

SALUTING OUR 2020 AND 2021 VOLUNTEERS

COVID-19 prevented LGA from recognizing its dedicated and diligent volunteers at its traditional volunteer gathering in 2020 and 2021. Their hard work was visible both years and is acknowledged here:

- | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Fred Aden (LGW) | Sue Jones (LGE) | Jane Nelson (LGE) |
| Nancy Albrecht (LGE) | Ellen Just (LGE) | Laura Nolan (LW) |
| Richard Anderson (LGW) | Miriam Karmel (GG) | Connie Nowacki (LGW) |
| Bernadette Baczynski (MP) | Merry Keefe (LW) | Nancy Olson (LGE) |
| Kaye Barry (LGW) | Mary Alyce Krohnke (LGW) | Brandon Pollock (OG) |
| Margit Berg (LGE) | Duane Krohnke (LGW) | Don Rudrud (LGE) |
| Don Buckley (110) | Susan Lasoff (LGW) | Gay Russell-Dempsey (LGW) |
| Hal Chader (LGW) | Tom Law (1225) | Janet Sandberg (LGE) |
| Pat Davies (LGE) | Dianne Legg (1225) | Claire Selkurt (1225) |
| Nick Deacon (1200) | Karen Lund-Brust (LGE) | Margy Troje-Meade (GG) |
| Rose Escanan (110) | Peggy MacRae (LGE) | Diana Ursin (LGE) |
| Pam Fechter (MP) | Helmut Maier (LGE) | Tom Ursin (LGE) |
| Maryfaith Fox (LGW) | Mary Maier (LGE) | Ruth Usem (LGE) |
| Lee Frelich (LW) | Sally Martineau (LGW) | Marsha Weidenhammer (1225) |
| Greg Gaut (LGW) | Maureen Meier (LGE) | Bill Weiler (LGE) |
| Elly Haidos (LW) | LaDonna Meinecke (LW) | Julia Weiler (LGE) |
| Betty Heefner (LW) | Benja Meyer (LGE) | Jon Westby (GG) |
| Hope Hensley (LGE) | Tim Munshower (110) | Sally Westby (GG) |
| Janet Hughes (LGE) | Marsha Neff (LGW) | Laura Willodson (CH) |
| Julie Hughes (LGE) | Bruce Nelson (LGE) | |

110-One Ten Grant	LGE-Loring Green East
1200-1200 on the Mall	LGW-Loring Green West
1225-1225 Lasalle (The Tower of 1200 on the Mall)	MP-Marquette Place
CH-Continental Hotel	OG-Oak Grove
GG-Greenway Gables	

In the Community



John Van Heel, LGA president (right, wearing plaid shirt, One Ten Grant), and **Greg Gaut**, Adopt-a-Garden volunteer (left, yellow shirt, Loring Green West), lead 25 people on a tour of the Loring Greenway on September 19. The Loring Greenway was one of many area locations featured during [What's Out There Weekend Twin Cities](#) sponsored by [The Cultural Landscape Foundation](#).



Mary Maier, LGA gardening committee chair (Loring Green East), and **Greg Gaut** (Loring Green West) were invited to a September 28 luncheon at the Woman's Club for the organization's Tuesday Speaker presenters. Maier and Gaut spoke to the group about the LGA in July. Maier is pictured with Woman's Club members Ginna Kirkpatrick (right) and Gwynn Rosen (left, Loring Green West). Gaut was unable to attend.

Maximize Greenway Beauty

give TO THE **MAX** 
Nov. 18, 2021

MAKE YOUR LGA GIFT HERE

Thank You!

The **Loring Greenway Association** is a volunteer non-profit organization that partners with private and public entities to preserve and enhance the Loring Greenway, a premier urban garden and pedestrian connection between Loring Park and the Nicollet Mall in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Contact us at P.O. Box 582031, Minneapolis, MN 55458-2031 or www.loringgreenway.org.

Graffiti on the Greenway

Please report graffiti to Tim Clark, the Department of Public Works employee responsible for caring for the Loring Greenway. He will remove the graffiti immediately, calling in City painters if necessary to finish difficult jobs.

Loring Greenway Safety Tips

Crime Prevention Specialist Renée Allen, Minneapolis Police Department, met with LGA members on October 14 to identify ways to increase safety on the Loring Greenway. Her recommendations include:

1. ALWAYS call 911 if you or someone around you is threatened with harm.
2. Express concern for a suspected loiterer's health and safety when reporting their behavior to 911. Officers are more likely to do a welfare check than respond to a loitering/vagrancy complaint.
3. Maintain clear property sightlines.
4. Add lighting to dark areas such as the west pergola. LGA is exploring ways to add lighting to trees and structures.

Meet Mary Maier, LGA Garden Committee Chair



1. What sparked your interest in gardening?

I have always been interested in nature and beauty. It just comes naturally to me, so gardening is a perfect fit.

2. Where was your first garden? What kind of garden was it?

My first garden was behind our apartment in Germany when we moved there after our wedding. It was a terraced garden with many interesting plants. There are many beautiful gardens and forests in Germany.

3. How did you become involved with LGA?

Loring Green East includes the Loring Greenway as a building committee, and I signed up for the Greenway Committee. I was more than happy to find a place to garden, as gardening is like a meditation for me.

4. What are your 2021 LGA roles?

I am an LGA board member, garden committee chair and infrastructure committee member.

5. If you are an Adopt-a-Garden participant, where is your section?

I oversee the Adopt-a-Garden Program, so I am ultimately responsible for coordinating all the sections.

6. What is your favorite plant, tree or flower? Why?

It always changes, but I would have to say for this season, it would have to be the Butterfly Weed. We had swarms of Monarchs on the Loring Greenway this summer, which was an absolute delight!

7. Describe your educational and professional achievements.

I am a licensed teacher and school counselor. Most of my career was as a high school counselor in a local school district and at an international school in Germany.

8. Describe your family.

My husband, Helmut, is an Adopt-a-Garden volunteer and we have two children (twins), Maren and Michael, our son-in-law (Brian) and daughter-in-law (Jane) and three grandchildren (Alexander, age five, Alice, age three and Augustin, age two).

9. What are your interests outside of gardening?

Travel, friends, family, mentoring students and adults, reading.

10. What were the highlights of your summer 2021 trip to Germany?

Spending time with our grandsons, daughter and son-in-law--whom we hadn't seen for over a year; seeing Helmut's family and German friends; a family trip to the Swiss Alps; and, of course, the German food.

Butterflies Visit Loring Greenway Gardens in August

Several pollinator gardens have been installed by LGA. (See "Featured Loring Greenway Gardens," pg. 4.) Mary Maier captured proof that these gardens are attracting their intended target in this [video](#) taken August 28. The video shows a kaleidoscope of monarch butterflies by Loring Way. "It was a beautiful swarm of monarchs on the Loring Greenway," reports Maier. "I also saw swarms of monarchs by the Lasalle bridge. I am sure that our efforts of planting pollinator plants played a big role. It was a thrill to see it!"



What are Pollinators? - Mary Alyce Krohnke

Pollinators are hummingbirds and insects that collect pollen on their bodies while visiting flowers for sweet nectar. The insect then distributes the pollen over the flower blossoms or other flowers, resulting in pollination (fertilization).

Some insects are very mobile and fly long distances. Many butterflies migrate thousands of miles. Other pollinators stay close to home. Bumblebees and some native bees seek out bare patches of soil where they hibernate and nest.

Do pollinator gardens matter? According to renowned entomologist Dr. Doug Tallamy, even small garden spaces make a difference in sustaining the diminishing insect world. **The New York Times** recently cited research suggesting that "green streets" can reduce violence and urged residents to replace vacant spaces with pollinator gardens.

Featured Loring Greenway Gardens



Red Admiral butterflies drink nectar from purple coneflowers in Grant Street pollinator garden.

Grant Street Pollinator Gardens - Mary Alyce Krohnke

The Grant Street entrance to the Loring Greenway has been flanked by two small pollinator gardens since 2016.

At present these gardens have sixteen species of widely varied plants blooming in succession. Watch the parade from early spring, when the Korean pear trees, centering the two beds, sport their delicate white flowers; to mid-summer, when the purple coneflowers provide their sturdy pink landing pads; and then from late summer into fall, when the long-blooming blue spikes of the tall, fragrant hyssop are crawling with all manner of bees until a hard frost comes.

One passerby declared the success of these gardens, "Seeing this each day is the highlight of my walk to work."

Shade Garden - Lee E. Frelich

The shade garden, along the north side of Loring Way near the west end of the Loring Greenway, is home to about 30 species of shade-tolerant native plants. Shade plants grow in southern Minnesota's Big Woods forests of sugar maple, American basswood and red and white oak. With over 300 native species, shade plants are an important component of our native flora; along with at least 300 species of prairie plants they comprise our unique prairie-forest border flora. Restoration of native shade plants attracts a whole set of pollinators different from pollinator gardens planted in the sun—therefore, shade plants are an important part of the plant-pollinator network on which all animals and people depend.

The garden was started with a large donation from Helen Metz and Ray Harris, and initial planting was carried out during May 2016 by volunteers from Target. Several species were planted, including woodland phlox, Canadian ginger, maidenhair fern, ostrich fern and goat's beard. Rabbits ate many of the plants the first year, so we fenced off the garden with black chicken wire to keep them out. After the rabbit problem was taken care of, it took about three years for plants to spread so that most of the garden has taken on the desired appearance of a green tapestry.

However, the abundance of plants varies throughout the garden, being highest under locust trees near its west end, where sunlight is 3-5% of the strength it would be in an open area, while plant cover in the shadiest part of the garden under four large linden trees near its east end is not very high, even after six years. Sunlight under those trees is only 1-2% of full sunlight—only a third to half what it is under the locust trees—a huge difference for the growth of shade plants. It will take several more years for the shadiest part of the garden to fill in, but it will never be as lush as the rest of the garden. Natural forests also exhibit variability in light levels and plant abundance, which is related to the species of trees in the canopy and the density of shade that they cast.

During the post-rabbit era of the second to fourth summers, a number of species were added to the garden from varied sources. These included donations of large-flowered trillium from Peggy McRae, accompanied by sharp-lobed hepatica, Pennsylvania sedge, early meadow rue and small Solomon's seal that came along as unexpected bonus species. White snakeroot, blue wood violet and enchanter's nightshade appeared by themselves. We also purchased some species from Glacial Ridge Nursery, including Clayton's sweet cicely, zig-zag goldenrod, Short's aster and poke milkweed—the only milkweed species that grows in shade. I also purchased red baneberry, starry Solomon's seal, Solomon's plume, large-flowered bellwort, large-leaved aster, and yellow violet from Prairie Restorations. Finally, a friend donated two very old (probably 200+ years) spikenard plants from a basswood forest near Fergus Falls.

Native plant gardens like the Loring Greenway shade garden are popping up in many places worldwide, even the downtowns of big cities. Our shade garden heralds a major trend in gardening that is helping to restore habitats destroyed during construction of cities.

Fall Clean-up Day



Professional Gardener **Rebecca Gross**,
Fred Aden (Loring Green West) and **Merry Keefe** (Loring Way).



Susan Lasoff (Loring Green West)

Over 20 volunteers readied the Loring Greenway for winter during Fall Clean-up Day on October 23. Participants were rewarded with cookies and cider for their hard work.



Ruth Usem (Loring Green East) and
Jon Westby (Greenway Gables)



Peggy MacRae and **Diana Ursin** (both Loring Green East)

Honor LGA Volunteers

Make a donation a donation to LGA by mailing your check to:

Loring Greenway Association

P.O. Box 582031

Minneapolis, MN 55458-2031

or donate online at www.loringgreenway.org

THANK YOU!