President's Letter

The wildflowers are asleep now, covered by leaves and a fluffy "snow blanket" until next spring, when the warm sun will melt the snow and wake them up. During the winter, when days are cold and dreary, I like to envision the soft buds of Hepatica and Spring Beauty opening up to greet us with their beauty when we take that first spring walk in The Garden.

The grayness of November has seemed grayer than ever this year, especially this past week, when our former garden curator of 28 years, Ken Avery, suddenly passed away. He had retired ten years ago. Through the years so many of us got to know him well, and to learn firsthand from him all about the Eloise Butler Wild Flower Garden and its history and lore. He loved sharing all he knew about nature and The Garden and he knew a great deal. He was a wonderful, interesting, and caring man. He will be missed greatly by all of us who knew him and whose lives he touched. We will think of him when we look at the flowers next spring.

Gloria Miller
President
Friends of the Wild Flower Garden

Remember that you are this universe and this universe is you.

Joy Harjo, Native American writer
What would the world do without its volunteers and in particular, what would the Shelter in the Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden do without the commitment of volunteers?

We wouldn't know about the visitors from other countries who come to the Garden, nor the many who come from other states in our own country. The volunteers are there on weekends to answer the phone so that the naturalists can guide tours and help visitors along the trails. The volunteers are there to intercept calls for the gardener while he is doing his work in the Garden. They answer questions from visitors about birds and flowers and help them identify nature's wonders in the books that are in the Shelter library. We even sweep the floor once in a while. Secretly, we volunteers know it is the greatest place to be no matter what the weather brings.

The volunteers are in the Shelter five days a week from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. when the naturalists take over until dusk. On Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, a volunteer is present from 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

37 volunteers did a total of 771 volunteer hours in the Martha Crone Shelter, from April 13 to October 26. This year the Garden opened 2 weeks later in April because of inclement weather and it closed 1 week early in October because of construction work.

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<th>Helen Antrobus</th>
<th>Maryland Bublitz</th>
<th>Lyle Johnson</th>
<th>Gloria Miller</th>
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<td>Lyla Anderegg</td>
<td>Betty Bryan</td>
<td>Judy Jones</td>
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<td>Alfred Anderegg</td>
<td>Liz Därner</td>
<td>Gary Joselyn</td>
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<td>Nancy Azzam</td>
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<td>Marie Demler</td>
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<td>Harriet Betzold</td>
<td>Ann Godfrey</td>
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<td>Connie LaVoie</td>
<td>Ann Hall</td>
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Individual hours were anywhere from 74 hours to 2.5 hours. Judy Jones chalked up 74 hours mostly Sundays. Ann Hall put in 60 hours, all on Thursday mornings. Connie LaVoie had 47.5 hours, all on Friday afternoons. Lyle Johnson also had 47.5 hours, most all on Wednesday morning. The rest of us fell somewhere in between with the hours we spent in the Shelter.

Eighteen volunteers attended an appreciation luncheon in their honor on Saturday, November 15, at the American Legion Chester Bird Post in Golden Valley. This was sponsored by the board members of the Friends of the Wild Flower Garden. Thank you all for your dedication.
In Memory of Ken Avery

Harriet Betzold

Ken Avery was curator of Eloise Butler Wild Flower Garden for 28 years. He died November 19, 1997 at age 72. He received a degree in horticulture in 1952 from the University of Minnesota. He worked with Martha Crone, the second curator until her retirement, when Ken took the position as third curator. He held this position until his retirement in 1987. He acted as guide, naturalist, gardener and speaker for the Garden on weekends and any other spare time that he found.

He volunteered many hours in the Shelter in the Garden and also volunteered for the Minnesota Zoo for several years after retirement.

Many of you may have met Ken in the Garden, in the early years and remember his dedication to the welfare of the Garden.

He will be greatly missed by everyone.

If you wish to send a memorial in his honor, please direct it to Memorial Chairman:
Marguerite Harbison
6038 Golden Valley Road
Golden Valley, MN 55422

New Articles Welcome

Harriet Betzold

Submissions to the Fringed Gentian, such as memorable sightings, field trip notes, family nature hike memories, etc., are welcome. Submissions will be printed on a space available basis and are subject to editing. The deadlines for future newsletters are as follows: May 1 for the summer issue, Aug. 1 for the Fall issue, Dec. 1 for the winter issue and March 1 for the spring issue. Please submit articles to Harriet Betzold, Friends of the Wild Flower Garden, P. O. Box 11592, Minneapolis, MN 55412.

Welcome New Members

Joy Davis

We welcome the following new member to the Friends of the Wild Flower Garden.

Natalie Quinn, Pennock
Richard & Katharine Fournier, Minneapolis
Annie Bedford, St. Paul
Lester Saeffe, Robbinsdale
George L. Jaquith, Minneapolis
Mary Huschen, Plymouth
Dean Spencer, Crystal
Tammy Lindahl, Minneapolis
Martha Juillerat, Minneapolis

Ann Longfellow, Minneapolis
Heidi & Jeff Haines, Minneapolis
Deborah A. Hoffman, Minneapolis

Season's Greetings
To Help Your Cabin Fever
‘Beyond Our Reach’ - New York Times

In early April, we should take a good look at the world and make a few concessions to universal truth. March is too early, with spring still hovering beyond the next hill, and May is too late, with spring in possession of all the hills and valleys. But in early April, we can admit that we have nothing to do with the opening of a bud or the sprouting of a seed.

Crocuses come to blossom. Daffodils, hepatica and anemones are in bud and blossom in the sheltered woodland. Early bees are out and foraging. Red-winged blackbirds have come back from the South. But none of them need human help or encouragement.

Infinitesimal flecks of life are all around us. The willows will achieve fertile seeds. The peepers’ eggs will hatch into wriggling tadpoles. And nothing man can do will alter such events, or hurry them, or delay them. If we were to vanish tomorrow, what happens in April would go right on happening simply because it is a consequence of natural forces beyond our reach. Early April is a good time to admit this. By May and June, we will think we invented spring.
The Wild Gardener

The Life and Selected Writings of Eloise Butler

_The Wild Gardener: The Life and Selected Writings of Eloise Butler_ is the exciting work of Martha Hellander. In 1907, Eloise Butler established Minnesota’s first wildflower preserve which today bears her name, the Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden and Bird Sanctuary.

_The Wild Gardener_ tells the story of the life of Eloise Butler (1851-1933), botanist, teacher and preservationist of native plants and birds. Miss Butler served as curator of her beloved garden until her death at age 81.

An enchanting look at early life in Minneapolis, _The Wild Gardener_ is the perfect gift for your own library, for nature lovers, gardeners, and historians. All proceeds from the sale of the book through the Friends of the Wild Flower Garden will benefit the Wildflower Garden. Members of the Friends receive a $2.00 discount off the book price.

$19.95 plus tax and postage


Friends of the Wild Flower Garden
P.O. Box 11592
Minneapolis, MN 55412

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The Life and Selected Writings of Eloise Butler

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Friends of the Wild Flower Garden
c/o Mel Duoso, 5113 Bryant Ave. N.
Minneapolis, MN 55430

If ordering by mail expect delivery within two to four weeks.
Gift Memberships:

To order a gift membership, please fill in the form below and indicate that this is a gift membership and from whom. Each membership is tax deductible.

Membership Application

To join the Friends of the Wild Flower Garden, Inc or give a gift membership, complete the form below. Make check payable to Friends of the Wild Flower Garden, Inc and mail to Joy Davis, 1089 Cedar View Dr. Minneapolis MN 55405

Name

Address

□ Family $15
□ Sponsor $25 - $99
□ Individual $10
□ Limited Income $8
□ Sustainer $100 - $199
□ Benefactor $200 - $499
□ Life Member $500 & up

□ This is a gift membership from:

Telephone

□ New Member □ Renewal □ Gift From □ I am interested in becoming a volunteer

Friends of the Wild Flower Garden
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