

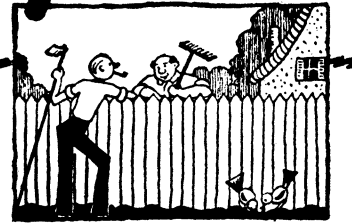


The Garden Spray

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BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS

Member--Men's Garden Clubs of America • Minnesota State Horticultural Society



February 1959
Volume 17, No. 2
G. "Vic" Lowrie, Editor

Associate Editors
Wm. H. Hull, Joe Witmer
Don Methven, Bob Adams

February Meeting

Date: Tuesday, February 10, 1959
Place: Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church
Knox Ave. So. & W. 50th St.
Time: 5:45 PM Sharp
Price: \$1.75

Officers

P. V. Young President
Wm. H. Hull Vice President
Dwight Stone Treasurer
Harold Wright Secretary

Office of the Secretary
416 Title Insurance Building
Minneapolis 1, Minnesota

Program

Office of the Exchange Editor
G. Victor Lowrie
417 Essex Building

"Annuals" by Bruce Johnstone of
Northrup King & Company

A discussion of "What's New" in
annuals for 1959, and a review
of those older varieties that have
proved themselves.

"Roses" by Carl Holst, President,
Minnesota Rose Society

Description of the 1959 Award Winner and
other new varieties as they stood up in the
Park Board's trial gardens -- with suggestions
of the better roses to consider for planting
this Spring.

Question and Answer Session on Annuals and Roses

Don't forget the club's round table garden-talk luncheon get-together
every fourth Wednesday noon at Donaldson's Garden Room on the sixth floor.
Very informal, come as close to 12 as you can, stay as long as you dare.

Welcome New Members

Bill G. Barry

5543 Blaisdell Avenue, Minneapolis 19

THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

If our Club made progress in 1958, as I believe it did, it was due to the enthusiastic and effective cooperation of the entire group -- active, professional and associate. It is a tradition that ours is a working membership and this is no idle boast.

This was well illustrated by an incident I observed during the evening preceding our Fall Flower Show, when preparations for the show were going forward at a feverish pace. As I walked past the rows of tables being assembled, I noticed a pair of khaki-clad legs sticking out from beneath a table, to which their owner was busily stapling a roll of paper. I intended to compliment him on his efforts as soon as he had finished but when I returned, the anonymous worker had hurried on to some other job and was indistinguishable from half a dozen others equally busy, and all wearing khaki work pants. Regardless of who this particular man may have been, he typifies the willingness of everyone to pitch in and work when there is a job to be done. The opportunity of associating with such people makes membership in the Club a real privilege.

It would be impossible to single out all the many individuals who made significant contributions of their time and talent during the year, but I am sure the Club would especially want me to express the appreciation we all feel toward those who assumed responsibility as chairmen and members of the various committees.

The year 1958 found us trying out some new ideas and new approaches to old problems. One was the use of a bus to transport members on the summer garden tours. Another was the staging of our Fall Flower Show in the American Hardware Mutual Insurance Building. Still another innovation was the appointment of a special committee to study and make long-range recommendations on Club financing.

In cooperation with the Park Board the Club made an extensive planting of coleus at Lyndale Gardens. A more permanent type of planting there (possibly a variety of shrubs) might be a Club project for 1959.

The awarding of plaques to various local firms for excellence in industrial beautification was carried forward by our Civic Activities Committee.

Highly gratifying to all of us was the recognition of Herb Kahlert's outstanding contributions to gardening by The Men's Garden Clubs of America at their Cleveland convention when they awarded him their Silver Medal. Herb was further honored by election to life membership in our Club. Tony Koester's selection as the recipient of the Bronze Medal was another happy event in our Club year.

To me it was a great pleasure to have had the opportunity of working closely this past year with Tony, "P.W.", Bill Hull and Chris as members of the Executive Board. Had it not been for their fine spirit of teamwork and their invaluable help at every turn, my job would have been difficult indeed, especially after my absence of several years from duties as a Club Officer.

I consider it an honor as well as a most rewarding experience to have served as your president this past year. Under the guidance of the able men you have selected as Club officers, we are certain to have a great year in 1959. Yours for better gardening.

Bill Brooks

SECRETARY'S REPORT

1958

1958, the seventeenth year of our club, was a year of many activities, highlighted by the best flower show ever presented in the city of Minneapolis. During the year we held twelve regular membership meetings which included the Spring Auction, the Fall Flower Show and the summer Garden Tours. Our regular Spring Flower Show was not staged this year. In April we held an Arboretum Benefit shrub and tree auction.

The Executive Board held thirteen meetings.

An average of $63\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of the Active membership attended the twelve regular meetings. This is a decrease of 5 per cent under the average attendance for the previous year. Six members had perfect attendance records. They are Brooks, Christopherson, Les Johnson, Menzel, Roufs and P.W. Young.

Six new Active members were elected this year. They are Floyd C. Ashley, Jacob D. Durst, Fred J. Holzman, Lawrence E. Johnson, C. E. Spring and Dwight Stone. N. W. Joubert and C. E. Spring were transferred from the Active to the Associate membership. Roger Koopmans was elected to the Professional membership. Herb Kahlert was elected to the Honorary life membership.

At the close of the year our roster contains 74 Active members, 3 Honorary Life members, 21 Associate members and 24 Professional members. We have 5 applications for Active membership on file.

Twelve issues of the club bulletin, "The Garden Spray," were published.

Herb Kahlert, Honorary Life member of our club, received national recognition this year. He was awarded the Silver Medal by the Men's Garden Clubs of America for outstanding service to the National organization over a period of many years.

The annual Christmas party was attended by 185 members and guests.

In closing, I would like to extend my best wishes to the new officers. I know they will successfully carry on the various projects of our club. Finally, I would also like to express my gratitude for the friendship and consideration all the members of the club have extended to me during the past four years.

N. W. Christopherson
Secretary

ON THE MEND

We are glad to report that Charlie Doell, Dick Lehman and Bob Savery are recuperating slowly from the effects of surgery. We do wish them a speedy recover

TREASURER'S REPORT
 MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS
 YEAR 1958

Balance Sheet as of December 31, 1958

Assets

Cash on Hand		
Northwestern National Bank	331.46	
Twin City Federal Savings & Loan	<u>2483.81</u>	\$2815.27
Supplies Inventory		<u>100.00</u>
Total assets		\$2915.27

Net Worth

Deferred Income -- 1959 dues paid in 1958		405.00
Surplus:		
Earned, January 1, 1958	2308.83	
Net income for year 1958	<u>303.63</u>	<u>2612.46</u>
Total Net Worth		\$3017.46

Profit & Loss Statement
Year Ended December 31, 1958

<u>Income</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>1959 Budgeted</u>
Dues (inc. \$468 deferred from 1957)	535.50	531.00
Auction	526.77	500.00
Interest on Savings Account	76.42	75.00
Special Projects	366.75	250.00
Miscellaneous	<u>234.52</u>	<u>100.00</u>
Total Income	\$1739.96	\$1456.00
 <u>Expenses</u>		
SPRAY	244.32	250.00
Programs and Shows	429.28	300.00
Special Projects	252.51	250.00
Minnesota Horticultural Society	172.50	177.00
Men's Garden Clubs of America	118.00	177.00
Industrial Awards	61.68	75.00
Cheer	10.00	35.00
Miscellaneous	<u>148.04</u>	<u>100.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1436.33	\$1364.00
Operating Surplus		<u>92.00</u>
NET INCOME FOR 1958	<u>303.63</u>	\$1456.00
	\$1739.96	

Men's Garden Clubs of Minneapolis

CHAIRMEN
1959 COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Program - Les Johnson

Civic - Joe Witmer

Flower Show - Eng Hoyne

Publication - Vic Lowrie

Auction - Chris Christopherson

Publicity - Dan Chabot

Membership - Harold Kaufmann

Horticulturist - Archie Flack

Telephone - Thurber Day

Historian - Fred Paul

Speakers - Ev Haedeke

Cheer - Paul Krøeger

Photography - Vern Roufs

Hospitality - Archie Flack

Grub - Bob Adams

Vice-chairmen and membership of committees later.

ALUMINUM AFFECTS HYDRANGEA COLOR

The same color pigments - anthocyanin and four yellows - responsible for the clear blue of some hydrangeas also occur in the pinks and intermediate off colors, USDA scientists have found.

The amount of aluminum the plants take up really regulates the color. The more acid a soil, the more available is aluminum and the bluer the flowers. Mildly acid soil supplies little aluminum and produce pink flowers. The ratio of yellow pigments to blue may call for either magentas, mauves or lavenders. Now that basic principles of the color are understood, the scientists will try to work out methods of regulating nutrient uptake on various soils to make hydrangeas more color reliable.

HOW TO SKELETONIZE LEAVES

Boil the leaves for 30 minutes in a solution of 1 teaspoon of sodium bicarbonate per quart of water. After the leaves have cooled in the solution, scrape them with a dull knife. Then immerse the leaves for 1 hour in a solution of 2 tablespoons of bleach (clorox). The rinse in clear water, dry gently between absorbent papers, and press.

AUDITOR'S REPORT

We have made an audit of the books and records of the Treasurer for the year 1958. Receipts and disbursements during the year were test-checked to an extent where it was determined that all monies received were properly accounted for and all bills properly paid. We found that the records of Bill Hull, Treasurer, were exceptionally well kept, and we believe that he deserves the thanks of our club for a job well done.

Auditing Committee, signed: S.F. Pinkham &
F. C. Ashley

PRESIDENTS AMONG OUR RANKS

P. W. Young, our own esteemed president for 1959. Joe Witmer, President,

THE TITUS' CHRISTMAS LETTER CON'T

Next over to the redwoods in Armstrong Park, only a few miles to the West. This is one of our favorite picnic areas which we have enjoyed with others, including Ethel and Hugh Wynne, from Minneapolis, with Bob Wilkins from Markato, and of course with the Rennies, Clements and Van Sants, all former Minneapolis folks, the latter having moved here last May.

We go to Bodega Bay: Twenty miles to the ocean, one of our particularly favorite drives. We pass through orchards of prune, apple, walnuts and a few vineyards. The crab season opened November 15th, and soon found us over there to be early purchasers of those large and delightful Dungeness crabs that sell for about 75 cents.

To Forestville, about ten miles away, you are in the heart of the California apple growing area. For the main part the varieties are those of the East, Roman Beauty, Delicious, Pippin, but one variety, White Winter Permain, was new to us. This is a white apple, with just a hint of a blush, matures late, and is a wonderfully good eating apple. In that area also is a nine-acre patch of cultivated blueberries that is almost unbelievable. Bushes seven to ten feet high, berries as large as your thumb, and sold all over the State. There was a crop of 45 tons taken from that nine acres this year. This farmer is called "Mr. Blueberry" for he does a great deal of hybridizing.

We go to Marin County: A high light of early October was a day spent with a landscape architect, visiting 16 large gardens he had designed and supervised in the Bay area. These gardens ranged all the way from lagoon placement with a sailboat and swimming just outside the front door, to gardens up in the clouds on hillsides so steep that the steps had to be catilevered. Many of these houses had swimming pools. Bay Area air is subject to cold breezes so all the pools were heated, and the surrounding concrete area radiant heated. The architect called them "sophisticated gardens and they surely were. Their effects are obtained more by shrubbery, colors of foliage, exoctic grasses and little use of annuals.

Walnut Groves: The area in which we live was, up to six or seven years ago, either a prune orchard or a walnut grove. When the area was subdivided one or the other was left in almost every yard. We had a prune tree but took it out as the mature tree is not a pretty one, and we replaced it with a liquidambar tree, a tree that really puts on an Autumn show of color. This particular year is a big walnut producing one, mature trees having 100 pounds of nuts and more. Being interested in the harvesting, we watched it. A tractor goes into the grove, fastens a long steel cable to the tree and then by means of a winch shakes the tree violently. The nuts fall, some still in husks, are picked up by hand on a piece work basis, taken to a cleaning station, sorted, bleached, and graded for the market.

We go to the Peninsula as the busy, thriving area for fifty miles south of San Francisco is called. Our main objective is to visit Hester in Los Gatos. It is also close to San Jose where Candy lives. On each visit we manage to get in a few interesting side trips. For instance in Menlo Park, nearby, is the beautiful plant and gardens of Sunset Magazine. Tours are conducted hourly. Sunset Magazine, as many of you know, presumes to talk for the West in matters of living, gardening, cooking, building, and does a good job of it. The Sunset "Western Garden Book" is a most authoritative book on western gardening and covers the five or six western states.

To our own backyard and garden, we have added several interesting shrubs, such as an Australian tea (*Leptospermum*), a Scotch Heather, a winter Jasmine. The evergreen Clematis (*Clematis Armand*) is now over 20 feet long and festoons two sides of the patio roof. At the moment we have in bloom roses, calls lilies on stalks 4 feet long.