2024-25 Horticulture Committee Annual Report

Nancy Guldberg – Chair Heather Haeg – Vice-Chair

Nancy Guldberg created Hort Hints for our monthly meeting notice that were linked to longer educational entries on the Hort Hints page of the website via QR code in the flyer. Hort Hints Topics for 2024-25

- Nectar and Nests Inviting Orioles and Hummingbirds into Your Yard
- From Zone to Zone: Gardening Strategies in Lake Minnetonka's Shifting Climate
- Winter Wellness: Why Now is the Time for Indoor Gardening
- Gardening Myths: Fact or Fiction?
- Petals and Pixels: The Art of Horticulture
- Fall into Bloom: Planting Spring Bulbs
- Slug Off: The Garden's No-Slither Zone
- Blossoms and Beasts: Nurturing Wildlife Through Horticulture
- Summer Survival Guide: June Gardening Concerns
- Flourishing Friendships: The Art of Companion Planting

Nancy Guldberg and Mary Meyer attended the Shirley Meneice Conference, "Dig In," at the Boston Botanical Garden Sept 16-18, 2024 in Boston Massachusetts. A report was given to the membership. The highlights included

- Numerous private garden visits
- Conservation through collaboration
- Trees in the urban environment
- Zone breakout session
- Naming of the Freeman winner for 2024, Passiflora incarnata, Passionflower

The 2025 conference will via Zoom on September 18, 2025.

Newly Announced: The Freeman winner for 2025 *Quercus montana,* Chestnut Oak. To read about the winner: <u>CLICK HERE</u>

The Horticulture Committee spearheaded the nomination of the plant *Sprorbolus heterolepis,* Prairie Dropseed, for the GCA Freeman Medal for 2026. This plant's original nomination was submitted by Harriett Chute. Results will be announced at the 2025 Shirley Meneice Conference.

Joint membership meeting with the conservation committee on sustainable farming practices took place.

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Guldberg