



*The ornamental **flowering plum** with snowy branches ----- will soon **please the eye** once again.*

photo's by Anne Flipp

Lake Owasso Garden Club

March, 2012

Presidents Message,

The month of March and the Minneapolis Home and Garden Show certainly bring the promise of spring for me. I will be attending the show today, and after hearing great reviews of the event from my gardening friends I am looking forward to seeing the exhibits of colorful flowers and project ideas to consider for completion on warmer days.

I am excited to hear our speaker for this month, Glenn Ray, speaking on "Gardening in the Bleak Season". This year, we will have a new adventure for our club relating to this topic. After hearing him speak this month, we will then visit his garden on March 10th to actually see his landscape design ideas he will have just spoken to us about. To come full circle and see how he has created this winter wonderland, we will return to his yard in another outing in August to see it in full bloom. It will be interesting to see how structure and design translates and changes with the change of seasons. I hope to see many of you at the meeting and for the excursion on March 10th. (We will also be visiting Orchid's Unlimited that same day.)

Of special note, I'm sure I speak for all of our club members in extending our deepest sympathy to Pat Costello for the loss of her husband Mike this last month. She has been such an iatrical part of our club activities by providing her home for our plant sale and chairing this activity as well. May peace and blessings be with you.

Mary Battee

Meeting, Monday March 12, social at 6:30

Speaker at 7pm, 'Gardening in the Bleak Season' by Glenn Ray.

Glenn, received honors from Governor Rudy Perpich for outstanding achievement in State beautification efforts and was given a cabinet position without portfolio in which he would advise about policies which would aid beautifying the state of Minnesota.

Secretary's Report by Lois Witzel,

Minutes of Meeting February 13, 2012, 25 members present

Mary Battee, President, brought meeting to order

Rose Diestler will chair the Flower Show with Kathy Kress and Norene Feldsien as Co Chairs to be held at the Roseville Library, August 4-5th. Theme will be "Sharing Garden Joy". Start saving your green bottles for the horticulture division and the powers that be need to know what you intend to enter so a space can be provided.

Char Ethen volunteered for the Annual Bed at the Arboretum. A meeting will be held in March for planting in May. Anyone interested can call Char.

Ron Kvaas passed around the 2012 Programs. He has done a great job with lining up this year's speakers. Thanks from all the members.

Steve Gonzales (speaker for February) brought some orchids to auction off at the meeting. Fun time had by all.

March 10th / Orchid Tour in Plymouth/leaving @ 9:00 a.m. from City Hall.

July 13th and 14th Lacrosse overnight trip

March 12th meeting Glenn Ray, Landscape Designer, topic "Gardening in the Bleak Season." Hostesses are Deb Ferrington, Monica Mukala and Mary Vorhes.

Mary Battee adjourned the meeting and Kirsten Engelbrecht 2nd.

Treasurer's Report by Kirsten Engelbrecht

TCF Bank balance was \$8,699.28 as of February 21, 2012.

Mary Fowler will be doing an audit of the LOGC finances for 2011 in the coming month.

"Sharing Garden Joy"

That is the theme title for the 2012 Lake Owasso Garden Club's Standard Flower Show.

The show will be at the Roseville Public Library August 4th and 5th with setup on the 3rd. All members are urged to participate by entering and/or serving on one of the show committees.

Short information sessions will be held at the March, April and May meetings. These will serve to refresh our memories about the different aspects of a flower show and will explain any NGC rule changes that may have occurred in the past two years.

When purchasing plants, bulbs, seeds that you may want to use to enter in the show, SAVE the complete name of the item as listed on the package. You will need this information when filling out your entry tag.

Also, please save any green glass bottles (beer, pop, wine, etc) to use for horticultural specimens at the show.

Flower Show Chairmen, Rose Diestler: gardenrose@q.com

Address and directions for meeting

Our monthly meetings are held in the Keller-Williams Training Room, courtesy of Keller-Williams Realty, 2680 Snelling Ave N, #100, Roseville, MN, 55113. From Snelling turn east onto County Rd C, then turn north at the light on E. Snelling Service Road (just east of Snelling). The building is a light brick two-story structure on the corner of County Rd C and E. Snelling Service Road. The meeting room is straight back and to the left on the main floor.

Newsletter submissions

We welcome pictures(please title), 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

Plant "Imagination"



Phlox paniculata 'Bright Eyes'

This garden phlox 'Bright Eyes' has very large flower heads that are pale pink with a very prominent hot-pink eye-zone. A very reliable and long blooming variety - Bright Eyes begins blooming in late spring and stays in color right up until the cool weather of fall sets in. The butterflies have to share this Phlox with the humming birds - both are attracted to the very fragrant blossoms. Bright Eyes has resistance to powdery mildew.

Plant in full sun and provide a rich well drained soil. Fertilize in early spring with a top dressing of compost and bone meal. Liquid feed with compost tea or fish emulsion just as buds begin to form in midsummer. Or, if you are a low maintenance gardener like me do nothing but watch it grow. Remove spent flower heads to prolong flowering. Keep plants well watered during hot dry spells. Want to see? Visit the MWGS (Minnesota Water Garden Society) garden at the State Fair -- it is near the front and just left of the pond.

Taste That!

Dick's Wild Rice Casserole

3 pkgs. Jimmy Dean Sausage (1 each of hot, mild, regular) browned in microwave, do not drain. Separate into small pieces and interrupt the microwave and break into smaller pieces as it cooks. Do not overcook. Should be finely, chopped.

1 lb. Wild Rice & 8 cups of water (with 8 scoops or cubes of chicken bouillon). Bring water to boiling then Simmer at 250-275 for 60 minutes. Keep covered at the beginning /part of the time thereafter. **Keep adding water so that rice is covered.** Rice is done when it is soft. I let it set until I am ready to mix the ingredients before I drain it. **Check and keep covered in water as it cools.**

1 cup sliced mushroom finely chopped (the smaller the better)

1 cup onions finely chopped.

1 stalk of celery finely chopped.

Sautee Mushrooms, Onions, Celery, in butter until soft.

2 cups diced chicken, (family pack of thighs) (bake in oven then remove skin and bones and dice).

DRAIN THE RICE (and rinse)

When the above are ready it is time to mix in largest bowl you have all the ingredients from above and then add below.

2 cans 'Cream of chicken mushroom' soup.

1 can 'Cream of celery' soup.

½ cup Milk.

¼ tsp Oregano.

¼ tsp Thyme.

¼ tsp Marjoram

¼ cup Pimento (optional, and I do not use). Also, optional cover the finished dish with slivered almonds (I do not do this either)

ALL INGREDIENTS MIXED, place in 2 glass (9x13) casseroles and bake at 350 degrees for 25 minutes. It usually takes longer than that.

Look for the juice to bubble at the sides of the dish. Keep covered with tinfoil until cooked and then take it off to brown the top if desired. (If freezing before use, then do not brown until reheated)

Editor, Dick Flipp, raflipp@comcast.net

Phone 651-484-4123