

# Lake Owasso Garden Club

## March eNewsletter



### Next Meeting:

March 12, 2018

#### Location:

Presbyterian  
Church of the Way  
3382 Lexington Ave N  
Shoreview MN 55126

6:30 – Social,  
Snacks Provided

7:00 - Lecture

“Botanical Names”  
(Or, Latin 101)



Alex Eilts from the College of Biological Sciences at the University of Minnesota will talk us through the complexities and simplicity of the Latin names of plants. He warns that, despite the strange sounding names, botanical Latin can be descriptive, evocative, and, with a little background, very useful. We hope you'll be able to join us.

### February Event Recap – Composting

During our February meeting, Frank Dolesji from the Ramsey County Master Gardener program came to speak about composting and to talk a bit about the Ramsey County Organics Recycling program. The day after the meeting, he sent me two links and asked me to share them with everyone. Enjoy Karl Ford's [Ode to Insect Flight!](#)

[An Ode to Insect Flight](#) by Karl Ford

<http://blog-yard-garden-news.extension.umn.edu/2016/01/a-pictorial-ode-to-insect-flight.html>

[Magnificent Monarchs](#) by Karl Ford

<http://blog-yard-garden-news.extension.umn.edu/2016/01/magnificent-monarchs-karl-foord.html>

## March in Minnesota

Average High: 41°  
Average Low: 24°

Average Rainfall: 1.89 in  
Average Snowfall: 10 in

### March 1, 2018

Sunrise 6:50am  
Sunset 6:00pm  
Total Daylight: 11:41 hours

### March 31, 2018

Sunrise 6:55am DST  
Sunset 7:39pm DST  
Total Daylight: 12:44 hours

## Presidents Message

*We are having the Plant Sale Meeting this week for our 2018 inventory. This is one of my favorite tasks for the year. Last time several of you bought flats of a single variety. Let me know if you are interested in that this year.*

*Yesterday noticed again how quiet it is outside during a big snowfall. Can't even hear the cars on 694. Then the next morning everything is clean and white. Very pretty unless you have to go someplace.*

*In a little over two months will be picking up the plant orders, how different it will look from today.*

*Ron Kvass, March 2018*

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## Treasurer's report

**Balance is \$12,290. as of 2/12/2018.**



Our garden bed at the Muriel Sahlin Arboretum

## Secretary's report

LOGC February 12, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Members Present 14, with 3 Nonmembers visiting.

Our speaker for the evening was Ramsey County, Master Gardener, Frank Dolejsi. Frank spoke about the Ramsey County organics recycling program with instructions about where and how to recycle organics in our county. He also spoke about Composting and gave a good overview of the process and benefits of compost when added to our garden soil.

Ron Kvass called our business meeting to order and the agenda and discussion were as follows:

- 1) Ron Kvass, Beth Oelke and Wendy Lucas will have a floral arrangement in the Minneapolis Institute of Arts Spring "Art in Bloom" Show. They have chosen a modern piece that is sculptural in nature. It is a red scooter. They are listed as Pedestal Floral Artists. Ron explained the process of their selection of the work of art they chose and some of the preliminary flowers they are considering for their arrangement. "Art in Bloom" runs from April 26th through the 29th. It will be exciting to have LOGC members represented in the show. Ron suggested that our club make a field trip of attending this year.
- 2) Beth Oelke reported that the Flower Show committee had met in January and has finalized the schedule for the show, which is entitled, "Unlocking the Garden Gate". The dates for this are July 14-15th. More information will be presented in the next few months, with opportunities to sign up to assist with set-up, hosting, and take down.
- 3) Ron discussed the LOGC Plant Sale which is scheduled for May 18th and 19th. The flower sale committee will be meeting this month to discuss plant selections for the sale. Ron is getting publicity out to the city of Roseville about the Plant Sale.
- 4) Ron also promoted several garden related events going on or coming up. The first is the Winter Flower Show, the "Super Bold North", at the Como Conservatory. It runs through March 11th. The second is a lecture by meteorologist Paul Douglas on February 20th at 7 PM. The subject is Climate Change. This will be held at 7625 Chicago Ave South. Ron plans to attend and invited all to join him. Lastly, Dakota County Master Gardeners are hosting "Lets Get Growing" a gardening seminar on March 3rd. It runs from 8:00 to 2:30 at the Rosemount Community Center. The cost is \$40.00. Get in touch with Ron if you are interested in either activity.
- 5) Ron let LOGC members know that lifetime member Rose Diestler is now at Sunrise Health Care. The address is 2555 Snelling Ave North in Roseville. Rose appreciates visitors. Late morning or late afternoon seem to be good times to visit.

Ron thanked hostesses Lorene and Jim Roste and Monica Muckala for providing delicious snacks for tonight's meeting.

Submitted by Rebecca Patient (Substitute Secretary)

# "Just Add Water"

Articles and Photos by Soni Forsman

## **Ornamental rice, decorative plant for wet places**

**Dwarf black madras grass (*Oryza sativa*) is another of the gratis plants I received last spring. It is an annual ornamental rice grass with a dense fountain-like shape.**

**The upright, pointed foliage attains a height of 16 to 20 inches. The foliage breaks ground greenish bronze in color but quickly deepens to shades of burgundy-purple. By mid-summer, the flowers that produce the fruit/grain appear on branch-like spikes. In early fall, the spikelets heavy with the maturing grain arch over. It requires only sun and consistently moist soil.**

**This purple grass is multi-purpose – a singular specimen plant, mass plantings around a water garden and a strong contrasting color against a backdrop of green-foliaged plants. Additionally, this ornamental rice can also be used in the perennial/annual garden or in a mixed container of annuals if its basic requirements are met.**

**Dwarf black madras grass is a tropical perennial, hardy in zones 9-11. Even in those zones, it is generally considered an annual and grown each year from new seeds.**

**On arrival this grass was a root-bound plug with tattered foliage. I teased out the roots and planted it a one-gallon nursery pot and sat it in a bowl of water in the sun. It quickly became an attractive grass soon garnished with flowers that produced the grain. The colorful foliage and plant size would have been enough to make me consider growing it again. But, the mid-summer flowers and the ripened seeds that followed in the fall, makes that a definite. Its continually changing look added interest all growing season.**



**Late spring/early summer - Dwarf black madras grass (*Oryza sativa*) contrasts with green-foliaged plants in a container water garden.**



**Mid summer - Ornamental rice with flowers**



**Early fall- Spikelets arch under the weight of the maturing grain**

**Message from Ron,  
Please go visit *Rose Diestler* - She seems to have stabilized.**

**Sunrise of Roseville  
2555 Snelling Ave  
Room 203**

**Just behind Best Buy**

# "Brianna's Kitchen Garden"

## In the Kitchen – Turkey & Cheese Party Rolls

Sometimes you just need a little something quick to share. This is what I found to bring to an event in February and it was very well received! It also came together incredibly quickly. If you find yourself suddenly hosting a small group, give these party rolls a try.

Besides, I needed an excuse to use the (very small amount) of poppy seeds that I grew last summer. This worked out great!

### **Ingredients**

- 1 8oz. tube of Crescent Roll Dough
- 12-16 slices of deli turkey
- 12 slices of Colby Jack cheese
- ½ cup Butter, melted (1 stick)
- ¼ tsp. garlic powder
- 2 Tbsp. parsley, chopped
- 1 tsp. poppy seed

### **Instructions**

- Preheat oven to 350°.
- Roll out Crescent Roll Dough into 4 rectangle shapes and press together the diagonal seam.
- On each rectangle place 3-4 slices of turkey and cheese.
- Roll up each rectangle and press together seam gently to make 4 tubes.



- Slice each roll into 3 pieces to make a total of 12 rolls.
- Spray a 9×13 baking dish with cooking spray and arrange rolls evening.
- In a small bowl combine butter, garlic powder & parsley.
- Brush butter mixture over Crescent Rolls and sprinkle with poppy seed.
- Bake for 12-15 minutes or until the rolls turn golden brown. (Note: Mine had to cook almost twice as long but that might be because of oven issues; keep an eye on them and don't settle until it looks delicious!)

Source: <https://www.passionforsavings.com/hot-turkey-cheese-party-rolls/>

## In the Garden – Pruning



With the ice and snow we've gotten the past week, it doesn't really feel like spring is coming any time soon. (Thanks, Punxsutawney Phil) but by the end of March, it should start to feel like spring is just around the corner. Before that time gets here, I ask you to consider your trees and shrubs.

I have a pair of young apple trees – a Gala and a Sweet Sixteen – and a pair of blueberry bushes – a Jersey and a Patriot. All are dwarf versions and, hopefully, fit well into our yard as they mature. I'm looking forward to many tasty fruit as soon as the plants are large enough that the first passing squirrel doesn't eat them all. (I still haven't tasted my Sweet Sixteen and it's been 3 years already!) To help them reach their fruity

potential, I need to take care of them, and March is the best time of year for an annual trim. This applies to all shrubs and trees, fruiting or otherwise. There are lots of good reasons to do this – to make it more aesthetic, to keep a bushy growth habit, to remove unwieldy or dying parts, to prevent branches from rubbing together – but it's best to do this before it gets too warm.

In late March, the sun and air is starting to warm enough to wake our woody plants from their winter hibernation. Their sap begins to run and that's what we want. When we prune a tree or shrub, we are opening a wound in the tree. To heal from these wounds, trees and shrubs create a scab using their sap. That's why we prune in March instead of January or November, when they are mostly dormant.

Creating this sap-scab is very important to the plants because it keeps pests, bacteria, and fungus out – just like scabs do for people! This is another reason to prune in March. This time is too cold for most of those things to be active. Many won't be moving around until May or later. This gives your tree all of April and then some to fully recover from the pruning.

In these first few weeks of March, I recommend everyone spend a little time looking at their shrubs and trees. Without their leaves, it should be easy to see which branches need to be removed to help make your plants healthy and stronger. For more information, check out the Pruning information from Mike Zins and Deborah Brown at the University of Minnesota. I know I will be following their advice!

Source: <https://www.extension.umn.edu/garden/yard-garden/trees-shrubs/pruning-trees-shrubs/>

# Plant "Imagination"

## Perennial Flowers For Minnesota

Slideshow presentation, Press ctrl and left click mouse on link below.

Then, choose Adobe PDF file to view slideshow. (or, Microsoft PowerPoint)

<https://www.extension.umn.edu/garden/yard-garden/flowers/perennial-flowers-for-minnesota/>

# Taste That!

## Potato-stuffed Green Peppers 4 servings

- 4 large green bell peppers
- ½ c onions, finely chopped
- ½ cup red peppers, finely chopped
- 2 T olive oil
- Salt and Pepper to taste
- 1 T dried crumbled chives
- 2 C Mashed potatoes
- 2 C tomato sauce

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Slice away pepper tops below stems. Remove seeds and interior spines. Gently parboil peppers about 5 minutes. Drain upside down. Set aside.

Saute onions and red pepper in oil until soft. Add seasonings and mix well into mashed potatoes. Carefully stuff peppers, set them in a deep-sided baking dish. Pour tomato sauce around base of peppers.

Bake at 350 degrees for about 20 minutes covered. Uncover and bake 5 minutes longer. Serve warm, Calories 197 Fat 8 grams

## 2018 Officers

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## About LOGC

Monthly Lectures/Meetings (September-May)

Where: Presbyterian Church of the Way  
3382 Lexington Ave North,  
Shoreview MN 55126

### Website

<http://www.lakeowassogc.weebly.com>

There you can link to crosspollination for more clubs and calendar of events.

### Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/Lake-Owasso-Garden-Club-174124202623663/>

### Membership

\$25<sup>00</sup> per year

### Newsletter Submissions

Deadline is by the 25th of each month.  
The newsletter is released on the first of the month.

We welcome pictures (*provide a title and description, including Latin names of plants*), news items, and commentary. Send content via email to [raflipp@comcast.net](mailto:raflipp@comcast.net).



**What's going on in the Minnesota gardening world?**

Go to: <http://www.crosspollination.weebly.com>

***Once There:** You will find a calendar of events and links to many garden clubs and their Websites, Facebook, Twitter etc.*