

MEN'S & WOMEN'S



GARDEN CLUB

OF MINNEAPOLIS

February 2020

The Garden Spray

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SUCCULENTS FOR MINNESOTA CLIMATES

Presented by Susan Kennedy, Minnesota Cactus and Succulent Society

Susan will share her knowledge of growing succulents and cacti indoors and outdoors as well as information on those that are hardy and non-hardy for Minnesota climates.



Tuesday, February 10

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

	Menu
6:00 Social Time	Lasagna
6:15 Dinner	Antipasto Platter
7:00 Business Meeting	Salad
7:30 Program	Dinner Rolls
	Valentine Cupcakes

- Permanent reservations are in effect.
- Dinner is \$13.00.
- Reservations or cancellations are required no later than Friday, February 7.
- Email [Dave Voss](mailto:dave.voss@lakeharriet.org), 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.

From the President

Linda Wilkins

Br-r-r-r-

Can you believe how cold it can get around here? Thank goodness for those wonderful outerwear fabrics that adjust to the temperatures and block the wind. These, along with fireplaces, a glass of wine, a good dog, a set of YakTraks and enough body fat under the skin, can help us endure the weather. It is equally hard on us when the temperatures plummet and soar, only to plummet again. Acclimation to the temperatures is a big part of enduring winters successfully.

Our harsh climate is equally detrimental to trees and shrubs, which are as susceptible to weather as are we. Winds can damage trees and conifers. Though we can't eliminate damage entirely, we can try to minimize it. There are many products to protect our landscaping, and we can help by picking up all debris, wrapping our young trees and shrubs, mulching around them, watering until it gets too cold, and pruning in the late winter.

Think how hard this weather can be on the rabbits, deer, birds, and other critters, too. Sometimes the only food they find is the bark of our trees and shrubs, which become a landscape banquet. Don't forget that when the snow is high, they can sit on the top and nibble the barks at a higher level. This gives us more impetus to protect our trees and shrubs. Also, feeding wildlife in a separate area can help keep them away from your shrubs.

The landscape, the critters and we gardeners are all in this together. Winter defense is our best offense in this game of winter endurance.

Flower, Food & Foto Show

Judy Berglund, Chair

FFF FEATURED FLOWER FOR 2020: COSMOS

Each year, the Flower, Food and Foto Show has one features flower and vegetable.

The featured flower for 2020 is cosmos. This includes *cosmos bipinnatus*, also called garden cosmos or Mexican aster, and *cosmos sulphureus*, also known as yellow cosmos.

Few plants grow as rapidly as cosmos or have such graceful flowers. These natives of Mexico become four to six feet tall, sometimes taller, and bear airy, daisy-like blossoms three to four inches across. The wide serrated petals circling yellow centers of garden cosmos (*C. bipinnatus*) may be pink, red or white. The foliage is delicate and feathery.



Garden cosmos (*C. bipinnatus*)



Yellow cosmos 'Sunset'
(*C. sulphures*)

Yellow cosmos (*C. sulphures*) seldom grows more than three feet tall. In the past, it flowered so late that frosts often nipped the first blooms. But now there are early flowering yellow-to-orange varieties, including the double-flowered, golden-yellow Goldcrest and the super orange-scarlet Sunset.

Uses: Cosmos' height make them popular for use at the back of garden beds and borders. They also produce long-lasting cut flowers. They will grow in any soil in full sun and will tolerate partial shade as well. They flower earlier and more freely if the soil is fairly dry and not especially fertile.

How to grow: Sow seeds outdoors after all danger of frost has passed. Or sow seeds indoors five or six weeks before the expected time of the last frost. Plants should be spaced 12 inches apart in the garden. Seedlings transplant easily. Plants may require staking in windy sites.

How to exhibit: Cosmos may be exhibited as follows:

3 blooms including foliage of *C. bipinnatus* single flowers

3 blooms including foliage of *C. bipinnatus* double flowers

1 spray including foliage of *C. sulphureus* (yellow to red/orange)

Consider adding cosmos to your garden plan this year, and enter your best blooms in the show either as cut flowers or in arrangements.

-- Jerry Shannon

Plant Sale Committee

Gary Geister, Chair

PLANT SALE PREVIEW: SAVE THE DATE

Tuesday, May 12

12 p.m to 6:30 p.m.

St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church

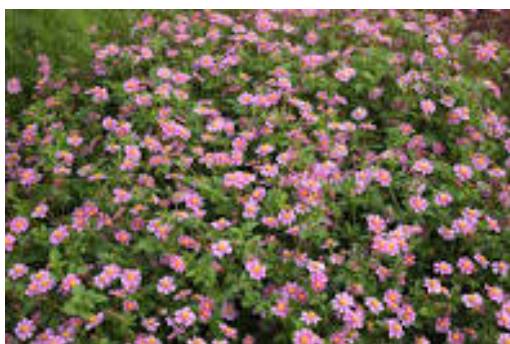
3450 Irving Avenue South, Minneapolis

New this year: Club members will receive a 20% discount on all of their plant purchases at any time that day. No need to buy all your plants at the same time.

Sandra Mangel and Bette Fenton have picked out a boatload of annual and perennial plants for the sale. These include many varieties that will be new to the sale, plus favorites from past years. For FFF exhibitors, we will have a large selection of the the 2020 featured flower and vegetable.

With so many plants expected, club support will be especially important. We need as many people as possible out on the floor helping customers select their plant purchases. You certainly do not need to be a master gardener. Customers always appreciate your help. To volunteer, sign up at the February club meeting or contact [Mary Maynard](#).

Here are a few of new plants coming to your sale:



Bidens 'Pretty in Pink™' 12 to 14" annual. Blooms all summer. Great in containers or in the ground. Pollinator and butterfly attractor. Recommended by Dave McKeen

Petunia 'Ray™ Pink Halo' Annual with pink edges turning to white with a yellow center. Large flowers with a mounding habit.



Pulmonaria 'Shrimps on The Barbie' (lungwort)

Shade perennial. A "wow" plant with deep pink flowers and green foliage with prominent white spots. Deadhead to keep foliage attractive all season. Deer resistant.



Penstemon 'Onyx and Pearls' (beardtongue) 42" tall perennial. Nearly black foliage and soft lavender flower with white interior. Will be a standout all season long.



Salvia 'Fashionista Lilac Lipstick' 16 to 18" perennial for sun. A new cool shade of pink for salvias. Lilac-pink, bi-color flowers, lighter top petals with darker pink hoods above dark green foliage.

Cardinal Flower (Lobelia cardinalis) 3' perennial for sun. Bright red flowers made it a standout at the "Evening in the Gardens" club event. Deer resistant,

attracts butterflies and hummingbirds



Lyndale Park Gardens/Mixed Border Garden

Kay Wolfe, Chair

Remembering 2019



The border on a sunny September day.

Anticipating 2020

The design team has ordered the annuals from Rush Creek Growers.

The maintenance team is planning pruning and tree removal.

The whole committee will have planning meetings beginning in February.

We are looking forward to another great gardening season! If you wish to join this committee and learn our method of "the art of gardening" contact [Kay Wolfe](#).

Lyndale Park Gardens/Native & Shade Gardens

Kirky Otto & Carol Schreier, Co-chairs

As the days slowly lengthen and the ice on streets and sidewalks comes and goes and comes again, the native/shade gardeners gather monthly at Turtle Bread. Turnout is good and conversation robust.

January's coffee meeting included a report from Philip Potyondy, Sustainable Forestry Coordinator for the Minneapolis Park Board. He shared plans for community involvement in the use of hammocks on park property. This includes "pop-up" events to disseminate information on proper equipment and hammocking techniques.

Our group's concerns about vandalism at the gardens seems to be more difficult to address.

What is not difficult is the variety of gardening lore discussed at the meeting. New members are welcomed. Agreement is not required. Diversity of opinion is encouraged. The bond in the group is strong. We will make it to spring when we can return to digging in the dirt at the gardens.

-- Carol Shreier

Marketing & Publicity Committee

Becky DeLaCruz, Chair



This year the M & P Committee will be dabbling in some paid advertising for the MWGCM. Looking at current numbers, our membership has remained flat this past year. We currently have 117 members, the same as the beginning of 2019. We have gained some new members and lost some including the passing of some of our dear, long-time members.

In order to grow and sustain our membership, it is important to promote the club and its activities and events. We will host two public events this year: our annual public Plant Sale in May and the Flower, Food and Foto Show in August. These are two prime opportunities to show what our club does--not only for members, but also for the community--in hopes that others may want to join us.

In addition to paid advertising, during the next few months we ask for your help finding community events where the MWGCM can have a presence to spread the word, specifically about our Plant Sale. Please provide any of us on the M & P Committee with information about potential events (such as upcoming indoor

farmers markets, garden center expos, etc.) where we could have an exhibit booth/table and pass out membership and Plant Sale info. Ideally, these events would occur in late March or April.

[Had enough of the gray, cloudy days? Here are some events and ideas to brighten your February.](#)

Photography

Lloyd Wittstock, Chair

NEW MEMBERS: I WANT YOUR PICTURE!

MWGCM has an online photo directory of members available in a password-protected area of the club's website. It's a tool to help new members recognize older members, and vice versa. I am trying to get the directory up to date for 2020.

Below is a list of members for whom I do not have photos. Please look me up either before or after one of our meetings and I will take a head shot of you. It's very painless and I'll try to make you look your best. Or you can email me a photo that you like. It can be a selfie taken with a smart phone. Send it to webmaster@mwgcm.org.

-- *Andy Marlow*

Kathy Douglas
Julie Drier
Louise Gerber
Dave Hanson
Mary Lee Hanson
JoEllen Haugo
Robert Heiberg
Mary Helebrant

Susan Hopp
Susan Kennedy
Betsy Lemal
Pamela Marie
Michael Meeks
Paul Waytz
Ellen Wright

Living History: Jerry Shannon

Second in a Series by Kirky Otto

JERRY SHANNON, MEMBER SINCE 1977

Jerry Shannon, whose garden in St. Paul's Highland neighborhood was site of the club's 75th Anniversary celebration, was invited to join The Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis in 1977, by member Jim Fishbauger. No garden inspection was required to join then, just the invitation of a club member. Jerry hoped to network with nice gardeners, visit their yards, and learn from club programs--and he did.

When he chaired the program committee, Jerry and his wife Lee mined other organizations they belonged to for speakers. He asked them to provide printed handouts with information and sources for club members. "Nurseries depend on the winters in Minnesota," he comments. "We have to replace plants and it's good to have a list of reliable ones to use."

Lee and Jerry are a team in their gardens. Jerry takes care of trees, shrubs, and lawn while Lee handles flowering plants. They share the work in the vegetable garden and use the Landscape Arboretum library to research Minnesota-hardy plants.

Jerry noted changes in the club since 1977, including the original affiliation with the Men's Garden Club of American (Jerry was on the committee in 1988 when the Minneapolis club hosted the national convention), and welcoming women as club members. When the club voted to do that a discussion about the name began. He notes the decision to keep "Men's" in the name was a nod to the origins of the group.

Jerry chaired the Arbor Day committee the year a summer storm wiped out many trees in Lyndale Park. Members purchased crabapple trees and planted them in the park, where many still stand. He nominated the club for an award from the Arbor Day Foundation, and he and Lee drove to Nebraska to accept it.

Among the many awards Jerry has earned was the 1988 Bronze Medal from the national Men's Garden Club, now the Bachman Award for outstanding service to the club. His contributions to the club were predicted by his 1977 award as the Rookie of the Year. This should serve as a reminder to current members to keep an eye on each year's rookies to see what they'll achieve in the future.



Lee and Jerry received a beautiful quilt made by Mary Maynard for hosting our 75th anniversary celebration.

Membership Corner

Kathy Lenarz, Chair



2020 club directories are available. If you don't have one and can't make it to the February meeting, let me know and I can mail one to you. Remember that in addition to contact information for club members, the directory contains meeting dates and program information, club committees, lists of officers and award winners and other resources.

Please check your own information when you get your copy. If there are any errors or if changes are needed please notify me ([Kathy Lenarz](#)) or [Mollie Dean](#).

If you would like to bring a potential member as your guest for dinner and a meeting, let me know as well as making a dinner reservation for them, and the membership budget will pay for their meal. Many members originally joined because someone like you invited them.

Every member bring a member.

Board Meeting Highlights

Sue Clark, Recording Secretary

Highlights from the January 9, 2020 Board meeting

The Board reviewed preliminary results from the Holiday Party and Silent Auction. Becky DeLaCruz of the Silent Auction Committee presented details on the level of donations and return on investment/contribution.

Gary Geister of the Plant Sale Committee discussed the new rent terms from St. Mary's Greek Orthodox Church and the committee's efforts to negotiate more favorable terms.

Bill Clark, Treasurer, reported preliminary 2019 financial results. The 2020 budget is also in process, however, little feedback has been received from committees.

[Read the complete Secretary's Report.](#)

Proposed 2020 MWGCM Budget

Bill Clark, Treasurer

[Click here to see the proposed budget for 2020.](#)

The budget will be presented for approval at a future club meeting.

Treasurer's Snapshot

Bill Clark, Treasurer

U.S. Bank (1/31/2020)

Beginning balance	\$ 52,205.37
Bank deposits	\$ 4,005.50
Checks paid	\$ 2,424.14
Debit from Constant Contact	\$ 166.00
Ending balance	\$ 53,615.73

Deane Fund will be updated next month.

2020 Meeting & Event Calendar

February 11

Succulents for Minnesota
Climates
Susan Kennedy

July

Garden Tour TBA

August 22 & 23

Lake Harriet Methodist Church

March 10

Propagating Seeds for a Healthy Diet

Koby Hagen

Lakewood Cemetery Mausoleum

April 14

Composting

Kira Berglund

Lakewood Cemetery Mausoleum

May 12

Annual MWGCM Plant Sale

St. Mary's Greek Orthodox

Church, Minneapolis

June 9

Water Gardens

Jan Schreir

Lakewood Cemetery Mausoleum

Flower, Food & Foto Show

U of M Landscape Arboretum

September 8

Winter Gardens

Alan Branhagen

Lakewood Cemetery Mausoleum

October 13

The Evolving Garden as We Age

Roseanne Malevich

Lakewood Cemetery Mausoleum

November 10

Caring for Trees

Gary Johnson

Lake Harriet Methodist Church

December 8

Holiday Party & Silent Auction

2020 Officers & Directors

Club Officers

President

Linda Wilkins

Richfield

Vice President

Phoenix Heller

Minneapolis

Membership Secretary

Kathy Lenarz

Richfield

Directors

Mary Barsness

Prior Lake

Suzanne Holt

Minneapolis

Linda Thompson

Minneapolis

Recording Secretary

Sue Clark
Minnetonka

Treasurer

Bill Clark
Minnetonka

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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