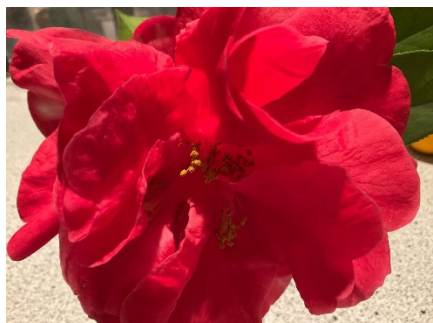


June 2023 Newsletter

## River Park Garden Club

*You remember “Show and Tell” don’t you... The day you brought your pet frog or favorite doll to school?*

Well, our next meeting will be the garden variety. *Adult gardener* “Show and Tell,” that is.



What inspires you to garden? What is your favorite plant or vase for flowers? Do you have a special book that inspires you to garden? A good gardening story or interesting factoid? (The American Beauty rose, left, used to be called Maria Callas, for the famous opera singer.)

Bring one example to “Show and Tell” at our next meeting, on Thursday, June 15, at 6:30 p.m., at Shepard Garden and Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd. Show off your best bloom so far, to your fellow garden club members. Or bring a plant that has special meaning to you, a larger than life piece of fruit you grew, or a favorite tool -- one you could not be without in your garden. Use your imagination. There are no rules for this event, except maybe bringing your pet snake might be ill-advised. (Well, if he’s a good watch snake, ok.)



Please bring your own dinner. Desserts, beverages, and ice will be provided.

## “Seven Special Garden Spaces”

The club's 2023 garden tour April 22 was a success on several levels. The tour was originally conceived as a way to gather in new members for the garden club. This year, we welcomed eight new members who joined on tour day!



Anne Fay with visitors

The tour made new friends for RPGC and the neighborhood. Among them were neighbors and also visitors from around the metropolis who didn't know River Park even existed. (The River Park Neighborhood Assoc. supported the effort with a large contribution.)

More visitors attended this year than last.

We are grateful for all the club members who helped find gardens, sold ads for the tour brochure, took reservations, worked at the ticket table, put up signs and banners, updated our website, toted tables and chairs and many who worked in the gardens as docents.



Judah, Lucretia, Ryan Sonderer and Dave Huchinson (right) in his garden

The garden owners were generous in agreeing to open their gardens to visitors. Several were reluctant to talk to visitors at first, but in the end they stood all day in their gardens discussing their gardens.



Lee Ruth in Candy and Dave McMorris's garden !

For the first time ever, several folks told our volunteers: “You should see MY garden. It should be on the tour next year!”

Thanks to Mother Nature, too, for a perfect day!

## ***Do You Have a Spot For a Climbing Rose?***

After last winter's storms, do you have a bare spot in your garden? Did the winds topple one of your beloved trees?

So there might be a new section of fence that needs filling or a spot that was formerly shaded by a tree that you lost in the storm? A bare section of fence is a great place to plant a climbing rose.



A climbing rose (like Eden, left) can be grown on a fence, trellis, arch or even a wall. It is best to plant them some little ways away from the support to allow for air flow to prevent disease. There are curved trellis that can be put against a fence or wall that provide the air space behind the rose.

Climbing roses require very little care the first couple of years while they get established. But once the canes get long enough, you start training them by bending them horizontally.

You may have to tie the canes in place – a good product to use is green foam-covered wire – because it bends easily and the color makes it disappear into the foliage.

The horizontal canes send up spurs all along the cane and this is where the blooms will be produced. If you let the rose grow straight up, you will only have blooms at the very tops of the canes. Good news! Most climbing roses only need pruning every three to four years to keep the plant vigorous. If you have a shady spot where you would like to try a climbing rose, look for a “single” rose with five to eight petals – Lyda Rose (right) grows well and blooms with no direct sunlight.



*By Therese Ruth*





## The River Park Garden Club Really Gardens!

Thanks to Lee and Therese Ruth, and Paul Townsend who have been planting and maintaining gardens and irrigation systems at the entrance to Glenn Hall Park (left); the Yermol Garden and fountain area at the entrance to River Park; the garden that borders the CSUS parking lot at J and Carlson, plus two gardens at the Shepard Garden and Arts Center in McKinley Park.

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### *Mark Your Calendar for the Fourth of July Parade!*

Participate in the parade, then visit the club's booth in Glenn Hall Park. There will be entertainment for kids and plenty of membership forms will be available.

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### Time to Renew your River Park Garden Club Membership!!

Don't miss out on socializing with other club members, enjoying the club's garden-themed programs and participating in special events throughout RPGC's year from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024.



Please use the attached form and envelope to renew your membership in the RPGC. Dues are \$10 per household for the year (July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024).

Mail the envelope to Brian Brosseau or bring it to the June meeting. Renew early to make sure you are listed in the 2023-24 Membership Directory.