



Wet Meadow – Coming Soon!

Our next meeting will be Monday, APRIL 14

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

6:30 pm – Social

7:00 pm – Joel Karsten is our April Speaker.

Straw Bale Gardens – Breaking New Ground! Grow a garden without WEEDING, without the “heavy lifting” and without getting down on your hands and knees. If you thought the only place to grow healthy vegetable crops was in black dirt, you must attend this presentation. Learn to grow a bountiful garden without using herbicides or insecticides. Learn to plant a wide variety of vegetables, root crops, vine crops, and even beautiful flowers, directly into your “conditioned” straw bales. Any backyard, concrete patio, rooftop or driveway, can become a productive garden space. Learn this revolutionary and easy NEW gardening method to create a beautiful and productive garden, without lifting a shovel and without using soil.

Bio:

Gardening is in his blood! Karsten is the author of two best-selling books on Straw Bale Gardening which sprouted from seeds planted by his Grandma Josephine when he was only knee high. In March 2013 the New York Times called his method “revolutionary” in a full page feature article that has sparked over 600 media appearances in the months since then, launching “Straw Bale Gardens” his latest book to the best seller list internationally. Karsten’s methods have already inspired publishers in 12 foreign languages to translate the book for sale all over the world. He has appeared at several international gardening events around the world and is passionate about sharing his methods with gardeners everywhere. Karsten is a proud graduate of the University of Minnesota in Horticulture Science, and is also a member of the Certified Nursery Professionals through the Minnesota Nursery and Landscape Association. His presentations are always fun, very educational, and inspiring. He will encourage audiences to try new concepts, ideas, and techniques, washing away any hesitation they’ve ever had about vegetable gardening!

Lake Owasso Garden Club

April

Presidents Message

Dear Gardening Friends,

Just two meetings remaining before we will be on garden tours! Offering your yard for a tour is such a wonderful way to gather together, appreciate the different styles we all express in our landscape and get to know each other better. Talk with any member of the programming team,

I would like us to continue our discussion on how our club will serve communities. I gave Rebecca Patient permission to sign us up to do flowers for the vets. Enough people expressed interest in designing and purchasing flowers, so it will not hurt our funds and it's us reaching out. A suggestion to do flowers for a local senior residence was suggested. I think it's a great idea. I'd like to have one or a couple of people volunteer to find a senior residence that is willing to let us bring in sunshine and I, for one, am willing to help decorate public areas in a senior home. For the Roseville arboretum, maybe we could do a sign-up sheet like we do for hostessing, which could help us turn out in greater numbers.

I've called the library, trying to get a reservation for our flower show and not having my calls returned. I hope to have better news when we meet in April. There will still be time to plant annuals for planters to enter or horticulture to show at the plant show.

I received an email from Minneapolis Institute of Art about the lectures that are being offered for the Art in Bloom and I've asked Dick to include it in the newsletter. They are having celebrity designers giving talks, which will be fabulous. I hope some of you will join me in going to a lecture.

With hope that the snow will disappear before our April meeting,

Wendy Lucas
President of LOGC

Member Tours

Please consider sharing your garden on a member tour this summer. We are looking for members to share their gardens in June, July or August. You can email Rebecca Patient at bbpatient@gmail.com if you are interested. There will also be a sign up sheet at our next meeting. Don't be shy!! We love to look at your gardens.

Thanks, Rebecca

LOGO CONTEST!

Most groups have a logo and it's time for us to develop our own. It will catch eyes on the Cross Pollination web page and become an identifier in our handouts for plant sales, parades and flower shows. Sharpen your pencils and sketch our new logo. You know our club, think about a logo that displays our focus and mission. Don't worry about not being an artist; the sketch does not have to be perfect. Dick Flipp has a friend with the skill to create the final rendition of our logo. We need your ideas.

Submissions will be collected at our January and February meetings. You can submit one or more ideas. With each sketch submission enclose a paragraph explaining how the logo identifies our club. If you will be out of town, mail it to me or any friend in the club. (Wendy Lucas, 69 Jessica Ct., Little Canada 55117)

Who will be the judge? I'll be looking for a committee of people to narrow down the entries to the top three or four. The plan is to scan the those images and explanatory paragraphs in the March newsletter so we can study them before we vote at the March meeting.

Besides bragging rights, a gardening prize will be awarded for the winning entry. We have a club of creative people who are amazing. I'm excited to have us create our own logo!

Wendy Lucas, President of LOGC



Secretary Report

Minutes of Meeting March 10th, 2014

29 members present

Wendy Lucas brought the meeting to order @ 8:20

A signup sheet was passed around for the summer garden tours. If you did not attend the meeting and your feeling this may be the year to volunteer, contact Vatsala Menon .

Chase Davies (church member) spoke to the club about donating time to help with the gardens around the church. This is informal with no time restrictions or specific days. She would e-mail individuals that have volunteered and whoever shows up she will put you to work.

Evie Larson will again have a workshop for the garlands to be sold @ the renaissance festival. The federated reimburses us \$2.00 for every one completed. Check the website for more info. It will be sometime around the 1st of April.

Ron Kvass has had 2 meetings for the plant sale to be held on May 16th and 17th. The committee ordered 45 flats with 9 of those being annuals. The plants will be picked up the last of April. If anyone is interested in going with to check out South Cedar in Lakeville contact Ron or Kirsten.

Still no drawings have been submitted for a logo for the LOGC.

Wendy asked for a show of hands to determine if there is enough interest in a flower show. With the members that attended it was decided to have a show and Wendy will call the library to set up a date so as not to conflict with other volunteer projects.

Wendy discussed having less money in reserve in our treasury. (See Treasurer's report). A sheet was passed around asking for suggestions focusing on projects our club may get involved in. The Veteran's hospital has various Garden Clubs around the Twin Cities bring in fresh flowers during the summer months and they will provide the vases w/water. Sally Gutierrez made a motion to accept the project and Rebecca Patient 2nd it.

A suggestion was also made to possibly work with nursing home residents and do the garden in a box. The garden club would purchase the boxes. Kirsten thought we should focus more on the arboretum.

Meeting adjourned at 9: 00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Lois Witzel, secretary

Treasurer Report

Balance 7,310.46

Art In Bloom

PRESENTED BY FRIENDS OF THE INSTITUTE

TIMELESS ART – FRESH FLOWERS

What better way to get ready for spring than to start thinking about flowers! The 31st *Art in Bloom*, at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts (MIA), will feature 160 floral arrangements that complement the MIA's world-class art collection. *Art in Bloom* 2014 is sponsored by Friends of the Institute and runs from Thursday, May 1, through Sunday, May 4, 2014.

This year we have a **very special offer for members of the Lake Owasso Garden Club**. The cost of each lecture is \$30, and with the purchase of 10 or more tickets to any lecture at *Art in Bloom* 2014, your members will be eligible for a private, docent-led tour at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts—a \$125 value. This year's outstanding lecture series includes:

- White House florist, Laura Dowling, will create "blooms with a view" in a new romantic style on Thursday, May 1, at 10 a.m.
- Author James Farmer will focus on entertaining as he creates "tablescapes" on Thursday, May 1, at 2 p.m.
- National and international university lecturer, Bill Taylor, will speak on the history of flower arranging on Friday, May 2, at 10 a.m.

Each one-hour lecture includes a floral demonstration. Thursday and Friday morning lectures include a coffee event at 9:30 a.m.—exclusively for ticketholders.

Art in Bloom is Friends of the Institute's largest annual fundraiser. Proceeds from this event allow the Friends to continue its strong support of the MIA, which includes educational tours and transportation for school children, as well as funding for exhibitions, restoration and art acquisitions.

We hope you will take advantage of this very special offer. Attached you will find additional information, including an order form. The deadline for orders is Thursday, April 17.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email us at aib2014groups@gmail.com or call (612) 870-3045. We look forward to seeing you at *Art in Bloom* 2014.

Sincerely,

Katie Remole and Julie Holland

Co-chairs, *Art in Bloom* 2014

P. S. To learn more about the exciting activities planned as part of *Art in Bloom* 2014, visit us at www.new.artsmia.org/art-in-bloom-2014.

P.P.S. From Wendy -- Sign up for lectures at the April LOGC meeting, and if we have 10 people interested, those people are able to be in a free docent led tour of Art in Bloom. We have to sign up as a group and all have checks to turn in at the meeting. If there would be any empty spaces on the free tour, we will have a drawing for additional members to take the tour. See attached document for details.

RIBBON GARLAND WORKSHOP, April 23rd at 7pm.

Anyone interested in putting together ribbon garlands to support the FGCM at the Renaissance Festival,

Contact: Evie Larson, 651-633-4434 Eviel3@yahoo.com

ART IN BLOOM 2014
LECTURE/DEMONSTRATION SERIES



LAURA DOWLING

“Flower Concepts, Crafts and Color: New Inspiration in the Garden Style”

Thursday, May 1, 10 a.m.

Pillsbury Auditorium

As the chief floral designer at the White House, Laura Dowling is known for her new “garden-style” approach to creating floral arrangements. She often combines contrasting elements and colors while gathering inspiration from the woods, meadows, vineyards and gardens. Dowling’s style can be tailored to arrangements for everyday life or they can be grand displays for grand events. Dowling, who attended L’Ecole des Fleurs in Paris, will discuss and demonstrate her unique style and approach to floral design.

JAMES FARMER

“Splendid Spring: A Time for Renewal”

Thursday, May 1, 2 p.m.

Pillsbury Auditorium

James Farmer is a well-known author of several garden-to-table lifestyle books as well as the editor-at large for *Southern Living Magazine*. Farmer’s style inspires gardens that contain vegetables, herbs and flowers that can be used for fresh cuisine, fresh floral arrangements and even fresh beverages. A passion for the land and for Southern food, Farmer’s garden-to-table style has been featured on NBC’s TODAY show, HGTV, *Good Housekeeping*, among others. Farmer, a native of Kathleen, Georgia, will combine food and flowers to teach the audience how to create the perfect tablescape.



BILL TAYLOR

“The History of Flower Arranging from the Egyptians to the Present”

Friday, May 2, 10 a.m.

Pillsbury Auditorium

Bill Taylor has over 30 years of experience in floral design. His passion lies in the history of floral arrangements. He has taught design classes in 45 states, Canada, China, Thailand and Japan. Additionally, he has created arrangements for several Rose Bowl parades, presidential inaugurations and the San Francisco Opera. Taylor, a past president of the American Institute of Floral Designers, will explore the history of floral design and create arrangements that correspond to significant periods in floral history.

Plant "Imagination"



Hepatica nobilis var. acuta

Also called Common Hepatica, Liverleaf, Liver Leaf, Liverwort

It is of the Buttercup Family - Ranunculaceae

Hepatica flowers in the spring and brings color as early as April though most bloom in May. Hepatica is hardy and can withstand night frost, and even an extended winter doesn't cause any irreparable damage. It is known to flower in the autumn too. Hepatica varies with regards to its color and leaf form. Red and white flowers are not so rare and white-spotted leaves are quite common. It spreads through its seeds, which are transported by ants. It can produce thousands of seeds over its lifetime. It is identified as a poison.

Taste That!

Taco Stuffed Shells



Note: This is a recipe you may want to double because as long as you're going to the effort of stuffing the shells you might as well double it and freeze half.....besides you will realize how amazingly delicious it is and you'll regret not doubling it... If frozen, put in oven at 350 for 1 hour. Freeze on cookie sheet, then put in ziplock bags.

1 lb. ground beef or turkey
1/4 cup taco seasoning, 1 envelope
4 oz. cream cheese, cubed
12 Jumbo Pasta shells, cooked according to package instructions
1 cup salsa
1 cup taco sauce
1 cup shredded cheddar cheese
1 cup shredded Jack cheese

Optional Toppings:

1 1/2 cup crushed tortilla chips
1 cup sour cream
3 green onions, chopped
sliced olives
guacamole
sliced avocados
tomatoes

In a skillet brown meat over medium heat. Add taco seasoning and mix to combine. Add cubed cream cheese, cover and simmer so cream cheese can melt. Remove from heat and cool. Fill cooked shells with about 1-2 T. of meat mixture. In a 9x13 glass baking dish pour salsa to coat the bottom of dish. Place filled taco shells on top then add taco sauce. Cover and bake @ 350 for 30 minutes. Remove from oven, uncover, and sprinkle cheese on top, return to oven for another 15 minutes or until cheese is melted and bubbly. Serve with sour cream, and toppings of your choice.



The **new** website is up and running – please check it out!!

<http://www.crosspollination.weebly.com> Once there, There you will find a link to:

The **new** Lake Owasso Garden Club website: <http://www.lakeowassogc.weebly.com>

On our LOGC website you can link to our **Facebook** site

Or, you can start out at the new LOGC website and go to crosspollination! It's so easy.

Our Google Doc

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/ccc?key=0AvDTcsB_CgstdE81dUVQNEFrBINUSDBWd250QlpGYWc

Address for our meetings

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

Newsletter submissions

We welcome pictures (please title, include latin names of plants), news items, and commentary, preferably via email to raflipp@comcast.net **Deadline** is by the **25th of each month**. I will try to get the newsletter out on the first of the month.

Also, remember our club's **Facebook** page. It is a great place to post pictures and share what's in bloom.

President	Wendy Lucas	wendyalucas@comcast.net	Phone 651-482-8592
Vice Presidents	Rebecca Patient	bbpatient@gmail.com	Phone 651-647-9034
	Angie Hoffman-Walter	hoffm011@umn.edu	Phone 651-639-9421
	Vatsala Menon	vatchimenon@gmail.com	Phone 651-490-0255
	Irene Brink	oreobrink@gmail.com	Phone 651-481-9399
Secretary	Lois Witzel	jolowitzel@gmail.com	Phone 651-484-1885
Treasurer	Evie Larson	eviel3@yahoo.com	Phone 651-633-4434
Editor	Dick Flipp	raflipp@comcast.net	Phone 651-484-4123