

GARDEN TOUR 2015

Garden A – Jerry & Shirley Isakson, 1149 1st Ave SE

Our garden odyssey began in 1989 after we remodeled and extended the size of our house/office to the west. Sharon Bartlett, from Green World, drew the plans for all of our landscaping and we, naively, made it happen. We tackled a new project every year or two, performing all the physical labor on the project except the latest project—the hosta garden around the deck stairs, which was done by Harlan Muilenberg.

In the early years, the landscaping consisted only of shrubs and perennials around the house. In 2005 we removed a garden shed from the back yard, put up the white fence, and added the flower garden to the west of the office. A few years ago, after Shirley retired, we added many annuals and have tried to make improvements each year. We continue to add new and interesting plants to replace plants that didn't make it through the winter, or to make the setting more appealing. We hope that you enjoy the garden as much as we do. Thanks for coming.

Garden B - Jack & Marlene Timmer, 2870 380th St.

Jack and Marlene Timmer have continued through the years to work at their passion of growing beauty and a quiet retreat through flower and landscape. From the colorful front yard, continue strolling down the winding stone-covered paths lined with a blend of 2,000 annuals and perennials, most of which Marlene has grown from seed. The setting is enhanced with a pagoda, 2 arches, 2 bridges, 4 pools and a gazebo, all constructed by Jack. The garden has been a destination for hundreds of visitors from various states and countries for over 35 years. The gently sloping back yard is both an adventure in discovery and a delight to the soul of nature lovers. A garden is nurtured in much the same way as our relationship to God: He provides the benefits and the rewards as long as we are willing to work at it.

Garden C - Howie & Vicki Hall, 807 4th Ave NE

We have lived in our house for 41 years, and have always enjoyed working with plants and flowers. Since we lived near Dordt College, where Howie worked, we enjoyed watching the surrounding neighborhood develop, and we have cultured relationships with many dear friends through the years. Many of them still enjoy stopping over, swimsuit in hand, and spending some quiet hours in our pool. We enjoy meeting new families in our community and they always love to bring the whole family for a little swim. We enjoy both the plants and shrubs and flowers around our pool and in our side yard, but we also love to find interesting accent pieces that seem to create smiles all around. We are eager to have you wander through our yard, spend a couple minutes in the gazebo, and listen for the birds that seem to love our hedges and trees. Music has always been part of our lives, the piano being Vicki's instrument of choice. Hardly a concert or recital or NISO event passes without us, and we heartily support music that brings glory to God.

Garden D - To Van Voorst, 1559 Crown Ridge Dr.

I suppose everyone chooses the location of their lot for some reason, and the reason I chose to live where I do is because of the slope of the land. My lot allows me to greet people on the ground floor, and then to swing downstairs and out the back into the garden, and I find endless ways to arrange plants along the way. I over-winter many plants in a room off the upper deck. This has become my favorite winter coffee spot. I enjoy having the lower patio that shades my reflections as I putter in the summers. This place was new in 2013, and my lawn is just a year old! I love groupings of plants—just so each plant is something different. (I avoid repetition...) A phrase I just love is “plethora of plants”. That seems to be printed on my garden flag. Please enjoy not only my garden, but also enjoy the music of Gregg and Gary as they rejoice your hearts with music from the lower patio on Tuesday night!

Truffles @ Ground Effects, 2075 S Main Ave

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED AT GROUND EFFECTS.

Be sure to make your way back to the gazebo and waterfall in the back—there a truffle will be waiting for ticket holders! While on the grounds look around for great landscape ideas.