



“Tool Time”

October 2022 Meeting



It was a packed house with a lot of great sharing!



Jan's Fiskars garden knife

- Separates all sorts of plants, especially Hostas.
- Loosens and prepares pot-bound roots for planting.
- Great for digging holes for annuals and perennials.
- If it is the only tool in my bag most anything can be accomplished.

Marianne's Copperhead Hoe





Jan's Spade

- This spade was my parents' which tells you it's old.
- The handle is shorter than the spades purchased these days.
- It cuts through the ground like butter.
- Great fit and feel!

Jan's Garden Wagon



- Essential to haul heavy stuff like soil, compost, edgers, rocks, etc.

Paddy's Weed Hound



- My husband and I both have one, we go out together to attack the dandelions in our yard.
 - How is that for togetherness?
 - Only retired people can enjoy this time to share a job.
- Neighbors like to have neat green yards.
- We don't like to use chemicals on our grass.

Jeanie's Potting Soil



- Ingredients and texture of this potting soil are more natural than other potting soils.
- Soil stays a bit looser so roots can breathe.
- (Miracle Grow was used for years, but I like Schultz's so much better!)

Jeanie's Garden Knife and Pruners



- My hiking garden knife and holder also holds my pruners.
- When my hubby first gave it to me, I was unsure that I would use it that much...I use it all the time!
- The knife also works great as a garden spade, cuts through roots, loosens compacted soil in pots, etc.
- My husband bought them on Amazon
 - A.M. Leonard

Jeanie's Inground Automatic Sprinkler System

Inground, automatic sprinkler system!

- Cost was around \$4245, including additional plumbing alteration and an optional Wi-Fi control system

We decided to go with Green Lawns Underground Sprinkler Systems out of Hastings

- We did extensive research on Better Business Bureau, Angie's List, Home Advisor, Consumers Checklist, and talking with others who had inground systems

- We had been watering by hand, but our grass had been looking horrible the last couple of years.
- With every other day watering restrictions and afternoon watering banned, I couldn't keep up with it.
- It has been totally worth it for the difference it has made in our lawn, the time savings it has given me already, and freedom it affords us to go on vacation without worrying about losing my plants!
- Our grass is so much lusher and healthy after just two months of having the sprinkler system! I wish we had done it sooner!

Linda's Easy Yard Cleanup



- A lawn waste bag fits perfectly in a grocery cart.
- Makes it easy to bring with as you do yard cleanup.
- I tie on a bag to hold my garden knife, clippers and gloves.
- And away I go...

Gayle's Garden Tools



- Basket
- Felco 2 Clippers
 - Amazon
 - \$58.00
- Tongs
 - Petsmart
 - \$4.99
- Fiskar
 - \$14.99

Maureen's Minnesota State Horticulture Membership



- I learn something useful with every issue of the Northern Gardener Magazine and monthly e-news.
- The article "What to Plant in October" is a good example.
- It's particularly helpful to get information specific to the northern gardener as opposed to many national publications and websites that include plants and garden practices that are not relevant to a zone 4 garden.
- There is also a discount on membership available to us as garden club members.

Lori's Dried Sunflower Stalks



- Last year's harvested and dried sunflower stalks make for great stakes next year!
- Here, they extend the metal cage I have on my tomato plant on my deck.
 - I used jute to then complete the "cage."
- We've also cut them to the size that is needed.
 - Smaller to support peppers and peas.
 - Also used to also mark flower plantings.

Lori's LEOTER Grow Light for Indoor Plants



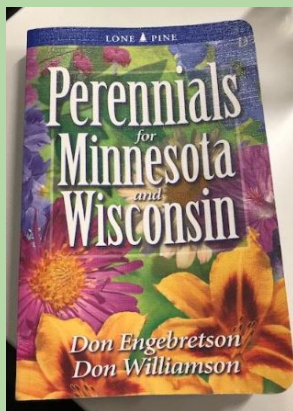
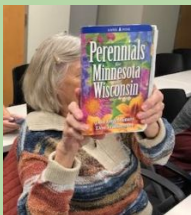
- 3, 9, and 12 hour automatic settings.
- Adjustable arms can be easily adjusted as plants grow.
- Three different color temperatures:
 - Warm for rooting and sprouting.
 - Red+Blue+Warm for overall plant growth.
 - Red+Blue for plant growth.
- Clips to a table or shelf.
- All the arms are bendable so you can point them in the directions you need.
- LED, so it's efficient on electricity.
- Amazon, \$26.

Lori's Small Spade Shovel



- Smaller size makes digging a small hole or splitting plants easier.
- You get the leverage of a shovel versus a hand trowel.
- Credit to Elizabeth Bell for telling me about this initially!
- The Ames Companies, Inc (via Amazon)
 - True Temper Light-Weight Floral Digging Shovel
 - \$48.00

Linda's Perennials for Minnesota and Wisconsin Book



Brenda's Shovel



Robin's Knee Pads



Robin's Cutting Tools



Liz Ann's Rake



**Thank you to all who
contributed!**

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