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Letter to MCBS

from
Rosie Court, Gardens Staff Member

I would sincerely like to congratulate the Munsinger Clemens Botanical Society on your 11th season of dedicated service and contributions to the Gardens. Due to your vision, team effort, diligent leadership, and commitment of time and talent, you have helped to promote the Gardens. Back in your first year as an organization you planted the seed, and you have grown to be a viable and financial source and social outlet for this captivating place of beauty.

Your mission to support the Gardens, sponsor events, and purchase major equipment to assist in maintenance of the Gardens is greatly appreciated. The success of your planning endeavors is evident in the large number of people attending these social outings. Since the Gardens are a perfect environment for enjoying the great outdoors, the events add to their appeal, giving visitors another pathway of opportunity to enjoy the splendor of the Gardens.

The enchanting Evening in the Gardens, a popular social event for MCBS members, is always well attended. Each year the theme changes. The banks of the Mississippi are a perfect setting for the elegant affair.

Continued on page 2 • Letter



MCBS Photography Contest

by Carole Pike

Calling all photographers.

This year you have an opportunity to enter a photo contest that will help create a record of scenes around Munsinger Clemens Gardens for future generations to enjoy. Sponsors of the event, the Munsinger Clemens Botanical Society, have named the contest Photography in the Gardens. Contest chair Mary Margaret Bjorklun says it gives people a purpose for coming to the Gardens. "We have Art in the Gardens, an Evening in the Gardens, and Music in the Gardens," she said. "Now Photography in the Gardens provides an additional incentive for people to visit and enjoy the Gardens."

The contest runs through September 15, 2011. To find subject matter, entrants may wander anywhere from the shade of Munsinger to the brilliant sun of Clemens. However, contestants may not shoot photographs in the Rose Garden. Photographers may enter their work in two categories: landscapes that include plants and flowers, and hardscapes

Photography in the Gardens

that deal with the decorative features such as fountains and urns. Photos should feature the scenic beauty we all enjoy, not close-ups of plantings or people. Also, judges will want to identify that the photos were taken in Munsinger or Clemens Gardens. No professional equipment or tripods will be allowed because of potential damage to the Gardens and interference with workers and visitor traffic.

People are advised to photograph in the early morning or late afternoon, avoiding the hours between 10 am and 2 pm when the overhead light is flat. Other advice includes looking for repetition of shapes, reflections, and natural designs, always considering a clean background.

Photographers may enter one of two age groups: Adult or Youth (18 or younger). Contestants should submit photos 8 by 10 inches or larger, mounted and ready to hang. Framing is optional.

Continued on page 2 • Photo

A Friend of the Gardens

Delectable food accompanied by wine tasting is served on artistically decorated tables. Socializing guests are serenaded by soothing music provided by local talented musicians.

Art Fair in the Gardens is a great venue for local artists to sell their unique artwork and crafts. As visitors meander through flower-lined pathways they are entertained by local musicians. An added attraction to the Art Fair is local artists demonstrating the process of creating their unique handcrafted artware.

For 11 years the Sunday concert series remains a popular well-attended event. Music in the Gardens has been a huge success and a summer highlight for hundreds. Munsinger Gardens is a great site for the concerts offering a variety of music featuring local talent. The location offers a vantage point and peaceful setting for relaxing in lawn chairs under a canopy of mature trees and with a view of the river. The 2011 scheduled performances include another interesting line-up of musicians ranging from Jazz to Folk. A special thanks to the volunteers who devote their time serving the refreshing root-beer floats to the concert attendees.

The newsletter of the MCBS keeps us informed as to events, contains interesting articles on plants, gardening, and history of the Gardens, and updates us on what's happening in the Gardens. I thoroughly enjoy Carl Hoffman's informative and interesting articles, in particular his recent "11 Perennials for 2011."

The employees are grateful for the purchase of staff t-shirts and the seminar tuition paid for with your donations. Last fall eight staff attended an informational seminar on Landscape Design Principles and Plant Selection. The course was sponsored by the U of M Department of Horticultural Science.

The Munsinger Clemens Botanical Society can be proud of your continuous efforts to create a cultural atmosphere in the Gardens. As a result, individuals and families have more opportunities to enjoy all that this world-class garden has to offer. As patrons of the Gardens you have put down roots and toiled with innovative ideas cultivating widespread interest. With your strong network of loyal supporters including Friends of the Gardens you continue to be a viable force of financial means creating a positive impact on the Gardens.

On behalf of the staff at Munsinger/ Clemens Gardens I thank current and past board members for your overwhelming support and commitment as an advocate for the Gardens. We celebrate the success of the past eleven seasons and look forward to the 12th season with the planned activities. The valuable members of Munsinger Clemens Botanical Society not only are a true asset for the gardens but have added to the vitality of Saint Cloud and surrounding communities.

The judges will not allow digital alteration of photos. Adult entrants will pay \$10 per entry, entrants in the Youth category \$5. Contestants should tape a completed entry form to the back of each photo. Each entrant may submit a limit of three photos in each category. Entry forms may be picked up at the Gardens Gift Shop, Saint Cloud camera shops, the Lake George Municipal Complex at 1101 Seventh Street South, Saint Cloud 56301, or online at the MCBS website (munsingerclemens.com). Photographers may copy the entry form.

Munsinger/Clemens Botanical Society will award \$100 for the first-place Adult prize in each category and \$50 for first-place Youth. Second and third places will receive framed certificates. All photos become the property of Munsinger Clemens Botanical Society and cannot be returned. Each entry constitutes permission to print photos without further compensation to the photographer. Photographers may mail entries to the Lake George Municipal Complex or submit them in person between 8 am and 4:30 pm September 12-15. Judging will take place on September 16. The Botanical Society will announce the awards at a ceremony and public reception September 18 at 3 pm in the Gardens greenhouse, after which the public may view the winning photos. All gardeners, nature lovers, and any who appreciate beautiful spaces are invited to enter.

Photo Contest Entry Form on Page 7 of this newsletter.

Local Gardening Groups

Benton County Master Gardeners

Contact: Janelle Daberhow, Extension horticulturist
320-255-6169

Granite City Rose Society

Where: Whitney Center
Contact: Debra Keiser • 320-251-0442
President: dkeiser@charter.net

St. Cloud Flower and Garden Club

Where: Whitney Center
When: 3rd Monday of the month • 7:00 pm
Contact: Debra Keiser • 320-251-0442
Craig Heurung • 320-654-8061

Stearns County Area Horticultural Society

Where: Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Albany.
When: 2nd Monday of the month, 7:00 pm
Ken Birr • President
Contact: Diane Jesh • 320-836-2941

Stearns County Master Gardeners

Where: Whitney Center
Contact: Janelle Daberhow, Extension horticulturist
320-255-6169

St. John's Arboretum

Where: St. John's Abbey
Contact: 320-363-3163

Sartell Volunteer Garden Club

Where: Sartell City Hall
When: 1st Tuesday of the month
Contact: Jessie Kovel, 320-203-0124



Japanese Beetle: Attractive and Destructive by Carl Hoffman

Gypsy moth, Japanese beetle, multicolored Asian lady beetle, soybean aphid, emerald ash borer, apple curculio, and the recent addition, brown marmorated stink bug—these are some of the important invasive insect pest species that have entered the US and Minnesota and are causing significant problems to crops and landscape plants, plus being just nuisances. These pests have few, if any, natural enemies and their populations grow rapidly causing them to continue to spread across the state. Because identifying these insects and eliminating them while the populations are small is the best control, it is imperative that we all learn how to identify these pests and practice vigilance.

Most of us have learned to identify the emerald ash borer and its damage. This insect is extremely destructive of all species of native ash trees and is rapidly encroaching on central Minnesota. We have learned to look for this emerald green metallic wood boring beetle—and hope we do not find it.

While we expend a lot of energy to ensure immediate identification of the emerald ash borer, another very destructive pest, the Japanese beetle (*Popilia japonica*), has been moving toward our immediate area. This beetle is especially destructive because the adults feed on the foliage and fruits of several hundred species of fruit trees and on ornamental trees and shrubs, flowers, and field and vegetable crops. Meanwhile, the grubs develop in the soil, feeding on the roots of various plants and grasses, often destroying turf in lawns, parks, golf courses, and pastures. Today, the Japanese beetle is the most widespread turf-grass pest in the United States—and it is headed toward us!

If you were to hold an adult Japanese beetle in your hand, you might ask how an insect so attractively colored could be so destructive. The adult males and females are approximately 3/8-inch long with the females being slightly larger than the males. Both sexes have an iridescent metallic dark green head and thorax with bronze or coppery-colored outer wings. They have five small tufts of white hairs along the side and one at the end of each side of the abdomen.

It is these white hair tufts visible under the edge of the wings that allow us to distinguish the Japanese beetle from an insect pest many of us have dealt with, the false Japanese beetle (*Strigoderma arbicola*). Adult false Japanese beetles feed on the blossoms of many plants, especially roses, peonies, and other large and light-colored flowers, feeding heavily for a week or so in July and then disappearing from the gardens. In addition to the absence of the white abdominal hair tufts, the color pattern of false Japanese beetles is more subdued with dull green bodies and dark brown wings.

The larval or grub stage of the Japanese beetle is a “C” shaped white grub that lives in the soil and resembles the June beetles (*Phyllophaga species*) larvae that we know as the “grub worm.” You may have to consult a professional to distinguish between them.

The life cycle of the Japanese beetle is one year. Adults emerge from the soil in June, after which they mate and the females begin laying eggs in the soil. The eggs hatch in about two weeks and the grubs begin feeding on the roots of turf-grasses. The grubs grow rapidly and by late August they have reached nearly full-grown size of about one inch. They overwinter by burrowing four to eight inches into the soil. In the spring they return to the turf and feed on roots until late June or July when they emerge and the cycle starts over. Adults feed from the time they emerge until September. They leave behind damaged flowers, skeletonized leaves, and large holes in leaves.

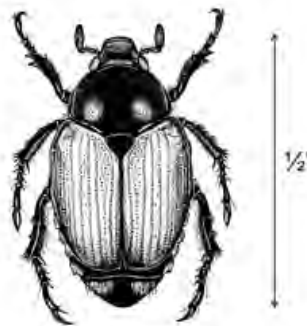
In 2009, Dan Miller, Plant Health Specialist at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, reported that data obtained through trapping surveys by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture showed that the Japanese beetle is primarily located in the county metro area and southeast toward Rochester and west toward Mankato. The important fact to note is that Sherburne and Wright are two of the metro counties where the Japanese beetle is located.

I have painted a pretty scary picture. By now, I am sure that many of you have questions regarding management and control strategies for the Japanese beetle. First of all, we must all be vigilant! Beginning about mid-July, monitor your gardens daily for the presence of adult beetles. After you have made positive identification, call the Minnesota Department of Agriculture Japanese Beetle Program office at 651-296-1348 or the MDA Arrest the Pest hotline at 888-545-6684. For help in identifying the adult beetles, contact the Stearns County Extension Office at 320-255-6169.

Hand picking and destroying adult beetles as soon as they arrive will eliminate scout beetles that attract additional beetles. There are pheromone traps available, but their use is not recommended because they may actually attract more beetles to your yard. Carefully inspect the potting mixture of purchased trees, shrubs, and plants that may have originated in Japanese beetle infested areas and carry eggs or grubs.

Although it has some caveats, habitat manipulation may be a control option. Female beetles prefer to lay eggs in turf growing in moist, organics soils. To discourage egg laying, we can maintain lawns in a slightly dryer condition than normal during the July-August egg laying period. However, this is also the time of year when our lawns typically require more moisture, and adequate soil moisture in August and September may help damaged turf recover from grub damage.

There are effective insecticides that will provide chemical control of both adults and grubs. In attempts to chemically control adults, repeated applications may be necessary because the beetles are mobile and will move from one area to another. In addition, some insecticides have relatively short residual effects and rainfall may reduce the concentration. Timing is especially important when using insecticides to con-



Japanese Beetle

Joseph Munsinger

by Carole Pike

Flowers fascinated Joseph Munsinger long before he reigned over the Saint Cloud park system. In the 1920s he ran a gladiolus garden, selling bulbs for 10 to 15 cents apiece. A brochure printed at that time listed one for \$1 and described it as the best salmon pink to date.

On a cold January morning a few years ago, Joe's son John visited with me. John Munsinger described his father as a person who was "into all kinds of things." During the gladiolus years he had a plumbing and heating business. He then became a fire-fighter. He hoped to become chief but the mayor appointed someone else. To make amends, the city offered Joseph the position of Superintendent of Parks. "That was his thing," John said. "He loved flowers."

Joseph Munsinger constructed a miniature golf course that occupied the land between Lake George and St. Mary's Cathedral where the Ninth Avenue underpass now stands. It was a charming course with rail fences and lighting for nighttime games. It lasted only a few years, and Joe replaced it with Williams Gardens. "It was a dirty old place and Dad fixed it up," John said. With the help of his Works Progress Administration (WPA) crew he redesigned the park to make it more visible to people driving past. A stone footbridge, benches, a path, and flowers created the beautiful garden.

Although Joseph had a limited education, he wrote out details of the work he had completed in each of the city parks. His WPA crew transformed Seberger, Hester, Eastman, Empire, and Wilson Parks. He recorded the building of stone walls and terraces, the planting of sod and hedges, and the addition of wading pools and tennis courts. He also supervised the building of city skating rinks.

The WPA crew also worked on what is now Munsinger Gardens. Joseph planned beds in shapes that included a diamond, a heart, a star, and a half moon. The garden started with some seedlings and small trees. "The way he laid it out was sort of a Cinderella thing," John said. People said it resembled gardens they had seen in Germany. Salvia Hill, formed when workers dug the pond, was taller then but always a favorite place for wedding photos. Sun-loving petunias grew around the pond and oxen heads graced the fountain. "I don't know where he got them, must have been recycled from somewhere," John said.

Joseph also built a greenhouse in the park. John remembers driving to the greenhouse with his father every night during the winter to stoke the furnace so the flowers wouldn't freeze. In 1938 the park board named the park Munsinger Gardens after Joseph P. Munsinger in recognition of his invaluable service in the development, extension, and maintenance of the park system of the City of Saint Cloud.

Joseph was born in 1876 in Canada. His parents, Saint Cloud pioneers, brought him here when he was 2 years old. He died in 1946. John recalls that his father was an honest man who never drank, and "I never heard a cuss word," he said. A newspaper item at the time of his death described his work for the city as a labor of love. "Joe Munsinger's memorial will be a living and perpetual one in the park system of which he was truly the father," it said.

(A version of this article appeared in the Winter 2007-08 MCBS Newsletter.)



Beetles • Continued from page 3

trol the grubs. Chemicals are most effective when applied in May through July when the eggs are first hatching and the grubs are still small.

Biorational pesticides may be another effective option for grub management. These pesticides are environmentally sound and provide lower risks to humans and wildlife. They have varying modes of action and timing, and application technique is important.

There are excellent publications available online that contain information on the Japanese beetle as well as lists of insecticides, biorational pesticides, and effective cultural controls. Go to the Minnesota Extension Service website at www.extension.umn.edu and consult "Japanese Beetle Management in Minnesota." Or see "Japanese Beetle Management for Homeowners" available on the MDA website at www.mda.mn.us.

Life • Continued from page 5

the Rose Gardens, the Clemens Family has funded the artistic fountains, restroom facilities, benches, ironwork, and statuary, plus endowing future maintenance of the Clemens Gardens. This past year the Clemens Memorial was completed with the addition of the ornate dome over the life-sized bronzed statue of William Clemens and the late Virginia Clemens. This masterpiece is a well-deserved tribute honoring the Clemenses' overwhelming generosity. Without their generous financial support, this suburban sanctuary would not be possible.

As gardeners or stewards of the plot of land, the Gardens staff feels a sense of accomplishment and satisfaction in this life-enhancing environment. The beauty of the flowers is the reward for all the care needed from cultivating, planting, fertilizing, dead-heading, weeding, and watering. Gardening can also be a metaphor for life. To everything there is a season, and as the garden evolves season by season so does the gardener. We become aware that as plants grow so does our appreciation of nature and its cycle of life. As we pull weeds from among the flowers so can we weed out the bad from our lives that inhibits our growth, preventing personal blossoming to full potential.

One aspect of being a gardener is the realization that once you get the bug it can become an insatiable passion. For many eager gardeners this activity occupies a central part of our lives combining time and patience. It is not only an immense delight to work among the plants but also a creative outlet allowing us to be completely and contentedly present in the moment.

As a staff gardener, I look forward to the spring season of Munsinger Clemens Gardens, knowing that a new breed of plant plugs will make their arrival into the new greenhouse. In April the transplanting of hundreds of trays of plugs begins. Then around May 15 the process of planting over 100,000 annuals into the soil takes place. It is exciting to watch the transformation process. The plants mature, buds blossom, and the Garden image changes. Dense borders are designed in a rainbow of hues, and annual beds are full of contrasting and harmonious color combinations. Created are spectacular arrays of eye-pleasing images gladdening the heart.

As spring comes alive and the dark dreary days of winter come to an end, so a new season begins to unfold. It is reassuring to know that the passage of time brings changes to all living things. We can enjoy the glorious flowering bulbs, especially tulips, sprouting from the ground. Dormant plants spring forth from the earth in new life. Scillas, crocus, fragrant hyacinths, and daffodils display their first burst of color. Soon we will be able to dig our fingers into the soil. Perennials need to be divided. Dandelions need to be eradicated. Annual beds can be cultivated to prepare the soil for the plants still thriving in the greenhouse environment.

After the planting process comes a feeling of accomplishment. With the arrival of summer we find joy and solace in our work while basking in the warmth of the sunshine. The summer months bring a profusion of color. New beauties will unfold from the many annual varieties of sun-loving zinnias to the shade-thriving impatiens. Fabulous contrasting foliage, from a variety of coleus to hostas, will come to life and complement each other with their subtle differences. Dramatic perennials with varying bloom times—especially my favorite, coneflowers—will again dazzle the eye. Gentle breezes will carry the pleasing fragrances of peonies and hundreds of lush roses through the gardens to greet visitors as they admire a show-stopping tapestry of colors.

Working with the plants gives staff members a renewed sense of wonder as we experience nature's best of life. Even insects bring life to the Gardens and add to enjoyment. As butterflies flutter from flower to flower, symphonies of bird songs serenade us. Bees pollinating plants, chipmunks scurrying through beds, and resident hawks are all elements of the Gardens. When you are aware of your surroundings there are so many subtle ways that nature can embrace, sustain, and enhance your world.

With the celebration of summer, families join together to enjoy picnics under the towering hemlock and pine trees.

They feast not only on potlucks or boxed lunches but also on the harmonious and contrasting colors that set plant palettes of the floral world into motion in both Gardens. They can stroll along the irregular pathways and informal settings of Munsinger Gardens or along the formal walks of the European and English styled Clemens Gardens. Both offer a unique experience for visitors, from the sheltered areas in Munsinger to the six distinctive gardens in Clemens: the Virginia Clemens Rose Garden, the Rest Area Garden, the Formal Garden, the White Garden, the Perennial Garden, and the upper Treillage Garden with its four color schemes.

Along with summer comes a busy season in the Munsinger Special Events Area, where those united in marriage will blossom in wedded bliss. From May until October there is a steady booking of wedding ceremonies and photograph sessions. We have witnessed many themed weddings in this romantic setting, from Renaissance to Gothic. In some ceremonies the couple arrived on a Harley followed by an entourage of Harleys. Other couples have been escorted by horse-drawn carriages, antique cars, or limos. All the couples have been thrilled to begin their life together surrounded by all the beauty of the Gardens in this romantic, picturesque setting.

As the season ends in the fall it is difficult for gardeners to let go. Leaves flutter to the ground and the first frost ends many plants. But some continue to bloom unblemished and others get seed heads for feasting birds. Bold colors of asters and mums create dynamic displays. While some foliage will fade, feathery grasses flourish and shrubs display stunning colors contrasted by brightly colored berries. We realize we are not in control and that soon a blanket of snow will cover dormant plants.

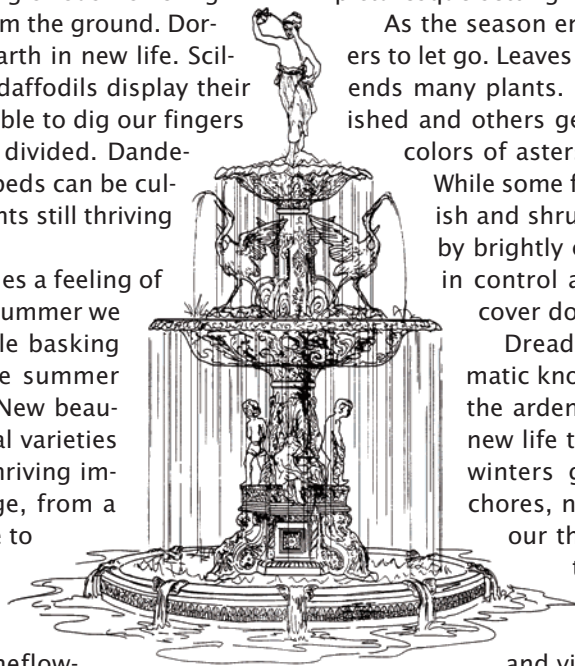
Dreaded Minnesota winters are less traumatic knowing the long months will give way to the ardent spring as Mother Earth brings forth new life to enjoy again. Even though the chilly winters give us respite from our gardening chores, next year's gardens are never far from our thoughts—especially with the arrival of the plant catalogs in the mail. As avid gardeners we plan and dream our own gardens, begin seeds indoors, and visit greenhouses.

The success of the Gardens results from a team effort under diligent leadership and the Saint Cloud Parks Department. Community support has been overwhelming. The Munsinger Clemens Botanical Society purchases equipment and plans popular, well attended social events for thousands to enjoy. The staff is as diverse and unique as the plants, each offering and willing to share knowledge and expertise. With each new season many "perennial" workers return, plus there is always a new crop of "annual" workers as college students apply for summer jobs. Volunteers also play an important role. The passage of time brings changes in leadership, financial challenges due to budget constraints, and the task of working towards sustainability.

Especially important to the Gardens are the contributions of the Clemens Family. Besides their initial donation of

Life in the Gardens

by Rosie Court



• • • • • My Favorite Seed Catalogs by Carl Hoffman

Many of us are inundated with mail-order seed and nursery catalogs every year. In former years, these catalogs usually started arriving with the holiday mail, but this year I received my first catalog on the day after Halloween and they are still coming. Although some of them are immediately tossed and others join a pile that is not used, I do enjoy receiving them. Both my immediate and my extended families make jokes about me during catalog season. If you read the Crankshaft comic strip in the local papers you may remember the catalog series. I received a laminated poster including the entire series from my brother-in-law with the message "We thought the moon was lighting up the snow but it was Carl's smiles as the catalogs arrived."

Before I give some reasons why some companies have made my favorites list, I must make three things clear. First, I do not consider myself a professional catalog expert and wish only to share some reasons why I have selected these companies. Second, I am concentrating on mail-order seed companies, as I prefer not to purchase plants and nursery stock through the mail. Third, I plant a fairly large vegetable garden, which places the companies that sell vegetable seeds on my list.

One of my favorites is Jung Seeds from Randolph, Wisconsin. Jung Seeds is an umbrella company that includes eight affiliates. I have a penchant for new varieties, and this company normally sells the current All America Selections as well as many new varieties of annual flowers and vegetables. For example, I like Opera Supreme petunias and wanted to try the new 'Raspberry Ice' variety. Of all the catalogs I have, Jung Seeds was the only one that sold these seeds. This company has been criticized for being very slow in sending back-ordered plants and seeds, but I have not experienced this problem. The germination rate of their seeds has always been good. I want to stress that I have not ordered nursery stock from this company and cannot speak to its quality.

An affiliate of Jung Seeds that is on my positive list is Horticultural Products and Services (HPS). HPS targets commercial greenhouses; its seeds are packaged in larger quantities and sold at discount prices. I grow several hundred annuals and often need a large number of seeds of a particular variety, which places this company on my list. My orders have arrived promptly, the seeds have been packaged well, and germination has been excellent. This year I plan to start a hundred 'Tropical Rose' canna plants from HPS seeds.

Among my gardening friends, Park Seed Company receives mixed reviews. Park Seed is affiliated with six other companies including Wayside Gardens and Jackson and Perkins. Most accounts of negative experience come from people who have ordered nursery stock or transplants and are concerned with shipping dates and quality of plants on arrival. Again, I have ordered only seeds and have done so for many years. I have always been very satisfied with the

service and seed quality. The large selection of varieties of annual flowers lures me back to this company every year. Among several other annuals, I tried their 'Mumsy Hybrid' marigolds last year and liked them so well that I ordered more seeds this year.

My favorite vegetable seed company is Johnny's Selected Seeds from Albion, Maine. This company remains independent and has a large variety of organic and untreated seeds. The vast number of varieties they sell is exemplified by the 22 varieties of leaf lettuce I found in their recent catalog. They have an excellent assortment of herb seeds and are a great source of garlic bulbs. All of Johnny's Seeds are tested on their certified organic farm. Their catalog is a valuable resource in that it contains credible research-based cultural information for growing nearly all the crops and ornamentals they sell. In addition to vegetable and crop seeds, they sell quality flower seeds and gardening equipment.

Harris Seeds finds a place on my list primarily for vegetable seeds, although I usually find some annual flowers to add to my seed order. My order always includes their 'Regal Hybrid' pickling cucumber. We usually can around a hundred quarts of dill pickles every year and this variety of gynoecious cucumber never fails to produce well. They offer multiple packet sizes and a treated or untreated option on many of their products. I have also found

Harris to be a good source of seed-starting supplies.

Unless I am looking for a rare variety that none of the other companies I use carries, I have avoided Thompson and Morgan. This company now is affiliated with Gardens Alive, but their service has not improved. Delivery time is variable and customer service can be disappointing. Another company that I ordered from regularly until about ten years ago is W.

Atlee Burpee, which is now affiliated with two other companies. They send a beautiful catalog and offer some enticing varieties, but their prices hint that they are seeking reimbursement for that glitzy catalog. If another company carries the variety I want to try, I avoid Burpee.

The final catalog on my list is Pinetree Garden Seeds. Their catalog is certainly not glitzy, but I like the selection, the size of their packets, and the price. Who needs a large packet of basil, eggplant, or hot pepper seeds? You probably won't find the recent AAS selections or the newest annual flowers, but you will find many ethnic and heirloom vegetables as well as the "tried and true" varieties. On occasion, their order delivery can be a little slow, so order early.

This has been an "over the back fence" discussion of my favorite mail-order seed catalogs. I am sure that many of you can add, or subtract, from this list. If this newsletter were online, we could generate a good discussion. On Dave's Garden website, there are 7,224 mail-order catalogs listed under The Garden Watchdog site. This makes the 25 or so I receive every year seem very insignificant. *It won't be long and the fall catalogs will be in the mailbox!*



MCBS Events • 2011 • MCBS Events

Music in the Gardens

June 12
Great River Jazz Collective

June 26
Basilica Brass

July 10
Bistodeau Family Band

July 24
L'Unica String Quartet

August 7
Tony Bui Jazz Group

August 21
George Maurer Jazz Group

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**July 21 • Art Fair in the Gardens**  
Pachanga Society • 5:00 - 7:00 pm

## 5th Annual Art Fair in the Gardens

**Thursday • July 21**

11:00 am to 8:00 pm

*The event has been expanded this year to include many new artists, two food booths, and wine & beer vendors.*

Come and enjoy a summer day with local artists set up throughout Munsinger and Clemens Gardens. Browse and purchase some wonderful pieces of artwork to take home.

Enjoy music among the flowers played by three different groups.

Bring a friend or family member to stroll in the pathways of flowers and art along with food, drink, and music.

*Free and open to the public!*

Save this date!

## Evening in the Gardens Tuesday, August 9, 2011



MCBS Photo Contest



*Photography in the Gardens*

Entry Form

☐ Youth-18

☐ Adult

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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

☐ Landscape ☐ Hardscape

Garden where photo is taken:

☐ Munsinger

☐ Formal

☐ Treillage

☐ Rest Area

☐ Perennial

☐ White

Photos not permitted from the Rose Garden

*Submit by September 15, 2011 to:*  
Lake George Municipal Complex  
1101 7th St. South  
St. Cloud, MN 56301

## Bela Petheo: *Music in the Gardens* prints “For Sale”

One of the best ways to have a daily reminder of the beauty of Munsinger Gardens is to have one of Bela Petheo's prints hanging on your wall.

The Munsinger Clemens Botanical Society is fortunate to have a number of prints of Bela's "Music in the Gardens," a concert scene at the gazebo in Munsinger featuring a brass band, an audience, and of course the colorful beauty of Munsinger. The painting was commissioned by MCBS a few years ago particularly for prints to be sold in support of the Gardens. We are still offering these 26" by 19" unframed prints for sale, signed or unsigned, at \$25.

Bela Petheo's work is acclaimed worldwide, with displays in such public collections as the Hungarian State Museum of Fine Arts in Budapest, the Kunstmuseum in Switzerland, the Municipal Museum in Finland, and several university and other art museums in Minnesota, Chicago, New York, and elsewhere. In addition, his paintings can be seen in numerous private collections in Europe and the United States.

Bela's art has been described as hav-

ing a “realistic foundation” mixed with French Impressionism, emphasizing “the lyrical and atmospheric beauties of nature.” He works in pencil and watercolors, but his primary medium is oil.

The artist was born in 1934 in Budapest, Hungary. He earned a master's degree in art history from the University of Budapest and worked there until the Soviet occupation in 1957, when he left for Vienna, Austria. In 1959 he immigrated to the United States and, in 1963, earned an MFA in painting and printmaking from the University of Chicago. He continued teaching in Chicago and in Iowa until he accepted a position in the art department of St. John's University in Collegeville. He retired from teaching in 1997. Bela lives in Saint Cloud, where he maintains a painting studio and continues to paint.

If you are interested in seeing and/or buying one of our Bela prints, you can contact Jill Florek at 320-363-4580 or email her at [jill.florek@rte-inc.com](mailto:jill.florek@rte-inc.com). In addition, you will find the prints on sale at the MCBS booth at our Art Fair in the Gardens in July.

**MCBS**  
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~  
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