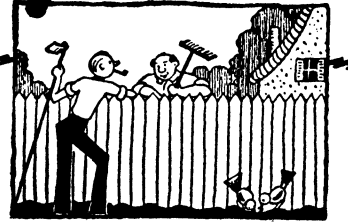




# The Garden Spray

BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS

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



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G "Vic" Lowrie, Editor

Associate Editors:  
Don Methven, Wm. Hull  
N. W. Christopherson  
Joe Witmer

## FALL FLOWER SHOW

## OFFICERS

Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 14-15, 1957

Staged at the Park Board Greenhouses  
38th St. and Bryant Ave. South

Doors will be open 8 o'clock Saturday morning. All entries must be in place no later than 3 o'clock in the afternoon at which time the judges will take over.

Bring all of the best from your garden, both individual specimens and flower arrangements.

For members who will not be able to enter their exhibits on Saturday, bottles and tags will be available after 2 P.M. on Friday the 13th.

Bring your family and a picnic basket of food to eat on the lawn. By starting dinner at 5:30, we will be through about the time the judging will be completed.

THE FLOWER SHOW WILL TAKE THE PLACE OF OUR REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING.

## WE REJOICE

Honours, most deserving, were bestowed upon three of our members by the Minnesota Horticultural Society at their 1957 Annual Garden Forum. Dick Lehman received the Bronze Medal Award for his outstanding contribution to horticulture, and Rene Dufon with Joe Witmer were given Distinguished Service Awards in recognition of their untiring effort in the advancement of horticulture.

The Club lost a loyal and distinguished member in Jay Addy who has been a member from the Club's early beginning. Jay was a staunch supporter of all our activities and an enthusiastic gardener. We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and especially to Bill, his brother.

## SHOW SCHEDULE

Enclosed is your show entry blank and show schedule. Look them over carefully. On the back of the schedule are the simple rules for exhibiting. Read them thoroughly and adhere to them strictly. If you have any questions, there will be members of the Show Committee present at all times to answer them. Take the schedule as you walk through your garden and check off those classes for which you have flowers, foliage, flowering shrubs, fruits or vegetables you plan to enter. Now don't pre-judge your specimens too severely or you'll be leaving in your garden many potential "ribbon" winners which should be in the show.

Be sure to enter some flower arrangement. They need not be large or elaborate to win honors; the more simple with three, five or seven flowers are fairly easy to arrange and more often than not take first place.

Cut your flowers and foliage the night before the show and plunge them into deep, moderately cool water. This can also be done very early in the morning, but they should be left in deep water at least for three hours before lifted for arranging.

Below are a few "Show Suggestions" which we hope will help the less experienced:

## SHOW SUGGESTIONS

Remember the judging takes place the moment the judge sees your entry, therefore, it must be well hardened to withstand heat of the room and deeply immersed in water.

When more than one bloom is required, be sure your entry has the exact number of blooms specified in the schedule. A bud showing color is considered a bloom. Select the best you have but strive for uniformity in size and color if possible.

Identify your material. Be sure to put your entry number on the entry tag, as well as your name folded in at the bottom. Also place your name on the bottom of each container used for arrangements, house plants and potted material.

Place your exhibit early. If your entries are well hardened, you've no need to worry about how many hours before judging time they are placed. They will keep for days.

The Park Board Greenhouses will be open early on Saturday morning, September 14 so bring entries over and get them arranged before the crowd arrives about noon.

### Flower Show Musts

1. Watch the garden carefully until show time.
2. Cut late the previous evening and harden off.
3. Cut long stems and extra flowers.
4. Use a sharp knife and cut on a slant
5. Remove excess foliage.
6. Crush woody stems.
7. Sear, or dip in boiling water, the ends of milky stems.
8. Set in deep, lukewarm water; place in cool spot out of drafts.

### Qualifications to Watch

1. Color: clear, not muddy.
2. Size: uniform, large.
3. Form: typical of the variety.
4. Substance: mature and fully developed but not past prime.
5. Individual blooms: side buds showing color count as additional blooms.
6. Stems: long, uniform in length, straight and strong without blemish
7. Formation: flowers well set on stems terminal flower looking at the sky.
8. Foliage: remove all below water line Remove imperfect leaves.
9. Condition: all entries should be free of disease and pests.

### A Delightful Spot

If you haven't visited Dr. Fred Rodda's garden you have missed a rare treat. Situated high on Mount Curve overlooking the entire city, the view from his beautifully arranged and well-kept garden is a sight you will long remember. Unfortunately, the home's inaccessibility to heavy motor traffic and the attendant problem of parking many cars at one time made it impractical to include Fred's garden on one of our regular monthly tours.

### The Hard Boiled Crab Moves South

When Rene Dufourd left town to settle in the Orlando district of Florida, the Club lost not only a good gardener par excellence but also an indefatigable worker on anything and everything that was of benefit to the Club. No matter what the assignment, and Rene as secretary of the club for many years initiated most of the more important ones, you would always find him in the forefront, organizing, encouraging and doing the lions share of the work himself. A mighty bulwark was he in defending the charter of the Club and the rights of its members.

And besides, we will miss the close association of a wonderfully good friend and the benefit of his sage advice, Happy sunshine gardening you loveable "hard boiled crab."

### August Visit to Blackbourns

About sixty members attended the August 3 Garden Tour, originating at Al Blackbourn's beautiful home and grounds in Edina. It was a fine meeting at which we were fortunate to be graced by a visit from Miss Fleeta Brownell Woodruffe, Horticultural Editor of BETTER HOMES and GARDENS, who photographed the group at one of our regular summer tours and dinners. Each of us who had an opportunity to get acquainted with Miss Woodruffe was impressed with her charm and ability. The meeting was slower than usual in progressing because of the time needed for photography, which made it impossible for this writer to take the remainder of the tour, due to previous commitments, but it was a most pleasant Saturday afternoon.

The dinner was prepared by the Grill 'n Grub Committee, headed by Chef Rene Dufourd, who fed us in true gourmet style. His true masterpiece (anything made with extraordinary skill) consisted of such delicacies as standing ribs barbecued and browned over the charcoal, delicious salad, baked potatoes with sour cream dressing, sundaes. Thanks to you, Al for permitting us to browse among your beautiful Minnehaha-side gardens. More thanks to Herb Kahlert for donating some fine iris as door prizes and to P. W. Young for a good tour.

### DDD

Now that Direct Distance Dialing is available through the telephone company, one amateur gardener wants to know if this DDD they're talking about is effective against mosquitoes.

W.H.H.

OVER THE GARDEN FENCE

By Bill Hull

A lot of boys are whooping it up these days, and I don't mean in the Malamute Saloon. I refer to the enthusiasm with which mid-summer gardening is being done. Judging by the conversation at last meeting, our gardens must look very attractive now that we've had some warm weather to go along with all of that rain. I've personally just spent several days manicuring my place and wish it could be kept like that for days on end. We should all have lots of show material.

\* \* \* \* \*

Eng Hoyme is working hard on a new house this summer. He spends a lot of time at the site, I presume pounding nails and planning posies. Keep up the good work, Eng. If you need help, let us know, We'll lend our hammers.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Richfield's Men's Garden Club had a bang-up show August 17 and 18. A lot of beautiful things to behold and our congratulations to them. The fine setting of the bank basement gives them attractive display areas, which we do badly need in our shows. They also awarded several gold and silver bowls to sweepstakes and grand champion winners. Very commendable idea. Another good idea: they classify arrangers into types A and B, according to experience, and each group competes only within itself.

\* \* \* \* \*

Why can't the individual Men's Garden Clubs in this area have some regional activities? I firmly believe more men from Club A would attend Club B shows and open events, if invitations were issued in plenty of time to be included in the various club bulletins. Let me know your reactions to this proposal.

\* \* \* \* \*

Wanted: Workers for the Fall Show now scheduled for September 14 and 15. Telephone, Chairman Les Johnson (TA 4-2170), and offer your help beforehand so Les can plan on your assistance. Like most organizations, we need more Indians and fewer Chiefs.

\* \* \* \* \*

Anyone interested in attending the East Lansing, Michigan, regional convention of the MGCA, September 20-22? It will be a big meeting, rivalling a national convention and well worthy attending. If you want to go and need reservations, better act fast. Call me for details.

\* \* \* \* \*

Are aphids particularly numerous this summer? Some say so.

When the Boss is away, the staff goes out for coffee. Recently my across-the-fence friend waited thirty minutes for a clerk at a garden store. He was kept waiting by the remark, "Everyone's out for coffee". Finally he left.

\* \* \* \* \*

Now that we have sufficient room for expansion at winter meals, why not lift the membership restrictions on our Club and expand it? While we are at it, why not omit the professional category and put all in one? Let's go a step further and drop entirely a man who hasn't attended a meeting for two years, instead of simply putting him on the associate list?

\* \* \* \* \*

Ever notice how valuable are our past presidents? Observe how assiduously these men perform major duties for our Club. Whenever we criticize and yell for new blood and new faces in activities, let's first ask ourselves whether we would be willing to work as hard as the others or whether we're using that lame excuse as a crutch -- rationalizing is the psychiatric term.

\* \* \* \* \*

Tony Koester has been helping two neighbor youths with their first gardens and reports encouraging results. Why not open the door wider, Tony, and start such a project on a bigger scale? If not now, do it as your Past President's Program some of these years?

\* \* \* \* \*

Vic Lowrie's dahlias are real knock-outs this year. Was there ever anything prettier than Gerry Hoek?

\* \* \* \* \*

I miss my garden tours this year. For two years I've made the rounds to most member's gardens but time has been too big a problem this year. In turn, I miss being able to pass on to you what I've observed in others' gardens. Won't you keep me posted what you have or what you saw in anothers' garden? Even better yet why doesn't someone volunteer to make a whole series of garden visits this month and report on them to us? We all welcome visitors and it is a wonderful experience.

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For example, I've heard how beautiful P. W. Young's petunias are this year, but I haven't gotten over there. Stan Lund's roses are always nice and, even though I understand he's moving, we know they're worth seeing. Hank Elieff is awfully busy with the new shop and his regular work too and has reduced gardening, but I won't believe he doesn't have a pretty place anyhow. Otto Erickson is also in the transitive stage from one home to another, but Otto without a pretty place? Impossible. So come next Saturday, or any day, jump in the two-ton jalopy and go visiting. The tell me.

## SEPTEMBER GARDEN TIPS

All the members of the narcissus family should go into the ground by late September if possible.

Tulips need not be planted for several weeks, but it will be wise to place orders at once.

Crocuses, snowdrops, chionodoxas, scillas, and other small bulbs should be planted as early as obtainable.

Hyacinths and narcissi to be forced may be potted and placed in the cellar or a trench for root making. Darkness is required.

Strawflowers or everlastings are to be picked when the buds begin to open, tied loosely in bunches, and permitted to hang head down for several weeks while they dry.

Gourds for winter decoration should be picked before they are touched by frost. The stem should be cut off about two inches from the fruit which should be taken into the house to dry.

Bulbous irises may be planted to advantage this month. They should be given protection with peat moss, leaves or some similar material.

Bleeding heart can be divided safely in the fall. Separate in the same way as peonies.

Small plants of calendulas, lantanas, dwarf asters, bedding begonias, petunias, and geraniums potted-up now will grow and flower in the living room when cold weather comes. It is best that they should become well established while the weather is still warm.

Herbaceous borders can be remade at this time, for most perennials can be transplanted and divided now except the autumn flowering kinds. Dig deeply and enrich the soil before resetting the plants.

Get Madonna lily bulbs into the ground as soon as possible. Surround them with sharp sand if the soil is heavy.

The lily-of-the-valley gives best results when separated every three or four years.

The strongest crowns should be selected and planted three inches apart each way, just below the surface.

Gladiolus corms should be dug when the leaves turn yellow. It is well to cure or ripen them for a few days in the sun.

Day lilies (*Hemerocallis*) make strong growth. Divide at least every fifth year. They are very accommodating; the work may be done at almost any time.

The vegetable garden can be improved by sowing rye grass this month. It will be four or five inches high before winter comes and can be plowed or spaded-in early in the spring.

Permit the squashes and pumpkins to become thoroughly ripe before they are harvested. The riper they are, the better they will keep. Remember that they need to be stored in a fairly warm place.

Early pears should be picked a week or more before they become soft, and stored in a cool, dark place to ripen.

Grapes do not ripen after being picked. If they are to be stored, they must be placed in a dry place with a low temperature. Let them stay on the vines as long as possible.

Apples are ready for picking when the green ground coloring disappears and when the fruits separate from the spurs if turned with a rotating motion of the hand.

Most ornamental trees may be planted successfully in the fall if they mature their wood early.