begins at 6 p.m. with a social hour and a chance to check out the silent auction items. The dinner will begin at 7 p.m., followed by Awards, presentations and the results of the silent auction.

Map and more information on Page 5

**Looking Ahead: 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.

*LHC = Lake Harriet Methodist Church, 4901 Chowen Avenue South, Minneapolis  
ES= Embassy Suites, 2800 American Blvd West, Bloomington  
SMG= St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church, 3450 Irving Ave S, Minneapolis*

More calendar information on Page 11

**Note: Permanent reservations are not in effect for the Holiday Party.**

Reservations must be **at Larry's house** by December 1. Reservation form was in the November *Spray*. Link to November *Spray* on our website:

[http://mwgcm.org/MGCM/Events\\_files/Spray\\_1114.pdf](http://mwgcm.org/MGCM/Events_files/Spray_1114.pdf)

## Notes from the Prez:

-- Randi Larson

We are nearing the end of the year for our club and it's also Thanksgiving time. I have been looking back on the past year and want to express my gratitude to the entire club for choosing me as their president and also to a number of individuals who have done so much to make the club experience so rich for all of us.

Our membership grew at a record-breaking rate this past year for which, I think, Judy Brooke is most responsible. She has been diligent in advertising the club, welcoming guests and encouraging visitors to keep coming. Now it is up to all the membership to be sure our new members feel welcome and want to keep coming.

Of course, a major reason we all kept coming to meetings was because our programs were interesting. The program committee has done an outstanding job bringing in a diverse and interesting group of speakers, including some of our own members.

Mary Maynard has been the editor of our newsletter for ten years now, following in the capable footsteps of Chuck Carlson. She has decided to leave this post at the end of 2015 and give the fun of putting out our publication to Tom McKusick. Mary has expanded the information included in the Spray until it's nearly a book! The Spray provides all the info about our club and more. She makes all the articles look good, adds many color photos and writes a wonderful column every month. Mary, you have done an outstanding job and we're going to miss you!

The Lyndale Park Garden committee has won an unprecedented three awards this year. The committee is not big in numbers but huge in talent, dedication, and hard work. They are a credit to our club. Everyone, most specially our new members, should visit this garden on a regular basis in the summer.

I want to give a big thank you to Gary Geister and the entire Plant Sale committee for putting on a spectacular auction and sale this past spring. They brought in a roomful of wonderful plants for us to buy and gave the general public much to choose from. The 'ask-the-experts table was an inspiration and having Kent Petterson bring in his well-stocked supply of

horticulture books to sell were welcome additions to this event. And the new location, St. Mary's Orthodox Church, was perfect.

The tours were fabulous! And three of them! Thank you to both the tour committees for doing a wonderful job. We enjoyed the small city gardens and sprawling gardens that spilled into neighbor's yards, peaceful ponds and imaginative sculptured features. The committees outdid themselves. A special thank you to Bob Olson, Mary Maynard and Roger and Kak Koopmans for hosting meals at their homes.

The FFF show was well organized as always. Judy Berglund kept encouraging everyone to enter something - anything, and our club responded with exceptional flowers and vegetables. This event at the Arboretum is great exposure for our club.

A number of people work behind the scenes but, of course, they are essential: reservations, hospitality, nomination, sunshine, web team, scholarship, marketing and trophies. I thank them all.

As we near another Holiday Party, I want to thank the committee for having the courage to move that event to the Embassy Suites in Bloomington. This was a very special evening and I heard nothing but raves, so I am hoping this year's event will work the same magic. I know Larry is sweating out the construction issues at that venue; I will keep my fingers crossed that everything turns out okay.

Finally, I can't say enough about Sandra Abraham and the help she provided me this past year. Sandra always had suggestions and contacts that were available to help. I have a very sketchy acquaintance with Roberts' Rules of Order but Sandra was always there to help me get it right. Thank you, thank you, Sandra!

I want to express my appreciation to the entire club membership for giving me the honor of being your president. I've learned a lot about the club and I admire tremendously the work so many of you do. I encourage all of you to be active members. You only get out of an organization what you put in to it. So now I pass the baton to the next president, Tom McKusick, who has really stepped up this past year. I know he and the rest of the board members will do an outstanding job in 2015.

Randi

## Treasurer's Snapshot

As of 11-17-2014

Checking balance	\$18,693
Designated Funds	
Lyndale Park Garden	\$ 2,406
Scholarship	<u>\$9,155</u>
Working Balance	\$ 7,132
CD	\$5,260

## Membership Corner

It's **Membership Renewal** time for 2015. **Renewal forms must be received by Dec. 3rd to have your name included in the 2015 club directory.** The renewal form was printed in the last 2 newsletters - or go to the club website and renew on line; or call Judy Brooke at 612-581-2650 to request a form. Thanks to all of you who have already renewed.

## Getting to Know Our New Members

- Judy Brooke, Membership Secretary

**Larry Cipolla** decided to join our club after visiting with club member Nancy Bjerke about us. He frequently runs into Nancy at the Arboretum where he does volunteer work. Larry is a Master Gardener and served on the State Advisory Board for three years, two years as Chair. Other horticulture affiliations included the Hosta Society and previous marketing director for the MN Water Garden Society. Last year he was instrumental in getting the city of Edina to give the ok for a community garden and has helped get it off the ground. I'm told by other club members that Larry has a large beautiful garden at his home in Edina and has frequently opened it up for tours for various organizations.

**Beverly and Nancy Galles** learned about us through their friend and our newsletter editor, Mary Maynard. They're sisters who reside in Richfield. In addition to working in their own garden they enjoy traveling and visiting other gardens. They attended our November program to hear Andy Marlow share his knowledge of plant photography. Photographing other gardens is a hobby of theirs. Nancy and Beverly are members of the Arboretum and joined our club to learn more about plants and gardens (both flower and vegetable).

**Marcia Hunter** lives in the Loring Park neighborhood and volunteers at both the Loring Park and Longfellow Gardens. Through this volunteer work she met club member Steve Shubick and learned about the Lyndale Park Garden. In turn committee chair Kay Wolfe invited Marcia as her guest to our Nov. dinner program. When talking about her gardening beginnings, Marcia recalled her grandmother's large garden in Oregon. When visiting, the children would "help" Grandma in the garden. But what remains Marcia's most delightful memory is making mud pies in the garden. She believes that's what inspired her to continue digging in the dirt, loving the planting and weeding of gardens and watching them grow.

## Sandra Mangel wins Metro Blooms Award

In addition to our Lyndale Park Garden committee winning two recent awards (details in the November Spray) one of our **new members**, Sandra Mangel won the Metro Blooms 2014 Minneapolis Garden award for "Best Cottage Garden". Congrats!

## Condolences

We offer our sincere sympathy to Chuck Benson on the death of his wife Janet. Janet passed away on October 26. Chuck and Jan had been married for 53 years. Rest well, Janet.

And we offer sympathy to Alan Gallaher on the loss of his sister.

## 2015 Officers and Directors Elected

The following slate of officers was elected at the November club meeting. There is one vacancy, which the new board will work to fill in 2015. In 2015, Judy Brooke will continue to manage membership activities, and President Tom will spearhead the program committee.

President: Tom McKusick	Directors: Steve Shubick
Vice President: Judy Brooke	Judy Berglund
Recording Secretary: Laurie Levin	Bonnie Haehn
Treasurer: Alan Gallaher	
Past President: Randi Larson	

Thank you all for your service to MWGCM.

## Another Scholarship Challenge!

Jan Johnson has once again challenged us to contribute to the scholarship fund. Jan will match contributions **made by the end of 2014** up to \$500.

Jan reminds us that those of us who must take Required Minimum Distributions from their 401k's and IRA's can donate to charity without paying taxes on withdrawals. (Please check with your accountant or tax adviser if you have questions.)

## Three Members Reach a Milestone

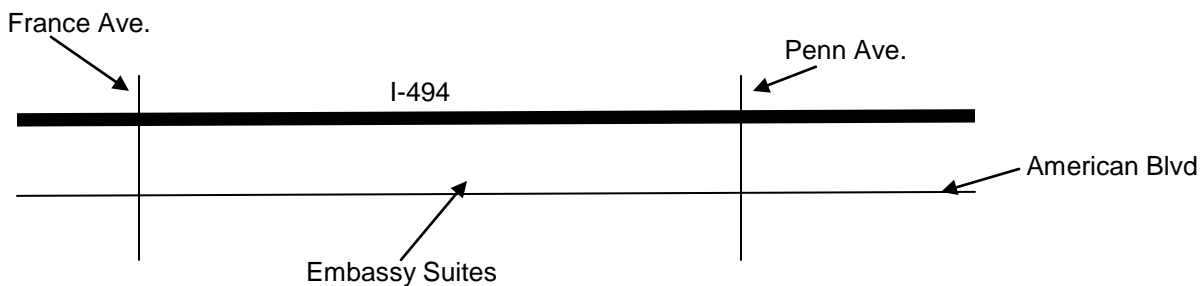
Chuck Carlson, Mary Maynard and Bob Redmond all joined the club in 1989 and are still here 25 years later. Anybody want to guess which one was Rookie of the Year for 1989? (Hint: it was not your *current* editor...)



## The Holiday Party *(continued from Page 1)*

Larry Larson, Holiday Party Chair

Here's a rudimentary map to the Embassy Suites at 2800 American Boulevard West in Bloomington. (Google or Mapquest will give you much more detail!)



This year's menu is turkey and dressing, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, cranberry relish, salad, rolls and butter, dessert and coffee, milk or water. There will also be a table of cheese and crackers and punch. There will be a cash bar inside our party room.

Please consider bringing a silent auction item to the party. The more items, the more interesting the auction and the more money we raise for the club. Please consult Elaine Spiegel, silent auction chair, at 952-927-9539 or Larry Larson at 952-949-9668 with questions concerning the silent auction. You may bring your item directly to the party or give it to any holiday party committee member.

Please use the form in last month's Spray and send it to me with payment. Hope to see you all there!

Larry



## Lyndale Park Garden Fundraiser

*Mollie Dean*

Due to the great generosity of club members, the Lyndale Park Garden fundraiser exceeded its goal and we raised \$4020.00.

This money will be used over several years to purchase trees, shrubs, and perennials for the garden.

The garden is a gift from the entire club to the city of Minneapolis and to the many people from the metro area and from afar who visit the gardens by Lake Harriet. The garden reflects the deep gardening knowledge, skill, and commitment of all the members of the club.

Thank you for the variety of ways you support this club project.

## November 2014 Board Meeting Highlights

*Laurie Levin, Recording Secretary*

Highlights of the November board meeting included passage of the following motions:

Motion was moved, seconded and approved to send \$500 annually to the Minnesota Horticultural Society and \$500 to the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, effective in the 2014 fiscal year.

This motion reflects an increase of \$300 in our donation to the Horticultural Society.

Motion was moved, seconded and approved that monies from the public garden tours be used for the Scholarship Fund.

Motion was moved, seconded and approved to appoint an ad hoc committee charged with revising the Member Handbook during 2015.

Anyone interested in being on this committee should contact Tom McKusick

*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.*



## **Bees, Wasps and other Pollinators**

*by Chuck Carlson*

*based on information from the University Bee Lab and internet sources*

At the University of Minnesota, we're discovering solutions every day to protect bees, which in turn will help to protect our food supply and human health. The university plans to build two new facilities: A new Bee and Pollinator Research Lab will be located on the St Paul campus, and a Bee and Pollinator Discovery Center, for the public, at the University of MN Landscape Arboretum.

Do you have "bees" living in structures in or around your house? With reason, many people confuse yellow jacket wasps, hornet wasps, and honey bees. If they are not bothering you, enjoy them -- or at least ignore them -- for our short summer season; the pesky wasps will be dead after two hard frosts.



Bees play a key role in the agricultural production and the beauty of our world through the pollination of fruits, vegetables, nuts, and flowers. The disruption of natural habitats leading to lack of "bee flowers," the widespread overuse of pesticides, and numerous bee diseases and parasites have pushed honey bees to the tipping point. This honey bee crisis is broadly termed Colony Collapse Disorder. Our native bees are also in decline due to unprecedented habitat loss, pesticide contamination, and their own diseases.

### **Bee Diversity**

There are many different bees with varied behaviors and habits. About 3,500 bee species live in the United States, and in Minnesota, there are probably close to 400. Most of these are solitary bees, living in nests in the ground or in cavities in stems or trees. Hornets are another type of social wasp that builds their nest in a tree or other exposed area, as opposed to yellow jacket wasps that normally put their paper nest underground or inside a cavity. Hornets normally do not pester people, as do yellow jackets.

### **Honey Bees**

Honey bees are one type of bee. They are orange-yellow or brown and black banded, and fuzzy. They are also social and the nest is constructed of beeswax.

- Honey bees nest in a beehive, a cavity of a tree, or sometimes in the wall of a house, where they can be seen flying in and out. They do not nest in a hole in the ground.
- Honey bees can sting only once and die after stinging.
- Honey bees form perennial colonies, meaning the entire colony of bees can survive the winter, clustering in the nest and producing heat by consuming stored honey.
- Honey bees are the only type of bee that collects large amounts of nectar from flowers to store in the nest as honey.

*Continued on next page*

## Bees – Continued

### Pollination

More than one-third of the world's crop species such as alfalfa seed, sunflower, and numerous fruits and vegetables depend on bee pollination, an ecological service valued in North America at \$20 billion a year. While honey bees pollinate most of our crops, other bees are also important pollinators. Bees ensure sure garden plants, ornamentals, and wildflowers get adequate pollination.

### Helping

You can help bees in four ways:

1. Plant bee flowers everywhere.
2. Provide nesting habitat.
3. Keep Bee-Flowers Clean: Do not treat bee-friendly flowers with pesticides (insecticides, fungicides or herbicides).
4. Support our efforts to keep bees healthy and on their own six feet.

Another way to support bees is if you find a swarm report it, don't spray the swarm. Below is a website about bee swarms and how to report a swarm. Do it when you see a swarm that has attached itself to an object since it may be gone in a day or two.

<http://www.mnbeekeepers.com/about-bees/honey-bee-swarms>

### What do you know about Bees & Honey?

*Source unknown-It may be from Ruth Tan*

How many flowers must honey bees tap to make one pound of honey? -Two Million.

How far does a hive of bees fly to bring you one pound of honey?---Over 55,000 miles.

How much honey does the average worker honey bee make in her lifetime?---1/12 teaspoon

How fast does a honey bee fly? ---About 15 miles per hour.

How much honey would it take to fuel a bee's flight around the world? ---2 Tablespoons

What is mead? ---It is wine made from honey.

How many sides does each honeycomb cell have? ---Each cell is a six-sided hexagon.

What is the U.S. per capita consumption of honey? On average, 1.31 pounds per person

What state is known as the beehive state? ---Utah.

How many wings does a honey bee have? ---Each honey bee has four wings.

How many beekeepers are there in the United States? ---Estimated at 211,600

How many honey-producing colonies in the United States? Estimated at 3 million

How many flowers does a honey bee visit during one collection trip? 50-100 flowers

### What Two People Said About Bees

"Unique among all God's creatures, only the honeybee improves the environment and preys not on any other species." ~ Royden Brown

"If the bee disappears from the surface of the earth, man would have no more than four years to live." ~ Albert Einstein

For more information, visit the Bee Lab website at <http://beelab.umn.edu/>



## MWGCM Unused Equipment

*Chuck Carlson*

The club at one time presented slide shows to outside groups. I was the last one to provide this service and we no longer give these programs and I have had no requests for years. The programs were images of flowers and other things to go along with music. The music was singing by artists in the 1940's and 50's, mostly patriotic and religious.

The club still has this equipment and resides in my house. I would like to see it get a new home. I contacted the Board to determine what to do with it and they concluded since we are in the digital age that I should do as I desire.

The equipment is: 2 slide projectors in suitcases; a screen; a boom box radio that plays cassette tapes; and 5 slide programs in Kodak Carousels & cassette tapes.

I plan to bring them to the January meeting and either have a silent auction or a drawing for anyone interested. If there is no interest I will give them to charity.

Suggestions I have received:

One person who stated that she could use the projector to view old family slides to see if any should be kept and when done with that would donate it to a charity.

Another person suggested selling them on eBay or Craigslist.

If you have any other suggestions let me know.

## Editor's Note

*Mary Maynard*

It's official. Tom McKusick has stepped up and will be your new Spray editor in 2016 - after he finishes up his work as club president and head of the program committee. So you're stuck with me for one more year. But it's past time for a fresh look at the newsletter and what serves the club best, and Tom is the perfect person to do that. I look forward to stepping back and doing more writing. You might see more of the Lazy Gardener in future years - if Tom has room for it in the new newsletter.

In the meantime, we have a Holiday Party coming up. It's always a good time, and I know the Committee has been working hard at making it another great event. And the 2015 programs sound great. I'm personally looking forward to meeting my long-lost relative (not really) Meleah Maynard at the February meeting. I've enjoyed her writing and I've heard that she's a particularly nice person. Maybe we'll have to compare notes and see if we have a common ancestor somewhere back in time!

My thanks to the club members who agreed to serve on the Board for 2015. And to Sandra Abraham, Ray Bauch, Nancy Bjerke and Margaret Hibberd, who are rotating off the Board at the end of this year. See you at the Holiday Party!

Carole Ann Brekke has a spare copy of the original edition of *Minnesota Gardener's Guide* by Melinda Meyers and edited by Chuck Levine. Includes chapters on the Garden Environment, Annuals, Bulbs, Groundcovers, Ornamental Grasses, Roses, Shrubs, and more. Don't be surprised if it shows up at the Silent Auction or is auctioned off at the January club meeting!

## Photos from November's Club Meeting

By Chuck Carlson, Alan Gallaher, Margaret Hibberd and Lloyd Wittstock



*Top Row: This year's president and next year's president; Jan Johnson announces her scholarship challenge; and new members Bev and Nancy Galles are introduced to the club.  
 Middle Row: Andy Marlow leading a terrific discussion on photography; Alan Gallaher's photo that we couldn't find anything wrong with  
 Bottom Row: An excellent woodland photo by Margaret Hibberd; Andy's final slide; Andy and Ray Bauch after the presentation.*

## Calendar of Events

### December 9

Holiday Party  
Embassy Suites American Blvd  
Bloomington, MN

### 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

### April 2015 (Date TBA)

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

### 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

### October 13, 2015

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

### November 10, 2015

TBA

### December 8, 2015

Holiday Party

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

Printed Content: Sandra Abraham, Nancy Bjerke, Judy Brooke, Chuck Carlson, Mollie Dean, Margaret Hibberd, Larry Larson, Randi Larson, Laurie Levin, Mary Maynard, Tom McKusick.

Photography: Chuck Carlson, Alan Gallaher, Margaret Hibberd, Lloyd Wittstock

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



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**Club Officers:**

**President: Randi Larson**

Minnetonka

**Vice President: Tom McKusick**

Minneapolis

**Recording Secretary: Laurie Levin**

Golden Valley

**Membership Secretary: Judy Brooke**

Minnetonka

**Treasurer: Nancy Bjerke/Margaret Hibberd**

Minneapolis

Falcon Heights

**Past President: Sandra Abraham**

Eagan

**Directors:**

**Raymond Bauch**

Plymouth

**Alan Gallaher**

Edina

**(Nancy Bjerke/Margaret Hibberd)**

**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**

***December  
2014***