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It has been one of the warmest summers in recent memory but the flowers in the Gardens have been absolutely glorious. Gardeners have watered, fertilized, and deadheaded and kept everything going even in all this heat. Well cared for annual flowers and containers will continue to bloom until frost. Keep an eye out for dahlias of all shapes and sizes throughout the Gardens in late summer.

As you visit the Gardens in autumn, look for late bloomers such as anemone "Robustissima" (there is a large planting near the gift shop). Watch for many colors of chrysanthemums planted throughout the Gardens. Delphiniums enjoy the cooler weather of late summer and fall and will often bloom again in September.

If you like observing butterflies on flowers, look for asters, which are an important food source for migrating butterflies. Butterflies and other insects will visit asters in large numbers on sunny days. Sedums of all shapes and sizes bloom in August and September and also attract butterflies.

The roses will respond to the cooler temperatures of late summer with more blooms. Be sure to visit the Rose Garden to look for your favorites. The roses are labeled, so bring

*Continued on page 4 • Fall*

## The Treillage Garden by Carole Pike

The Treillage Garden completed the puzzle. Robinson Iron of Alexander City, Alabama, and the Saint Cloud Park Department had a 10-year plan to develop the garden rooms that make up Clemens Gardens. Now the balustrade and stairway, patterned after ones at the Philadelphia Water Works, stood ready to connect the final area with the other gardens. The vine-covered treillage, or trellis, divides four one-color gardens. "There are no other one-color gardens in any other Minnesota park," according to David Morreim, Saint Cloud nursery supervisor during the development of the gardens.

He explained some of the engineering problems involved in the building of the treillage. The designer, Wayne Fuller, patterned the structure after a treillage at Easton Lodge in England. The arbor, over 100

feet long, features a 24-foot high central dome. The original plan did not anticipate that vines would cover the trellis and catch snow in the winter adding additional weight. So the engineers revised the plan to strengthen the structure while keeping the beauty of the design. The builders assembled the structure in sections in Alabama, then constructed it in Clemens Gardens.

The first year, Morreim planted "Heavenly Blue" morning glories along the trellis. "They climbed over the treillage creating a green tunnel effect that was quite nice," he said. Hanging baskets overflowed in the alcoves.

He used ideas from existing English gardens to plan the four monochromatic gardens. He loosely patterned the red garden after Lawrence Johnston's red border at Hidcote in England. Vida Sackville West's purple border at Sissinghurst Castle and Gertrude Jekyll's purple border both provided the inspiration for the purple garden. Many English gardeners have planted golden or yellow borders. The Churchills had a border of yellow roses planted at their country estate, Chartwell, to celebrate their golden wedding anniversary.

Choosing plants for the blue garden provided the biggest challenge. "There are not many truly blue plants that would give season-long blue color in Minnesota," Morreim said. "In horticulture blue is inter-

*Continued on page 4 • Treillage*



### Clemens Gardens

#### *Documenting History*

1985 • Formal Garden

1989 • Rose Garden

1993 • Rest Area Garden

1994 • White Garden

1995 • Perennial Garden

1996 • **Treillage Garden**

# *A Friend of the Gardens*

As I write this, we are still in the heat wave of 2012 and fall garden care is starting to sound like a good thing! Many gardening chores such as fertilizing, deadheading, dividing, watering, weeding, and mulching done correctly in the fall can get your gardens off to a great start in the spring. Fall is also an excellent time to do lawn care so your grass will be in good condition for winter and the spring growing season.

Begin by taking good care of your plants in late summer. Many perennial plants benefit from a final application of fertilizer around August 15. Check the nutrient ratio on the fertilizer container (nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium). Avoid high nitrogen fertilizer (high first number in the ratio) in the fall, and don't use a slow release formula. The idea is to feed the plant so it can store energy for the winter and not to encourage it to put out a lot of new leaves. Of course, you can fertilize your annual flowers to keep them blooming until frost. After they are done, all annuals should be removed from the garden before winter.

Deadhead perennial plants by removing the seed heads. The seed from many hybrid plants will not produce plants the same as the parent, so the seedlings are usually not desirable. Plants also use a lot of energy to produce seed, so removing the seed heads redirects the plant's energy to the roots. I am a gardener who does not appreciate "volunteer" plants everywhere, so I deadhead everything after it finishes blooming. Of course, you can leave the flower heads on coneflowers, rudbeckia, and sunflowers to let the birds eat the seeds.

Late summer and early fall are good times to divide perennials, especially peonies and bearded iris (in August), asiatic lilies, tall phlox, Siberian iris, and daylilies. Perennials will give evidence that they need dividing; they may have died out in the middle, have fewer or smaller flowers, or just grown too large for their space. Dividing some plants in the fall can save you time in the spring. Finish dividing perennials by mid September to allow the plants to grow before winter. Continue to water perennials in dry periods into October. By mid October, plants should be entering dormancy for the winter and should be able to rely on rainfall for their water needs.

Keep weeding your flower beds. Make sure the weeds do not go to seed to cause more problems next year. This is the time when sturdy perennial weeds are storing energy for next year and the best time of year to eliminate them. Use a dandelion digger to remove dandelions and other deep-rooted weeds. It is almost impossible to remove a thistle by digging but you can cut the plant back and carefully spray with weed killer, taking care to protect nearby desirable plants.

Perennial plants benefit from 4"-6" of mulch applied in late fall, just as the ground freezes. Depending on the weather this year, this will probably be sometime in November. Mulch helps the soil freeze gradually in the fall and warm up slowly in the spring. It helps the plants remain dormant if there is a winter thaw. Timing is very important. Winter mulch applied too early may invite rodents to move in and feed on the stems of your plants. Mulch that is too thick can cause anaerobic conditions (lack of oxygen) that lead to root rot, causing poor growth next season. Good mulch materials include leaves, straw, grass clippings, and compost.

You may have noticed that I did not mention cutting plants to

the ground in the fall. It is recommended that peonies be cut to the ground in early fall. Peony leaves should not be composted. Other healthy foliage plants can be left for the winter and stems removed in the spring. Stems catch leaves and snow that provide natural insulation for the plants in winter. I also find that the stems provide winter interest in my landscape.

Hardy shrub roses growing on their own roots may be fertilized for the last time in mid August. You should stop deadheading them in early September to allow the plants to harden off for winter. When deadheading is discontinued, many shrub roses will produce attractive "hips" for fall and winter interest. Hip production also helps the plant stop flowering and naturally go dormant for winter. It is not recommended to cut healthy canes back on hardy shrub roses in the fall because doing so may encourage new growth. Be sure to clean up any fallen rose leaves in late fall. Blackspot will overwinter on dropped leaves. Apply 4"-6" of mulch around the plant crowns in November at the time the ground begins to freeze.

What should you do with your vegetable garden in the fall? Clean up everything when the plants stop producing. A good fall cleanup can mean fewer plant and insect problems next spring and will save you a lot of time in the spring. Begin by removing all plants, fallen vegetables, and weeds from your garden. Do not compost diseased plant material or fruit.

Cutworms or grubs are often a problem in home vegetable gardens. Grubs eat plant roots and stems and will chew on root vegetables such as potatoes and carrots. They are most easily controlled by removing their food source. (Pesticides that work on grubs are not safe for use on food crops.) Our native cutworms begin their life cycle in the fall when the moth lays her eggs in your garden. The eggs or larvae overwinter and feed on plant roots in the spring. Removing all plant material (including weeds!) means they have no food. It is also helpful to till in the fall to destroy or expose eggs and larvae. Add composted material to the garden, but avoid "fresh" material that is food for grubs. Continue to monitor for weeds until frost. If weeds sprout, use a hoe to get them while they are young. Watch for tough perennial weeds and dig them out or use weed killer if necessary.

Deciduous trees and shrubs need water until mid fall, when they lose their leaves and go dormant. Evergreen trees and shrubs benefit from water a little later, up until the ground freezes. Do not prune in the fall because doing so will stimulate the plant to put out new growth that will not be winter hardy.

In Minnesota, autumn is the best time to do many lawn care chores. Between August 15 and October 15 is the best time to kill the perennial broadleaf weeds in your lawn. Weeds are actively growing and storing nutrients for next season so they will readily take up a broadleaf herbicide. The weeds may not die in the fall, but they likely will not return in the spring. Choose a herbicide labeled for use on the weed you are trying to control. Mix and apply according to the directions on the label and follow all safety precautions. Remember to protect nearby trees, tree roots, shrubs, and perennial plants from contact from the spray or drift; these plants can be killed or damaged by herbicides. It may not be necessary to spray the entire lawn—just walk around your lawn and

*Continued on page 4 • Garden Care*

# Fall Yard & Garden Care

by  
Joan Andersen

# Acorns and Oaks

by William M. Cook



By the time you read this, it will be fall in Minnesota. One autumn phenomenon that most people notice, even if they are not generally attuned to things going on with plants and trees, is oak trees and the seasonal acorn drop. Some years, for instance last year, you can't walk down any street without hearing the crunch, crunch of acorns under your feet. Other years there are very few acorns, and most people don't think about them. Have you ever wondered what that was all about, and why there are so many acorns one year every once in a while?

Oak trees are, of course, staples of southern and central Minnesota's forests. There are around eight kinds of oak trees in Minnesota, though the ones I see most often are white, bur, and red oaks. Although this varies by species, it is not particularly unusual for oak trees to grow to be over 100 feet tall and be 400 years old. Oak trees make for good quality lumber, and are often planted in towns.

Everyone knows that acorns are the seeds or nuts produced by oaks, and they are carried around and buried by squirrels. Beyond mice, squirrels, and other rodents, large mammals eat acorns as well. They are an important food source for deer and bears. Some birds will feed on acorns as well, and there are moth and beetle acorn feeders. The popularity of acorns as a food source has both advantages and disadvantages for oak trees. The good news is that animals carry the acorns around, sometimes burying them, and this helps to spread seed for the next generation of oak trees. Unfortunately, this means that a large number of acorns are eaten and thus can never grow. This brings us to the reason that oak crops are so variable.

Because so many animals eat significant numbers of acorns, and the relatively large nuts represent a large energy expenditure for the trees, the oaks need to be careful about how many acorns they produce. At first, you might think that if not enough seedling oaks are germinating, the trees need only to produce a larger crop of acorns the next year, drop more acorns than the animals can eat, and thus solve

the problem. However, this doesn't work ecologically. If oaks just put out larger and larger crops, the squirrel and other animal populations would reproduce in larger numbers because of the great food source, and thus still eat all the acorns. This is particularly true if the acorn crops are consistently large.

To avoid this problem, oak trees then vary their acorn production. Most years the crops are smallish, but about every six-to-eight years the trees produce a giant crop of acorns (this is called a mast year). Somehow most of the oak trees in a forest decide to do this all in the same year. 2011 was a mast year in the Saint Cloud area, and I remember one other mast year since I moved to the area in 2005 (possibly 2005 or 2006). In normal years, essentially all the acorns get eaten. However, by unpredictably producing a large crop once in a while, the animal populations are not able to ramp up in response, and in mast years more acorns get buried, are not eaten, and actually can grow.

Historically, acorns have been an important food source for humans as well as for other animals. Beyond meats, acorns were one of the best available protein sources for Native Americans in our area and much of what is now the United States. Because acorns are produced in large amounts, and can be dried and stored, they were depended upon by many cultures. It appears that Native Americans helped to manage acorn production by setting fires (oaks can tolerate light fires, while other trees may not), which also may have functioned to kill off insect larvae inside fallen acorns.

While acorns can be roasted and ground into flour, the main disadvantage of them as a food source is their acidity. Acorns have fairly high concentrations of bitter tannins, unlike nuts that we usually buy from the store. This means they need to be processed before eating by humans (some other animals don't care about this, of course). Leaching of tannins can be done either by soaking whole acorns in water for long periods of time, or by grinding them up and soaking the meal. Water, and particularly running water, soaks the

bitter compounds out of the nuts.

I have experimented with processing and eating acorns, after reading a fair amount about acorns as a food source. After collecting and shelling several boxes of acorns, I tried leaching them in several different ways. I tried soaking whole acorn meats in a bucket in my basement over the winter, changing the water every once in a while. This removed a fair amount of tannins, but the acorns were still bitter after six months. I tried drying, then grinding, and then soaking the acorns (now meal) in several changes of water. I found this worked best when keeping the meal in a jar in the fridge (approximately 1/3 to 2/5 acorn meal, the rest water) and pouring off the brown water 1-2 times per day for 10 days to 2 weeks. My favorite way of leaching the acorns was to boil them, but I found they needed multiple hours on the stove in several changes of water, and this would be energy intensive unless you were already heating with woodstoves. In any case, acorns need to be carefully dried after any of the steps where they get wet (including the first collection, where they get damp outdoors) and carefully dried in trays. Once made into flour, acorn meal can be mixed with flour in pancakes, or made into a pizza crust.

Ultimately, I view this as a "proof of concept" activity, where I proved to myself that I could make acorns into food if I had to, and can now say that I've done it. The time and effort required per cup of acorn meal was substantial, and I doubt I'm going to be making acorn meal on a regular basis. Nevertheless, I am glad I have had the experience.

Overall, I hope you have found my summary of the ecological and food properties of oak trees and acorns somewhat interesting. In September and October we will know if it is a mast year (it will probably not be), and how much food our furry, feathered, and foraging friends will have to store for the winter.

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## A special "Thank You"

to the Board of Directors and the members of the Munsinger Clemens Botanical Society for their support of Music in the Gardens since its inception in 1999. I have had the pleasure of being the coordinator of that series for the past 13 years but I have asked the board to seek a new coordinator to continue the series.

Music in the Gardens has been a self-indulgent labor of love for me since 1999. While a music department faculty member at St. Cloud State University I always felt that the City of St. Cloud could benefit from chamber music presentations in Munsinger Gardens. Any city that has gardens as beautiful and extensive as ours needed to find ways to multiply the beauty by adding music to the mix.

When I retired from SCSU in 1996 I had the opportunity to begin the development of the Music in the Gardens activity. The MCBS allowed me that opportunity by accept-

ing the sponsorship of the series. Their non-profit status made it possible to secure funding through gifts and grants from various sources. Here we are thirteen years later with a record of six successful performances each summer that the public has come to expect and enjoy. The addition of \$1.00 root beer floats by the volunteer workers from the MCBS has only added to the enjoyment of the events. An incomparable venue, generous city support in the form of electricity, labor, equipment and staff to make sure the gardens are ready for each performance has made each event a cooperative success.

The MCBS has added several activities to their presentations in both Munsinger and Clemens Gardens. I certainly encourage them to continue to serve the visitors to the gardens with any and all artistic events that enhance the beauty of the gardens and the esthetic presentations to the public.

Kenton Frohrip

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### Trellage • Continued from page 1

changeable with purple but that was not something I wanted to do." He used delphiniums, forget-me-nots, blue lobelia, and bachelor's buttons. Today the garden also includes flax, Russian sage, lisianthus, and an ageratum border.

Because few red perennials exist, Morreim added a red leaf Japanese maple and sand cherries for their red foliage. This year purple fountain grass and red coleus add foliage color to the red petunias, daylilies, and salvia.

For the purple garden Morreim considered a wide range of shades from light lavender to pink phlox, magenta liatris, and dark purple heliotrope. Cleome, cosmos, and tree roses add some pink highlights to the garden.

Morreim considered the yellow garden the easiest for choosing plants. Starting in the spring with daffodils through lilies and marigolds in the summer and mums in the fall, it bursts with color all season long.

To plant the gardens, the garden staff first spray-painted the outlines of the gardens and planted the flowers. Then the sodders came in to lay the circular grassy areas. "Instant lawn," Morreim said. In the fall they started adding bulbs to bloom the following spring. They planted tulips, jonquils, and hyacinths in the proper colored gardens. To provide privacy for the house on the corner, they added a "Techny" arborvitae hedge at the southern end of the garden.

The following year a bronze fountain found its home under the dome. Hebe stands atop the fountain. A light trickle of water overflows her cup. Under her, stand sculptures of the three graces: joy, bloom, and brilliance. They represent the talents of music and the arts. Their installation created a fitting finale to the series of garden rooms called Clemens Gardens that draw crowds of visitors each year.

*Editor's note: We thank Carole Pike for this excellent series documenting the history of Clemens Gardens. We thank her as well for her years of service to the MCBS community as she retires from newsletter writing.*

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### Fall • Continued from page 1

your camera and a note pad to record the names of your favorites.

Ornamental grasses "bloom" by sending up showy seed heads in late summer, an attractive contrast to the flowers. Be sure to enjoy the sound of grasses moving in the wind. Finally, we can't forget the bright colors of fall foliage from shrubs, trees, and Japanese maples found throughout the Gardens. Enjoy visiting in autumn when the weather is cooler and flowers are still at their colorful best.

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### Garden Care • Continued from page 2

spray individual weeds. Some challenging weeds (creeping charlie) may need a second treatment 20 to 30 days after the first.

Fall is also a great time to fertilize a lawn and help the crowns store food for next spring. The lawn will stay green in the fall and green up earlier in the spring, starting the next year ready to go when the weather conditions are right. You can do one application of fertilizer in late August and a second one in late October. It may not be necessary to use a combined "weed and feed" product. Your entire lawn will probably need fertilizer, but it may be sufficient to just spot spray for weeds. It is never a good idea to apply herbicide on a lawn when it is not needed. Also, be careful to keep any fertilizer products away from your sidewalk and driveway so that they will not be washed into a nearby storm sewer and end up in our rivers and lakes.

Late August and early September are also excellent times to seed bare spots in your lawn or seed a new lawn. The weather is cooler, which helps grass to germinate, and because many annual weed seeds will not germinate until spring they won't compete with sprouting grass shoots. Seeded areas will be well established by late fall, and will be able to better outcompete the weeds in the spring.

Autumn is a busy season for gardeners. The weather is cooler, making it pleasant to be outside. Once the work is done, clean your equipment and tools and store them for winter. After a busy season, it's nice to put your feet up and wait for the seed catalogs to arrive so you can plan next year's garden!



# IN DEFENSE OF MONARDA by Carl Hoffman

Thug, mildew magnet, sleeper, and aggressive invader are some of the negative terms used by gardeners to describe *Monarda didyma*, a common garden perennial. Also known as bee balm, bergamot, and Oswego tea, this perennial is loved, hated, or tolerated by gardeners. Because of its susceptibility to powdery mildew and its tendency to spread “enthusiastically,” it has difficulty making gardeners’ favorite plant list. Personally, because of its colorful crown-shaped flowers, hardiness, and fragrance, and because it is a hummingbird, bee, and butterfly magnet, I have tolerated its caveats and grown *Monarda* in my gardens for many years. With breeding programs producing cultivars that are shorter, mildew resistant, and less aggressive, I have become a *Monarda* lover and currently have eight different cultivars in my gardens.

Powdery mildew bothers the gardener more than the plant itself, and the leaves of a plant may appear to be dipped in powder one season and appear the next spring healthy and mildew free. There are some cultural practices—such as spacing plants for good air movement, cutting the plants to the ground each fall, picking up all infested leaves, and even applying a fungicide—that will help prevent an infestation of powdery mildew, but the best solution is to plant mildew-resistant cultivars. Resistance does not mean that a plant cannot get powdery mildew, but if an infection does appear it is limited to the lower leaves and does not ruin the display.

A second fault that gardeners may find with older cultivars of *Monarda* is its tendency to spread aggressively. The plants spread by creeping underground stems, and the plants must be divided often to keep them from becoming pushy. Frequent division also prevents them from becoming thin and dying back in the middle. I have even used a glyphosate product to control an overly aggressive “*Cambridge Scarlet*.” The only *Monarda* I have not liked was an unnamed white cultivar that I purchased at a plant sale. Its flowers were an ugly gray-white and it was very invasive, so I removed it after two years with an application of Roundup.

Two of my favorite newer cultivars are “*Coral Reef*” and “*Purple Rooster*.” “*Coral Reef*” is a three-foot plant with large bright coral pink blooms. It is beautiful in my garden behind the bright purple spikes of salvia “*Caradonna*” with the dark green leaves of “*Miss Kim*” lilac as a background. It is planted in a site where air movement is reduced and has shown no powdery mildew during the past three summers. “*Purple Rooster*” is an intense true purple, not the faded lavender purples that are often marketed as purple. This cultivar is a little shorter, reaching a height of 24-30 inches, and has great mildew resistance. My plant fell victim to some very hungry

four-lined plant bugs early in the season, but it still bloomed beautifully. Next year I am going to try cutting it back before it blooms to see if I can retard blooming until the “*Fireworks*” *solidago* behind it is in bloom.

Last fall I planted *Monarda* “*Fireball*” among my upright sedums. It grew to a height of 24 inches and bloomed nicely early this summer, adding color to the sedum plants with their green buds. Although the flowers were a beautiful deep red and many of them had double crowns, I was just a little disappointed in that they were not the bright red the name suggests. The plant shows no powdery mildew during a summer when conditions are conducive to this problem.

There are two “*Grand*” *Monardas* that I like very much. The “*Grand*” series of *Monardas* have been developed at the Morden Research Center in Canada. One of these is “*Grand Parade*,” which can be described as “*Petite Delight*” on steroids. It grows to a height of 18 inches and produces large lavender-pink flowers. I have grown it for about five years; it has remained in a nice clump and has shown no mildew. The second member of the “*Grand*” series of *Monarda* I have is “*Grand Mum*,” which has large mauve-pink mum-shaped flowers. It is a very showy plant that grows to a height of 18-24 inches and remains in a tidy clump with no powdery mildew. I am going to move this cultivar to the front of the border where it can show off.

Two older cultivars of *Monarda* that will always have a place in my gardens are “*Cambridge Scarlet*” and “*Raspberry Wine*.” The flaming red flowers of “*Cambridge Scarlet*” add color to the gardens over a period of about two months. Although it is susceptible to powdery mildew and has to be handled a little roughly once in a while to keep it from spreading, it is one of the most beautiful *Monarda* cultivars and is worth any extra effort needed to keep it controlled. “*Raspberry Wine*” is on the top of my favorite *Monarda* list. It is a taller plant reaching a height of four feet, making it a great plant for the back of a border. Its beautiful raspberry-red color is found not only in its blooms but also extending into the calyces and upper leaves. It blooms a little later than many *Monardas*, but the foliage color on the tips of the stems makes it attractive long before it blooms. I have found a little powdery mildew in the lower foliage and it needs a little dividing once in a while, but it is a great addition to a perennial garden or border.

If you are not currently growing *Monarda*, I encourage you to try one or more of the newer cultivars. I recommend any of those I have described, and there are many more available from nurseries and perennial catalogs. They are not very demanding as long as they have full sun and plenty of moisture. They flourish on the edge of water in full sun and make ideal rain garden plants. They are hardy and require no winter cover. I recommend cutting them to the ground in late fall and destroying the foliage to get rid of some of the disease-causing agents. In addition to being beautiful, hardy, fragrant, and attractive to hummingbirds and butterflies, they are deer resistant!

Can anyone recommend a *Monarda* cultivar that produces true white flowers?



# MCBS Events • 2011 • MCBS Events

## Munsinger Clemens Botanical Society has a new look!

We decided after thirteen years it was time for a new website.

It is a project in process but check it out.

[www.MunsingerClemens.com](http://www.MunsingerClemens.com)

If there are additions you would like to suggest, let us know.

***There is still time  
to take pictures  
in the gardens  
and enter the  
second annual  
MCBS  
Photo Contest.  
An entry form can  
also be downloaded  
from our website.***



## Memories of 2012 Art Fair in the Gardens

What a perfect summer day we had for the 2012 Art Fair in the Gardens! The flowers were blooming like crazy—it seems that most of them liked the heat of this summer. We enjoyed the displays of high quality art from 45 local and area artists. We had a wide variety of art for sale so you could decorate your home, garden, or yourself with everything from sculpture, garden art, photography, painting, pottery, jewelry, and much more. Food and beverages were available so people did not have to leave to get a meal. We also featured strolling musicians during the fair. Many people took a break to sit on a bench to look at the river and just enjoy the day. Put the date Thursday July 18, 2013, on your calendar and plan to attend the Art Fair next year with the most beautiful location anywhere!

—Joan Andersen

## Reciprocal Admissions Program (RAP)



The 2012 RAP Brochure  
for MCBS Members  
is available online  
in full color.

For a listing of RAP benefits go to:

<http://www.ahs.org/events/reciprocal/index.html>

## Local Garden Club Events

**Monday September 10** at 7:00 pm, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Albany. Sue Bagge will speak on "Japanese Gardens." Meeting is free and open to the public.

**Saturday September 22**, 8:00 am to noon, Whitney Senior Center, Saint Cloud. Gardening Knowledge for Free features classes on horticulture topics and is sponsored by the Stearns County Master Gardeners. The event is free, but you must call Stearns County Extension at 255-6169 to preregister.

**Monday October 8** at 7:00 pm, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Albany. Jayme Hennek will speak about "Orchids in Ecuador." Jayme is a Stearns County Master Gardener and will show photos and tell what he learned on his trip to study orchids in Ecuador.

**Monday October 15** at 7:00 pm, Whitney Senior Center, Saint Cloud. "Creating Ice Candles for the Holidays" by Craig Heurung, Saint Cloud Flower and Garden Club



2012



# Photography in the Gardens

Sponsored by Munsinger Clemens Botanical Society

Photos will be judged in two categories:

**Landscapes** (garden scenery) • **Hardscapes** (decorative features in the Gardens)

1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners will be chosen from each category.

Any visitor to the Gardens is eligible to enter.

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Entries must be mailed (and received by October 19) or delivered to the **Lake George Municipal Complex**.

Submissions delivered will be accepted October 18, 8:00 am - noon & October 19, 2:00 - 6:00 pm at Municipal Complex.

Photos will be judged Saturday, 9:00 am, October 20, 2012.

**Awards will be presented at a Public Reception on October 21, 3:00 pm in the Riverside Greenhouse.**

## Guidelines:

- Photos must be taken January through October 19, 2012, in Munsinger and Clemens Gardens. (Photos are now allowed in the Rose Garden.)
- There are two age groups:  
Youth - 18 years  
Adult
- No professional equipment is allowed.
- Pictures must be identified as taken in Munsinger and Clemens Gardens.
- Maximum of three submissions per photographer per category.  
Submission fee is \$10 for each adult entry and \$5 for each youth entry.
- **Printed copy.** Minimum size 8 x 10. Maximum size 16 x 20. All photos must be matted for 16 x 20 frame. Frames will be provided for display of the winning photos.
- **Digital copy.** JPEG of your photo on a CD must accompany the entry. (Be sure to write your name on CD)
- Contest features scenery in the Gardens therefore no people pictures or close ups of flowers.
- Tape completed entry form to back of each photo submitted. Copying of entry form is permissible.
- All digital photos become the property of Munsinger Clemens Botanical Society and will not be returned. All non-winning photos may be picked up at the awards ceremony or at LGMC October 22 - 26, 2012.
- Each entry constitutes permission to print photos without further compensation to the photographer. If used, credit will be given to photographer.
- Prizes: \$100 to 1st place adult winners in each category, \$50 to 1st place youth-18 winners. 2nd & 3rd place winners will receive Award Certificates.

**Winners will be notified Saturday, October 20, 2012.**



## Photography in the Gardens 2012

This form must be attached to each photo entry · Please Print Clearly

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Submit by  
October 19, 2012, to:

Lake George Municipal Complex  
1101 7th St. South  
St. Cloud, MN 56301

1. \_\_\_\_\_

Photo Entry Title

2. ☐ Youth-18 ☐ Adult (Select 1)

3. ☐ Landscape ☐ Hardscape (Select 1)

4. Garden where photo is taken:

- ☐ Munsinger ☐ Rest Area  
☐ Formal ☐ Rose Garden  
☐ Perennial ☐ White Garden  
☐ Treillage



## Gardening with Kids

by Donna Gorrell

Kids like to dig in the dirt. They like to make mud pies. They like playing with water. Many parents take advantage of these tendencies to get a little help in the family garden and at the same time have their children learn a few things about the dynamics of growth. The kids can enjoy planting vegetable seeds or plants and watching them grow to become carrots or tomatoes. Parents can share stories about their experiences as kids in gardens—much, perhaps, to the amusement of their offspring. I asked the MCBS newsletter writers if they had any gardening stories of when they were kids or stories about their kids.

So Carole Pike looked a ways back: During WWII, she wrote, most people planted victory gardens because it was the patriotic thing to do. We lived in Willmar at the time and had a large vegetable garden. Women then canned all of the vegetables to use during the winter. I was in grade school and had been told not to pick anything, but I couldn't resist sneaking a carrot. In the process of peeling it I cut off the very tip of my ring finger. With all the blood, my parents learned immediately that I had disobeyed. It was a self-inflicted punishment.

Poor Carole. What I remember about our family garden—back in Illinois, about the same number of years as Carole's story—was weeding amidst the strawberry plants, keeping an eye out for garter snakes and mosquitoes, and not getting too close to the grape arbor, which harbored yummy purple

grapes but also big yellow spiders. The strawberries tasted good, as did the apricots growing on a tree amidst the strawberries. On the other side of the grape arbor were currants and raspberries, plus tomato plants and other vegetables. My mom canned a lot of tomato juice, green beans, peaches that she bought by the bushel, and grape jelly and strawberry jelly. Her pride and joy were the hundreds of tulips that lined the vegetable garden, and she took care of those herself.

Bill Cook amused us with a story about his son: My now seven-year-old son, Danny, has always liked to dig. In previous years I have managed to steer these interests toward digging in sandboxes and large pots, but by 2011 he was big enough to handle a "real" shovel. One day in early June I was working elsewhere in the garden, and Danny really wanted to dig. Specifically, he was interested in digging a tunnel under our yard and out to the street. This seemed unlikely, but I let him go at it in the empty part of my vegetable garden where I hadn't transplanted the tomatoes yet. In a relatively short period of time Danny produced a hole about 15" deep and 18" across, and he was quite proud of himself. The hole was almost big enough to hide in! Unfortunately, when he tried to dig laterally to create a tunnel, the soil at the surface collapsed and this just made the hole wider. After about an hour or so of this Danny lost interest, but he was very resentful in subsequent days when I wanted to re-grade the garden to finish planting my vegetables.

Maybe you too have stories of gardening with kids? Share them with your family and friends—and with our newsletter audience as well, if you like. (dgorrell@stcloudstate.edu)

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