LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT, GLORIA MILLER

Once again, WCCO - Radio and MPLS-ST. PAUL Magazine have chosen The Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden as one of their "Summer Pleasures." The date will be:

MONDAY, AUGUST 17, ALL DAY.
(The Garden is open at 7:30 a.m.; the Shelter is open at 10 a.m. They remain open till "dusk.")

In its June issue, the magazine suggested, "Count the many different species of birds or just enjoy the serenity." I urge you, also, to come and enjoy everything in our Garden!

Thursday, July 23 our area had an unprecedented rainfall of over eight inches. It knocked out our phone service at the Garden, but caused no other damage as reported so far. The path in the bog remains very muddy.

At our Annual Meeting on May 31 we noted with regret the retirement of our Garden caretaker, Kenneth Avery. We include a letter from Ken in this Gentian. Our Board has voted to make a special planting in the Garden to honor Ken's years of work and loving care. Ken's choice is to have a planting of Minnesota Holly. We are carrying out this Board directive.

On another page we list members of the Board of the Friends, and current officers, and other helpful data.

Our next Board meeting will be Saturday, August 22. Call me (722-1564) if you have something for the agenda.

— GLORIA MILLER

AUGUST PROGRAMS...

...IN THE GARDEN

Saturday, August 8 Moonwalk 8:30-9:30 p.m.
Experience the garden in a new light - moonlight. Challenge your senses in new ways as sounds intensify and images are reduced to areas of light and dark. Discover the nocturnal world of bats, spiders, raccoons and owls. Bring a flashlight, long-sleeved shirt and insect repellent. Meet in upper parking lot at 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, August 15 Journal Keeping in the Garden 1:00-2:00 p.m.
Come to the garden and share ideas about keeping a visual and written journal about things we observe. Bring a sketchbook or journal with unlined pages and something to draw or paint with. If you have journals you have completed or are already working on, bring them to share.

Saturday, August 22 Hiking with your Senses 10:30-11:30 p.m.
Take a walk with your best friends - sight, smell, touch, sound - discover the smells of a dewey August morning in the bog and the sounds of late summer on the prairie. Families encouraged.

Saturday August 29 Plant Survival Strategies 1:00-2:00 p.m.
Why does one plant produce a flower stalk 7 ft. tall while another plant produces a flower at ground level? Explore the plant world with the new perspective of survival. Focus will be on habitat adaptations and strategies to deter herbivores.
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Park Board:
Dan Hasty, FOREMAN OF HORTICULTURE
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Mpls., MN 55414
348-5614
ADDitions AND CORRECTIONS TO OUR ROSTER .. PAT THOMESSEN, CHR.

ADD THE FOLLOWING:

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MATTHEW THIESEN, 15300 96th Place North, Maple Grove MN 55369 420-6523
STEPHANIE TILTON, 1130 West Minnehaha Av., St Paul MN 55104 647-1255
SUSAN DAY ERB, 3531 Owasso Street, # 209, Shoreview MN 55126
FRAN ABBOTT, 1663 Lois Drive, St. Paul MN 55126 784-6540
SARA HEADLEY, 3336 Girard Avenue South, Minneapolis MN, 55408 822-1396
JOHN AND LINDA MURTFELDT, 17099 Dodd Blvd, Farmington MN 55024 431-7781
   (John is a past president of the Friends: Welcome back to the Twin Cities!)
ELIZABETH AINSWORTH, K. T. C., Summit Lake WI 54485
ANN KESSEN, 3114 Russell Avenue North, Minneapolis MN 55411 529-3793
MRS. RICHARD KITCHELL, 500 Parkview Terrace, Minneapolis MN 55416 374-9102
DON JOHNSON, 33 Inner Drive, # 147, St. Paul MN 55116
JUDY BELLAIRS, 5308 Emerson Avenue South, Minneapolis MN 55419 824-8181
ROBERT G. ROBINSON, # 209, 1666 Coffman Street, St. Paul MN 55108

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:
WILLIAM H. LOHMAN and ANN DILLON, 2177 Carroll St., St Paul MN 55104
LEONARD RAMBERG, # 502, 6501 Woodlake Drive, Minneapolis MN 55423

NOTES FROM SALLIE COLE, CHAIRMAN OF GIFTS AND MEMORIALS

We received notice of the death of Elizabeth McKennan on June 28, 1985. In her will she left $100.00 to the Garden.

MR AND MRS EDWARD VERBARG are being added to our donors' plaque in the Martha Crone Shelter in recognition of their contribution of $100.00.

Special contributions of $100.00 were received from the North Suburban Men's Garden Club, and from the Minneapolis Audubon Society.

FROM MARY MAGUIRE LERMAN, MINNEAPOLIS PARKS AND RECREATION

AUGUST ... is an ideal time to enjoy our native prairie plants. One is the Compass Plant with yellow flowers blooming on spikes up to 12 feet tall. The leaves of this plant orient themselves to the North-South so it can be used as a living compass.

The Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden and Bird Sanctuary in Theodore Wirth Park is open daily, 7:30 a.m. to dusk. Naturalists provide tours daily at 5 p.m. with additional tours at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. On Saturdays there are special programs for which you must pre-register. Call 348-5702 after 10 a.m. The Garden is located 1/2 mile north of Highway 12 in Theodore Wirth Park. During construction on Highway 12 the bridge is closed if you come from the west. A approach from Glenwood Avenue or Highway 55 on the north, The Garden is EIGHTY years old this summer.
To the Friends of the Wild Flower Garden from Kenneth Avery

July 6, 1987

Dear Friends:

I realize that while I will not be the first person to announce my retirement to most of you, I do want to say good-bye to all whom I can through this letter.

My years at the Wildflower Garden have been very rewarding and certainly a reward as great as any has been my association with those people who use the Garden and have been volunteers at the Garden — most of whom are members of the Friends. In this world where so many people are only interested in forwarding their own selfish interest, it has been a pleasure to know you who have been so selfless in your relationship to the environment and to the Garden. So rather than imitate those flowers that seem to flourish until one spring when the snow melts and they have disappeared, I want to take this opportunity to say good-bye and tell you why I am not there this year.

It is very difficult to explain why I am leaving. Each time I read what I've written, it sounds more harsh than I mean it to be. Essentially, I guess, I'm leaving because the Park Board has decided to change the Garden. When I first came into the Garden under Mrs. Crone, I fell in love with what I found there and have never intentionally changed it in any way. Oh, it has changed. Nature and society have changed and in so doing have forced some changes, but most of these were just cosmetic. In most ways, it has remained much as it was when I first walked through the front gate. Now, I can't say whether the changes are going to improve or diminish the Garden. — I have been too close to the Garden for too long to be able to be a trustworthy judge at this time.

Another reason for leaving at this time is that I can now do so with a clear conscience. Until recently there was no one in the Park System who I felt could take over the Garden. Now the person in charge of the gardens (foreman) has some knowledge and the necessary interest to know what the Wildflower Garden is all about. Also, those of you who have met my replacement, Cary George, know that he is an intelligent person who is interested in the Garden and who will husband it very well. I have to admit that my one apprehension in leaving is that he will do such a good job that this spring might be marked as the end of the dark ages for the Garden.

This is a good-bye to many of you but certainly not to all of you. I intend to be in the Garden often as I already have this spring.

Good-bye,

Ken
DO YOU HAVE A FRIEND YOU WOULD LIKE TO INTRODUCE TO THE GARDEN AND BIRD SANCTUARY THIS SUMMER....
As a birthday present? .... Special occasion?
Just mail in your contribution of $5.00 or more and the "Friends" will send this special card and a year's subscription to the Gentian to your friend:

The Friends of The Wild Flower Garden Inc.
Welcome you as a member for the coming year as a gift from

Mail your check made out to the Friends of the Wildflower Garden, Inc.
to Patricia Thomesen, 1037 W. County Road D, St. Paul, MN 55126.

The Friends of the Wild Flower Garden and Bird Sanctuary exist in order to develop, conserve and make universally available the native flora of North America, and, to this end, to protect and maintain the Eloise Butler Wild Flower Garden and Bird Sanctuary.

The privileges of membership include subscription to the quarterly newsletter, THE FRINGED GENTIAN, and issuance biennially of a Roster of Membership; voting at annual meetings; and, above all, participation in the program of conservation and development represented by the Garden.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE FRIENDS OF THE WILD FLOWER GARDEN, INC. (A Non-Profit Corporation)

Sponsoring
THE ELOISE BUTLER WILD FLOWER GARDEN AND BIRD SANCTUARY
in Theodore Wirth Park—Minneapolis

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☐ I enclose remittance

Tel. No.

Please make check payable to
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Classifications carry equal privileges.