

Garden Club of Ramsey County

News Notes - January 2009

"But no matter how much you've reined in your own spending this year, there is one horticultural indulgence you can definitely justify: Dirt." Amy Stewart, 2008

Meeting Agenda

- 2009 Budget
- Plant Sale - Sue Klevan
- June Garden Tour - Barb Meyer
- Sunshine - Maureen Adelman
- Announcements

Tonight's Program

Our January speaker is Steve Gonzalez who has been growing and exhibiting orchids for 30 years. Past president of the Orchid Society of Minnesota, he has traveled extensively to orchid growing regions of the world.

Many, Many Thanks!

A big thanks to the 2008 Board, Committee Chairs and our Past-President Karl Reiter for their service in 2008. The dedication and hard work of these individuals are what make GCRC such an outstanding organization.

2008 Holiday Party

As those who attended will attest, the Holiday Party was a huge success. Committee chair Barb Meyer has already scheduled the 2009 party for Monday 7 December, again at DeGidio's! We do need a volunteer (or volunteers) to be in charge of the silent auction. If you wonder about the fun level of this task, talk to Anne Tiller, Meg Devine or MaryDon Beeson.

Hospitality

Hospitality Chair Mary Fryer and volunteers Fran Duffee, Denise Joyce, Erica Marzitelli, Joan Cooper, Ruth Luh, Evelyn Sunness and Susan Fuller provided tonight's refreshments. If you have not yet signed up to bring treats this year, see Mary!

Plant Sale Committee

Sue Klevan & Joan Floren are having a meeting Feb 2nd @ 7pm for anyone willing to work on the May plant sale. Location: Sue's home 1142 Summit Ave. Call Sue (651/227-3837) if you plan to attend.

Public Gardens Committee

The Public Gardens Committee will hold a special meeting on the new portable signs for the Highland Library on Thursday 5 February at 7 p.m. in the small activity room of the Hillcrest Recreation Center. It is a joint meeting with the artists who did the drawings and Library staff. All GCRC members are invited. RSVP to Kathy Franzen (ksfranzen@gmail.com or 651-647-1770) if you will be attending.

A Resource for all Gardeners

GardenWorks is a program run by and for community gardeners. Information is shared and advice given on a variety of gardening topics. They are hosting a Spring Resource Fair on 28 March 2009 in St. Paul. Check out their Web site at: <http://www.gardenworksmn.org>

Highland Nursery

Highland Nursery on West 7th is facing possible closing, precipitated by a 1275% property tax increase. Those who frequent this nursery can find information on how to help at: www.thehighlandnursery.com. There is also a link to an article by Kent Peterson of Terrace Horticultural Books on this issue.

Sell/Buy/Freebies

At the December Board meeting, the Board approved adding a News Notes section where members could sell, request or give away garden related items. Ads should be sent to admin@ramseygardeners.org one week before each meeting. They should include brief but clear descriptions and contact information. No photos.

Donations for 2008

2008 Contributions: \$300 to Ramsey County Master Gardeners; \$600 to MSHS; \$900 to each of U of M Department of Horticultural Science, Dakota County Technical College, Hennepin Technical College and Century College and \$500 to St. Paul Parks and Recreation for trees. In addition, the Bake Sale and the Silent Auction produced a total of \$2575, which was distributed among various food shelves. This is a grand total of \$7575!

Karen Sutherland and Vicki Kunerth represented GCRC at the "Thanksgiving for Scholarship" dinner at the U of M in November. Seated with GCRC scholarship recipients, they were impressed with the quality of the young horticulturists that our funding is supporting.

A Message from our Treasurer

Our recouperating Treasurer, Karen Milton, would like to express her appreciation to those who contributed at the Holiday Party Silent Auction to win her gift of a Quilting Class (donated by Meg Devine).

Contact Info Changed?

A change of email, phone or address? Please send email to: membership@ramseygardeners.org. This will help our membership chairs keep the records current.

Program Calendar 2009 - 2010

January 19, 2009 - Steve Gonzalez

Growing Orchids at Home

February 16, 2009 - Ralph Thrane

Urban Backyard Food Gardening

March 16, 2009 - Don Mitchell

Attracting Hummingbirds to your Garden

April 20, 2009 - Mary Hockenberry Meyer

Ornamental Grasses for Minnesota

May 18, 2009 - Marilyn Garber

Library Open House for Public Gardens

June 15, 2009 - GCRC Master Gardeners

Question & Answer Panel

September 21, 2009 - Susan Davis Price

History of the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum

October 19, 2009 - Bob Olson

Hosta Hunting in Japan

November 16, 2009 - Terry Yockey

Planning a Potager Garden

January 18, 2010 - Dean Engelmann

What's New for 2010

February 15, 2010 - Peter Bierman

Managing Soil for Healthy Gardens

Officers/Chairs 2009 - 2010

President: Karen Sutherland

Vice-President: Laurie Krivitz

Secretary: Liz Morrison

Treasurer: Karen Milton

2008-2009 Board Member: Karen Van Norman

2009-2010 Board Member: Jennifer Porwit

Past President: Karl Reiter

Awards: Kirsti Groess

Calling: Fran Duffee, Nancy Pascoe

Directory: Karen Van Norman

Education: Kathy McLaughlin

Exhibits, Mini-shows: Barb Parisien

Finance: Karen Milton

Financial Audit: Adina Overbee

Garden Gates: Nancy Scherer, Maya Hanna

Garden Mentors: Deb Alper

Garden Party: Roz Annen, Alice Cederberg

Garden Sages: Joe Baltrukonis, Jennifer Porwit

Garden Tour: Barb Meyer

History, Archives: Erik & Susan Holland

Holiday Party: Barb Meyer

Hospitality: Mary Fryer

Membership: MaryDon Beeson, Anne Tiller

New Member Supper: Ann Hanson, Laurie Krivitz

Nominations: Karl Reiter

Plant Sale: Sue Klevan, Joan Floren

Public Gardens: Vicki Kunerth, Kathy Franzen

Public Relations: Carol Morse

Sunshine: Maureen Adelman

MSHS Jan - Feb 2009 Class Schedule

Seeds - Start Your Own, Grow Your Own!

\$15 members, \$25 nonmembers

Tues, January 20, 7 to 9 p.m. MSHS Classroom.

Instructor: Marty Bergland

Urban Vegetable Gardening in Small Spaces

\$15 members, \$25 nonmembers

Tues, January 27, 6:30 to 8 p.m. MSHS Classroom.

Instructor: Dale Longfellow

Grow Your Own Mushrooms at Home

\$15 members, \$25 nonmembers

Tues, February 3, 7:30 to 9 p.m. MSHS Classroom.

Instructor: Ron Spinosa

Introduction to Plant Propagation

\$60 for members, \$70 for nonmembers

Tues, February 3, 10 and 17, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Location: University of Minnesota Plant Growth Facility, 1552 Gortner Avenue, St. Paul.

Instructor: David C. Zlesak, Ph.D

Minnesota Wild - Plants for Health and Healing

\$15 for members, \$25 for nonmembers

Thurs, February 5, 7 to 8:30 p.m. MSHS Classroom.

Instructor: Matthew Alfs, M.H., R.H.

Easy Seed Starting Using the Winter Sowing Method

\$15 members, \$25 nonmembers

Tues, February 10, 6:30 to 8 p.m. MSHS Classroom.

Instructor: Michelle Mero Riedel

Best Choices for Low Maintenance Landscapes

\$15 members, \$25 nonmembers

Tues, February 17, 6:30 to 8 p.m. MSHS Classroom.

Instructor: Martin Stern

For more information: www.northerngardener.org

Volunteer at MSHS!

It is time to sign up to volunteer at the Minnesota Home and Patio Show (Feb. 19-22) and the Minneapolis Home and Garden Show (Mar. 4-8).

MSHS also needs volunteers to help package lily bulbs for the spring shows. Each volunteer will take home 3 of these beautiful Asiatic and Oriental lily bulbs free of charge. Those who sign up will be called to schedule time for this activity.

Contact Diane Duvall at MSHS: 651-643-3601 or dianed@northerngardener.org

MSHS Historic Garden Week Tour

March 16 is the deadline for booking this tour to Charlottesville, VA April 16 - 20. Visit the most important gardens in the region, including Monticello. Local host is Cole Burrell, award-winning author who designed our own native plant gardens. www.macystravel.com/group/charlottesville2.pdf