

# Garden Club of Ramsey County (GCRC) News Notes

Sept. 19, 2016

## Agenda

6:30 Business Meeting

- Membership
- Sunshine
- Slate of candidates
- Committee chairs still needed
- Mini Show
- Interested in hosting a picnic?
- Silent Auction
- Ask the Experts!

7:00 Refreshments

7:25 Guest speaker

**Tonight's refreshments** courtesy of Karen Parenteau, Joe Baltrukonis, Jennifer Porwit, Ann Hanson, Carol Morse, Julie Carlson, Doug Olson. Thank you!

## Tonight's program:

### ***Permanent Raised Beds the Permaculture Way***

**Speaker Marcia Baudino** used skills learned working two summers on an organic farm to transform most of her suburban residential yard into food production. Following Permaculture Principles throughout, her backyard has permanent raised beds to grow annual vegetables and her front yard has an integrated permaculture landscape including approximately 150 fruit bushes. Using food she grows and purchases from local farmers markets, Marcia fills four freezers each season with meals that sustain her family year round. Learn how to build, mulch, plant and maintain raised beds using Permaculture Principles. Companion and succession planting and crop rotation will also be discussed. Plan to enjoy abundant yields of annual vegetables with minimal labor.

## **Thanks for sharing your gardens!**

I would like to thank all our members who shared their lovely gardens through our popular Garden Gate events. I found it very inspiring and lots of fun. Lynn Marceau, our Garden Gate chairperson, did a fabulous job of communicating with those who opened their gardens and all the rest of us about the schedule and dealing efficiently with the need to change dates due to exceptionally hot weather!

## **Thanks for sharing your talent!**

If you picked up a MN Horticultural Society tote bag at the State Fair or saw the GCRC congratulatory ad in the Sept/Oct issue of Minnesota Gardener, you will have noticed the lovely logo created especially for this purpose by Lori Lorentz, a new member in 2015. Thanks Lori!

## **Time to clean up your garden and renew your membership**

When autumn winds start blowing it's time for gardeners to start thinking about cleaning up their gardens for the winter **and** renewing their GCRC membership. If you brought your checkbook tonight, take a moment to fill out your membership application and pay your dues for 2017. If not, bring home an application and mail it in **or** bring your checkbook next month. **The deadline for submitting 2017 applications and dues is October 31.**

Dues for 2017 are the same as last year:

- \$12 individual, \$17 dual for GCRC only.
- \$49 individual, \$57 dual for GCRC and the Minnesota State Horticultural Society (MSHS) combined.

Timely renewal makes it possible to get your contact information into next year's GCRC directory.

And, if you purchase a MSHS membership at the same time, it means your application and fee will be submitted to MSHS in time to continue your subscription to *Northern Gardner* without interruption. No one wants to miss an issue in winter when all we can do is plan for next year's garden!

One last thing - check over the list of committees on the membership form and indicate any in which you would like to participate. Remember, GCRC is an all-volunteer organization and it takes volunteers to make it work. Participating on a committee is a good way to get to know people and make GCRC friends!

## **Bulb exchange in October**

GCRC is going to try something new - a very informal fall bulb exchange. If you find you have more bulbs than you will need next spring, clean them off, bag them up, label them and bring them to the October meeting for exchange. Meet up with other members near the back entrance to the church shortly before the meeting and swap bulbs.

## **Calendar**

**Oct. 17**, GCRC meeting presentation, *Succulents 101 with the Succulent King*, Craig Johnson.

**Nov. 21**, Annual GCRC Bake Sale!

**Dec. 4**, GCRC Holiday Party and Silent Auction at the Pool and Yacht Club in Lilydale.

**Dec. 5**, GCRC board meeting, 7 p.m., note CHANGE in location, home of Mary and Doug Olson in St. Paul. All GCRC members may attend.

**Upcoming opportunities** offered by MN State Horticultural Society (651-643-3601):

- **MSHS Celebrates 150 years on Tangletown's Sustainable Farm** with wagon tours of sustainable farm and greenhouse, bluegrass music, picnic food, apples, farm animals and more; Saturday, Sept. 24, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., 140 County Road 9, Plato, MN; \$20 members/\$25 nonmembers/\$10 children.
- **DIY Organic Lawn Care**, Thursday, Sept. 29, 6:30 to 8 p.m., webinar on your computer, \$5 members/\$10 nonmembers.
- **Spring Blooming Bulbs**, Thursday, Oct. 6, 6:15 to 7:30 p.m., optional walking tour at 5:30 p.m.; Lakewood Cemetery and Mausoleum Reception Center, Minneapolis; \$25 members/\$30 nonmembers, appetizers will be served.

---

## **Garden Club of Ramsey County Board**

President - Mary Olson

Vice-President - open position

Past President - Ken Nordberg

Secretary - Brenda Severson

Treasurers - Kurt Klussendorf and Adina Overbee

Directors - Janet Scott, Karen and Michael Parenteau

Education Chairs - Susan Hawken and Andrea Steger

Plant Sale Chair - Laurie Krivitz

