

MEN'S & WOMEN'S



GARDEN CLUB

OF MINNEAPOLIS

January 2020

The Garden Spray

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January 14 Meeting Preview

THE CHINESE GARDEN AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA LANDSCAPE ARBORETUM

Presented by Erik Lemke, Arboretum landscape gardener

Erik was project planner on the Chinese Garden which was inaugurated in 2017.



Tuesday, January 14

Note: this month's meeting is at Lake Harriet Methodist Church, 4901 Chowen Avenue South, Minneapolis

6:00 Social Time
6:15 Dinner
7:00 Business Meeting
7:30 Program

Menu
Swedish Meatballs
Noodles
Lettuce Salad
Ambrosia Salad
Rolls
Seven-Layer Bar

- Permanent reservations are in effect.
- Dinner is \$13.00.
- Reservations or cancellations are required no later than Friday, January 10.

- Email [Dave Voss](#), or call (612) 594-1666, and leave a message.
- Note: for last-minute cancellations, contact Dave. If he can sell it, you won't be billed.

Flower, Food & Foto Show

Judy Berglund, Chair

FFF COMMITTEE MEETING WILL FOLLOW THE JANUARY 14 CLUB MEETING

There will be a short FFF Committee meeting following the January 14 club meeting to select our featured flower and veggie for the 2020 FFF Show. I hope committee members will be able to take just a few minutes following the meeting and will bring their suggestions for our featured flower and veggie.

From the President

Linda Wilkins

Happy New Year's Gardeners!

It's hard to believe 2020 is already here. I remember facing a big project and saying, "I'll do that when the holidays are over and I have more time." Well now my "to-do" is so long, I don't have time to accomplish all those projects.

We'll have a fantastic year. How do I know? They say if you want to be a good leader, surround yourself with outstanding people. Those people are already in place, so I'm not worried. The club accomplishes so much each year and runs smoothly because we have capable leaders with talent and passion. We will try to headline each of these leaders in the Garden Spray so you can know them better.

Although we're all looking forward to gardening weather, I have come to realize that gardeners need this time of bear, bulb and bloom hibernation to gain a refreshed perspective. I like to look at photos of my current garden to see where I could make improvements, what new tools I cannot live without, where I can remove lawn and make more garden, etc. Without this precious wintertime, we might run out of passion and energy. Remember, with snow on the ground we don't have to face a

weed for months!

We are ready to start the year with a new slate of speakers and new club members. The board members will do our best and hope that you will share your ideas to help make this club one you enjoy and learn from. Becky developed last year's survey to help the club be more germane to your interests. We'll try to implement the ideas that were important to you. Remember, we cannot change that which we do not know needs changing.

May the coming year bring each of you many blessings and beautiful blooms.

From the Editors

Nancy Felice, Tom McKusick, Co-editors

The January *Garden Spray* is unique because we take a look backward and forward at the same time. We celebrate the final highlights of 2019: the Holiday Party & Silent Auction, award winners and scholarship recipients.

We're already looking ahead to what are sure to be highlights of 2020, as we begin planning for the FFF Show and our annual plant sale. Both will be even bigger and better (we hope) than last year.

This month we welcome new president Linda Wilkins who reminds us to take advantage of winter down-time.

Kirky Otto kicks off a series of articles on long-time club members. As we get to know this year's new members, we'll also learn more about some of the people who have helped shape the club for many years.

And thanks to Becky DeLaCruz for providing a great list of activities and resources to keep our spirits up while we wait for spring.

Along with our lineup of programs, 2020 promises to be another exciting year.

-- Nancy Felice

Recap: 2019 Holiday Party & Silent Auction

Becky DeLaCruz

Thanks to all who braved the cold to join your fellow MWGCM members and friends at our annual Holiday Party and Silent Auction December 10. Ninety-one people were in attendance (unfortunately, the flu bug kept a few folks at home).

Prior to dinner, there was a hot game of wine/beer bottle Ring Toss where everyone was a winner. Benny Weinbeck provided holiday tunes during the social hour.

Many partygoers were able to do a bit of holiday shopping at the Silent Auction, where proceeds of business-donated items support our Scholarship Program. We were honored to have three of the four scholarship winners present at the event this year and hear of their achievements and future plans.

There were awards galore! After Anne Spenningsby's opening remarks as outgoing president, in addition to the traditional trophy awards, Bob Olson (Santa's Elf) and Andy Marlow (Santa) bestowed a few "atypical" awards to club members. (Full list follows.)

As a reminder, if you purchased gift cards/certificates/vouchers at the Silent Auction, please check the small print for expiration date(s) and other conditions. For those who purchased business-donated items, including gift cards: At check-out, you were given a 1/2-sheet of paper with the business' name and contact info. Please provide an acknowledgement thank you to the business in person or via email or letter. This really helped when we returned to last year's donors and asked them to donate again.

2019 Award Recipients

These club members were recognized with awards at our Holiday Party:

Bachman Award: Don Trocke

The Bachman Award is presented to recognize outstanding, sustained service to the club.

President's Cup: Becky DeLaCruz

Presented to the member who provided outstanding assistance to the president during her/his term.

Lehman Trophy: Paul & Marcia Theis

The Tour Committee presents this award to the best member garden on a club tour.

Blackbourn Trophy: Gary Geister

For the member earning the most points for flowers in the Flower, Food & Foto Show.

Foley Trophy: (tie) Griffin Berglund/Mary Maynard

For the member earning the most point for vegetables in the FFF Show.

Smith Trophy: Sue Clark

For the first-time competitor earning the most points in the FFF Show.

Photo Sweepstakes: Mary Barsness

For the member earning the most points in the photography competition in the FFF Show.

Rookies of the Year:

Kate Ladner

Marcia Theis



Judy Berglund presents the Blackbourn Trophy to Gary Geister.



Kate Ladner, Rookie of the Year (along with Marcia Theis).



Don Trocke receiving Bachman Award from Dale Bachman



Anne Spenningsby presents President's Cup to Becky DeLaCruz.





*Judy Berglund awards
Photo Sweepstakes to
Mary Barsness.*

[The Dynamic Duo of
Bob Olson and Andy
Marlow also presented
their unique awards.
See more here.](#)

Scholarship Committee

M.T. Pulley, Chair

2019 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The Scholarship Committee selected these four students to each receive a \$1,000 scholarship.

Brittany Wilcox, second year student in the Horticulture Technology program at Rochester Community and Technical College.

Jeffie Cleys, first year student at Central Lakes College in Brainerd studying Sustainable Landscape and Horticulture.

Nicole Wamma is enrolled in a master's degree program in Horticulture with a focus on sustainable agriculture and local food production.

Katrina Harris Portwood is a second year student at Rochester Community and Technical College, earning an AAS in Horticulture Technology.

Congratulations and best wishes.

Living History: Roger Koopmans

First in a Series by Kirky Otto

Roger Koopmans joined the Men's Garden Club in 1957, and still participates today. We're asking him and a few others who joined before 2000, for their memories of the club's early days.

ROGER KOOPMANS, MEMBER SINCE 1957

When Rog Koopmans joined the Men's Garden Club there was an application process. The club had professional and hobbyist levels, and two members drove to Faribault, where Rog and his wife Kak still live, to inspect his gardens. After the long drive, he says his gardens "looked pretty good." That's clearly an understatement, as his gardens are famous for their beauty and meticulous maintenance.

Rog joined the club in a continuing search for knowledge -- an education in horticulture was not enough for him. He was fascinated by the rose, delphinium, orchid, hosta, annual, and vegetable specialists he met there. He recalls meetings, members dressed in suits and ties, and Christmas parties featuring a "parade of turkeys" on platters borne to tables for carving by the members -- with their own utensils. Professional music programs and a slideshow of members' gardens completed the festive event.

Summer garden tours via bus ended with fried chicken and lemon meringue pie from DeLaria's. An interesting rule was that professional horticulturalists and gardeners were not allowed to serve on the board of directors.

One highlight of the club's work was assisting in launching Leon Snyder's dream: developing the Landscape Arboretum from the Horticultural Research Center. The "Arb" opened with in 1958, with 160 acres of land and has grown to 1,200 acres today.

A huge event was the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis hosting the Gardeners of America. There were 10 buses full of people touring, including a trip to Faribault and the Koopman gardens. Rog and Kak laugh recalling the hefty president of the organization bottoming out in their hanging swing; it wasn't all elegance and grace,



but it surely was an organization that knew how to produce those things.

Marketing & Publicity Committee

Becky DeLaCruz, Chair



BEAT THE WINTER BLUES WITH THESE ACTIVITIES

[From the Arboretum to the Como Zoo and Conservatory, here are some activities to make winter seem shorter.](#)

Membership Corner

Kathy Lenarz, Chair

Including renewing members and one new member, we start the new year with 117 members, the same number we had last year at this time.

Welcome to our newest member, Anne Pfankuch.

Our 2020 directory will be available for pick up starting at the January 14 meeting. If you are not able to attend the January or February meetings and would like a directory mailed to you, please let me know.

Many, many thanks to Mollie Dean for the countless hours she put into gathering and formatting the information for the directory. We are grateful, Mollie!

Every member bring a member.

Treasurer's Snapshot

As of December 31, 2019

U.S. Bank

Beginning balance \$ 54,161.68

Bank deposits \$3,913.68

Checks paid \$5,869.99

Ending balance \$ 52,205.37

Royal Credit Union (Deane Fund)

Balance \$ 69,105.54

Total Balance \$121,310.91

2020 Meeting & Event Calendar

January 14

Chinese Garden at the U of M
Landscape Arboretum
Erik Lemke
Lake Harriet Methodist Church

February 11

Succulents for Minnesota
Climates
Susan Kennedy
Lake Harriet Methodist Church

March 10

Seed Sage
Koby Hagen
Lakewood Cemetery Mausoleum

April 14

July

Garden Tour TBA

August

FFF Show
U of M Landscape Arboretum

September 8

Winter Gardens
Alan Branhagen
Lakewood Cemetery Mausoleum

October 13

Changing Gardens
Roseanne Malevich
Lakewood Cemetery Mausoleum

November 10

Composting
Kira Berglund
Lakewood Cemetery Mausoleum

Trees
Gary Johnson
Lake Harriet Methodist Church

May 12

Annual MWGCM Plant Sale
St. Mary's Greek Orthodox
Church, Minneapolis

December 8

Holiday Party & Silent Auction

June 9

Water Gardens
Jan Schreir
Lakewood Cemetery Mausoleum

2020 Officers & Directors

Club Officers

President

Linda Wilkins
Richfield

Vice President

Phoenix Heller
Minneapolis

Membership Secretary

Kathy Lenarz
Richfield

Recording Secretary

Sue Clark
Minnetonka

Treasurer

Bill Clark
Minnetonka

Directors

Mary Barsness
Prior Lake

Suzanne Holt
Minneapolis

Linda Thompson
Minneapolis

Past President
Anne Spenningsby
Minneapolis

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.



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