

people of our
community

By Deephaven Resident **Ann Ness**

Photos by Deephaven Resident **Jill Gardiner**

A group of people, mostly women, are walking through a lush garden. Many are holding umbrellas, suggesting it might be raining or recently rained. The garden is filled with various green plants and flowers, including some pink flowers in the foreground. In the background, there are large, leafy trees and a wooden trellis structure. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and scenic.

COTTAGEWOOD GARDEN CLUB

Visits Smithsonian Garden In Deephaven!

L-R Cottagewood Garden Club members Susan Farrell, Sue Brakke, Kate Bryant, and host Barbara Burgum.



This summer, the Cottagewood Garden Club was treated to an award-winning, Arboretum-worthy (and more) garden tour *without leaving town!* The expansive garden belongs to Master Gardener Barbara Burgum of Deephaven. After a submission process that took two years, her garden was admitted in 2018 to the Smithsonian Institution's Archive of American Garden, and was lauded for its exceptional integration with Lake Minnetonka and the Arts and Crafts design of her home, which was built in 1905 by James Flett Cargill of the then 40-year-old grain trading company.

In 1999, the house was purchased by Ms. Burgum. After an extensive remodeling was completed in 2006, she turned her attention and love of gardening to the landscaping of the two acres. She opened the gardens for a special private tour for the Cottagewood Garden Club, who were astounded by the horticultural beauty of both the plants and the garden design. Too, this group is not unaware of the immense work it requires to maintain such a garden. An entire team is hired for the seasonal work with Barbara devoting her full time to it.

According to the Smithsonian's report, "The wraparound porch, stone foundation, and open veranda take full advantage of its natural surroundings ... The owner worked with two design friends to create a landscape design that embodied important elements of Arts and Crafts design, reflecting the long horizontal lines of the water the brick foundation, the (wraparound) porches, the roofline through the perennial garden with its brick wall and gardens."

The property is featured in "Legendary Homes of Lake Minnetonka" by Betty Homel (2010) and is a village treasure. Take a look (next page) at the list of Barbara's favorite flowers and garden tools!

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Excerpts from "A few of my favorite things" by Barbara Burgum

Favorite fragrant plants

Chocolate Cosmos — annual, mocha color and aroma!

Prairie Dropseed Grass — the seed heads smell like hot buttered movie popcorn

Swamp Milkweed — sweeter than vanilla, and Monarchs! Not a spreader like common milkweed.

Favorite hummingbird plant

Black and Blue Salvia — good plant for big containers

Favorite Native Plants

Queen of the Prairie — pink cotton candy blooms, good for a wet spot, 4' tall

Wine cups (*Callirhoe involucrata*) — low scrambler, weaves around, lots of hot deep pink flowers

Iris cristata — interesting arcing foliage, ok in semi-shade, 6" tall, spring blues/purple

Brown-eyed Susan — bushy, long blooming, tons of small cute as a button blooms. Not a long-lived perennial, but reseeds when happy

Liatris — crack for monarchs

Baptisia — especially alba — so elegant

Atlantic Leatherwood — shrub for shade- early teeny blooms (*Dirca palustris*)

Bowman's root — tons of small white spring blooms.

Gillenia trifoliata

Indian pink — *Spigelia marilandica* — bright red/yellow blooms of an unusual shape — tidy 2' foliage. It's not pink.

Aralia racemosa — American Spikenard. Who names these poor plants? Big bushy plant for shade, white blooms, and ruby berries.

Favorite Really Big Things

Cup plant — a 9' tall yellow daisy, plus water cups along the stems!

Iris 'Chance Beauty' giant yellow blooms, 4 ft tall foliage

Thalictrum rochebrunianum — "Lavender Mist" 8' tall, no staking

Favorite annuals

"Snow Princess" sweet alyssum — much more vigorous than the others, ridiculously expensive annual but worth it.

Nicotiana glauca — tall white flowering tobacco

Snail vine — very vigorous, odd purple blooms.

Vigna caracalla — Tangletoe.

Favorite foliage plants

Variegated Devil's Walking Stick — more of an 8' shrub, spiny stem

Shredded Umbrella Plant — *Synedra*, shade

Any of the 21 Solomon's Seals, but especially *Disporum flavum* tall, lots of yellow blooms, great clump of foliage

Lady's mantle in front of *Molina strahlenquelle* — moor grass

Thread-leaf Amscomia — fine threadlike foliage, blue blooms, and yellow fall color.

Bulbous bladder fern — weird name for a lovely fern

Bush clematis for falling over the edge of the wall

Cut-leaf elderberry — *Sambucus racemosa*.

Carex morrowii Silk Tassel sedge = great clump of fine textured silvery grass

Favorite shade plants

Peony *obovata* var. *willmottiae* Chinese woodland peony — single white blooms, elegant form and foliage

Favorite garden tools

OXO brand watering cans — so well-designed, comfy handle

Joyce Chen little scissors — always sharp, can't garden without them

Those plastic tub trugs in bright colors

Leaf Grabbers — big plastic claws, great for leaf clean-up



