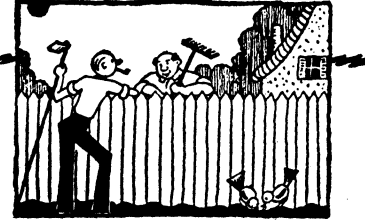




The Garden Spray

BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS

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



November 1959
Volume 17, No. 11
G. "Vic" Lowrie, Editor

Associate Editors
Wm. H. Hull, Joe Witmer
Ev Haedecke

November Meeting

Date: Tuesday, November 10, 1959
Place: Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church
Time: 5:45 P.M. Sharp
Price: \$1.75

Officers

P. W. Young	President
Wm. H. Hull	Vice President
Dwight Stone	Secretary
Ev Haedecke	Treasurer

Office of the Secretary
4620 Hampton Road

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

PROGRAM

Business Session

- 1) Election of Officers for 1960.
- 2) Vote to ratify regional affiliation.
- 3) To vote on amendment to raise dues.

Garden Discussion

A member participation program built around the theme, "How to Shorten the Winter," including such subjects in brief as:

- "Attracting Birds to the Winter Garden"
- "Growing Annuals and Perennials in the Basement"
- "Planning the Spring Garden to Scale"
- "Growing Lilies from Seed"

This is the most important meeting of the year when we decide in whose hands we place the management of the Club for the ensuing year. At this meeting, we will also have to vote on the amount of dues we will pay next year. So please do your level best to attend and come prepared to put your say into an interesting garden discussion.

NEWS AND VIEWS

Whatever happened to our Indian Summer? Seems like we could always count on the month of October for cool nights and sunny days, but this Fall has certainly been a disappointment to most everybody, but particularly gardeners. Why, we have hardly had a good frost and yet snow in some abundance has blanketed the earth on several occasions. Looked strange to see snow fall upon our trees, still cloaked with their red and yellow foliage -- quite a sight to behold it was but distressing to those of us who like to put our gardens to bed in leisurely fashion.

At this writing, dahlias are still waiting to be dug; roses to be hilled; tulips and spring bulbs in the cellar instead of in the ground; perennials needing to be cut back; vegetable garden to be cleaned up; fall pruning gone by the boards; grass needs another cutting but the mower's put away; leaves piled so high makes one tired just to look at them; ground so gosh darned wet you wouldn't dare turn a shovel in it.

What a contrast to the dry, quick freezing fall that threw us for a loop last year. Maybe it will stop raining long enough one of these dull days to enable us to finish our chores and soon enough so we won't be too tired-a-waiting and be out of the notion.

* * * * *

With all the moisture already in the ground, everything should winter well, especially if we get a good covering of snow before the sub-zero stuff gets around. But to play it safe, here are a few things one should try to do between showers, snowflakes and high winds:

1. Hill roses up to 12 to 15 inches but scrape away the leaves first and dust or spray thoroughly.
2. Rid the beds of annuals.
3. Rake the leaves off the lawn and compost.
4. Clean up the vegetable garden.
5. Wrap the trunks of young trees.
6. Get your new spring bulbs into the ground.
7. Cut back your perennials.
8. Oil and grease your garden tools.
9. Clean out your eaves troughs and downspouts.
10. When the ground is frozen hard, cover the beds with marsh hay.
11. Build a burlap screen around shrubs or young trees exposed to vicious winds.
12. Protect small young shrubs with inverted bushel baskets.

May Nature smile upon us this Winter and cheer our vegetative hearts this Spring.

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At our October Meeting, Les Johnson suggested that we as gardeners should always wear a flower in our coat lapel -- why not? Sounds like a splendid idea -- "a flower in every lapel." A little late in the season to start the custom but

NEWS AND VIEWS (con't)

few if any members would have difficulty finding a bud or a bloom for his buttonhole. Let's see how many members will be carrying one at our next meeting -- but hold on there -- the intent is for all members to be always seen with a boutonniere when wearing a coat.

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We are pleased to report that Archie Flack, Tony Koester, Harold Kaufmann, Bob Bryant and Gordie Ballhorn are all home and would welcome the opportunity of spending a few minutes with you.

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AN INCREASE IN DUES

Read very carefully the report from the special finance committee in which is recommended an increase in our club dues from \$4.50 to \$9.50 to take effect with the new year.

This is unquestionably a steep jump, considering that the report goes on to say that our finances are in a healthy condition. Nevertheless, at our last meeting the directors were empowered to draw up an amendment to our by-laws increasing annual dues from \$4.50 to \$10.00, and you are going to be asked to vote on this amendment at our November meeting.

True, during the last few years, we have been dependent upon the proceeds from our May plant auction for the best part of our operating expenses, and most of this money was derived from plant and other material donated to the club from a few extraordinarily generous professional members.

Naturally, we do not want to continue to impose so heavily upon our good friends, which would not be necessary if more of our active members made a special effort to propagate plant material specifically for the club auction as was done in earlier days.

The point at issue therefore is this -- we either lean less on our friends and more on ourselves to make the May Plant Auction produce a net of between five and six hundred dollars or we provide this money through an increase of \$5.50 per annum in dues.

The history of this Club from its very beginning has been one of success with every project that has been undertaken. Why can't we then, with a well-organized plan and with the full cooperation of every member, be able to contribute sufficient plant material to realize at auction certainly more than half (\$250 to \$300) of the money we are now being asked to raise by an increase in annual dues?

If so, then should we not try, this coming year, to operate successfully with dues of \$7.50 -- a step up of \$3.00 per member rather than a jump of \$5.50 (120%) to \$10.00 per member?

SLIDES FOR THE CHRISTMAS PARTY

The showing of member gardens in color has always been a high spot in our Christmas program. So please look over yours carefully and bring your proudest to our November Meeting, plainly identified with your name and turn them over to P. W. Young. Please don't fail to bring them to this next meeting.

OUR CHRISTMAS PARTY

Reach for that December calendar and place a heavy ring around the third Tuesday -- December 15 -- for on the night of the third Tuesday in December we shall gather together with our families and friends to celebrate the close of another interesting club year. So, don't you done get involved on that evening for it belongs to your garden clubbers.

PARK BOARD MUM SHOW

"Minneapolis Downtown 1970" -- this is the theme of The Minneapolis Park Board's Annual Chrysanthemum Show to take place at the Park Board Greenhouses at Bryant and 38th Street South, from Sunday November 8th through Sunday, November 22. Open daily from 10 A.M. to 10 P.M. at no charge. Greg Lucking tells us that this futuristic setting will be indescribably beautiful, so get your friends together and make it a must on your social calendar.

COMMITTEES

For your information, President P. W. Young has appointed the following committees:

Nominating Committee

Archie Flack, Chairman
Fred Paul
Bill Brooks
Cortis Rice
Vern Roufs

Auditing Committee

Bob Adams, Chairman
Sherm Pinkham
Floyd Ashley

Industrial Awards Committee

Joe Witmer, Chairman
All past presidents

Bronze Medal Award Committee

G. "Vic" Lowrie, Chairman
A. W. Koester
Cortis Rice, alternate
Al Blackburn

North Star Region Representatives

Bill Brooks, delegate
Ev Haedecke, alternate

GREETINGS FROM GEORGE AND JO TITUS



While in California recently, I spent a Sunday afternoon and evening with our Past President George Titus and Mrs. Titus.

We spent a couple of hours touring in Santa Rosa. At one home we saw about 100 varieties of fuschia; at another we wandered through a gem of a garden; we visited the public rose garden maintained by the Santa Rosa MGC, to which George belongs; we visited the home of the late Luther Burbank; and also saw the attractive new building of the Luther Burbank Garden Center, of which George is vice president.

Both George and Jo sent greetings to their Minneapolis friends and invite your visit. They have a lovely home, seem to be busy as the birds they watch so avidly and appear to be in excellent health. Thanks for your hospitality, George and Jo. It was a wonderful visit.

...Bill Hull

AU REVOIR BLACKIE

This month the Club loses one of its staunchest supporters; one of its most active Club members (a Bronze Medal Winner); and one of our most ardent gardeners, while Minnesota loses one of its finest citizens.

By the time this issue of the SPRAY reaches you the Blackbourns will be on their way to take up residence in La Jolla, California.

Those of you who have visited Al's garden, and I'm sure practically every member of the Club has, must have been impressed with the magnitude of his plantings and the richness of his plant selections.

His patio alone was a sight to behold with those colorful tuberous begonias and his unusually fine collection of fuschias.

And what do you know? Al is donating that entire collection of tuberous begonias and fuschias, pots and all, to the Club to be auctioned off at our May Plant Auction. Thank you, Al, for so generous a gift.

We are saddened by your loss. We were proud of you as a gardener and

THE REGIONAL CONSTITUTION

I have been asked to condense the proposed constitution and by-laws of the North Star Region MGCA, to avoid carrying the full 3 pages of it in SPRAY.

The objects as stated are: "to coordinate the interests of the (7) Men's Garden Clubs within this region and to encourage a closer relationship with other horticultural organizations."

The officers consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and two Directors and two Alternate Directors from each participating club (as well as an Immediate Past President). They are elected from a slate nominated by 3 members representing 3 different clubs, slate appointed by the President with the approval of the Executive Board (which consists of all officers and directors). The directors actually do the voting, upon instructions from their home club, and each club if thereby entitled to two votes.

The dues are a per capita payment of 10¢ per member per year payable on January 1. An individual registration fee not to exceed \$1 may be set by the board for attending a major regional meeting (a seminar or convention). No assessment other than the one ten-cent payment per member per year may be made on a membership basis.

The entire group (all members, all clubs) will hold an Annual Meeting each fall and perhaps other meetings as the Directors deem necessary. The Executive Board will meet 4 times a year to conduct business, work through committees, etc.

No amendments may be made without a two-thirds vote of the Executive Board and any proposed amendments have to be submitted to the Board and to the Secretary of each participating club sixty days before voting.

This constitution is based upon the constitutions of eight other successful regions throughout the country, but adapted to fit our own problems. Actually, ours goes further than those of most regions in making it a truly representative form of government, with each club represented by Directors who report regularly. The president of the region is so thoroughly controlled by being subject to the whole Board that he will never dominate the group.

This is not a proposed Region any more. It already exists since it has been ratified by the MGCs of Golden Valley, St. Paul, White Bear Lake, and Richfield. Other clubs are voting on it at about the same time as ours and it is felt all will ratify. Men responsible for this constitution include 12 presidents and past presidents of Minnesota MGCs, six other officers of these clubs, a past and present national officer or director MGCA, a past president and present first vice-president of the Minnesota Horticultural Society. So there is plenty of reason to ratify this constitution and participate in the North Star Region. All we have to do to become a participating club is 1) ratify the constitution; 2) elect a 2-year Director (delegate), a 1 year Director, and an alternate for each; 3) pay our dues of 10¢ per member on January 1, 1960.

W. H. Hull