

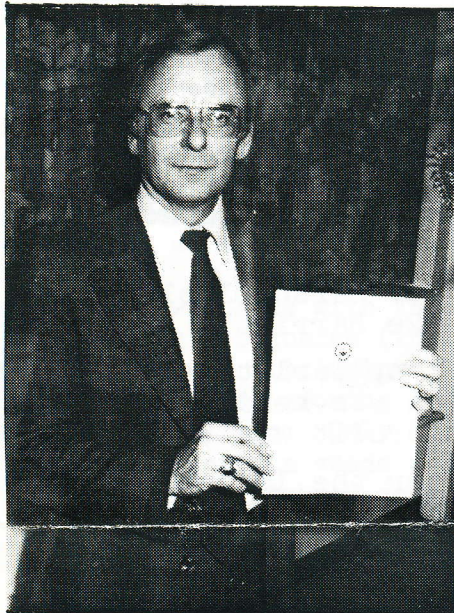
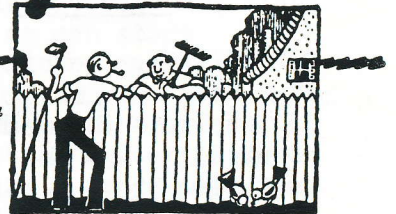


The Garden Spray

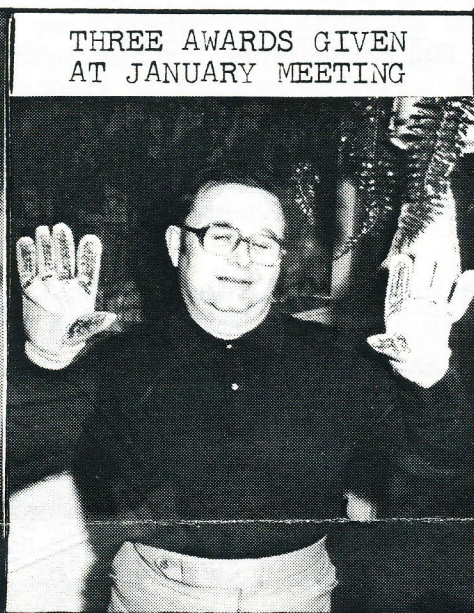
BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.

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

February 1983, Volume 41, Number 2

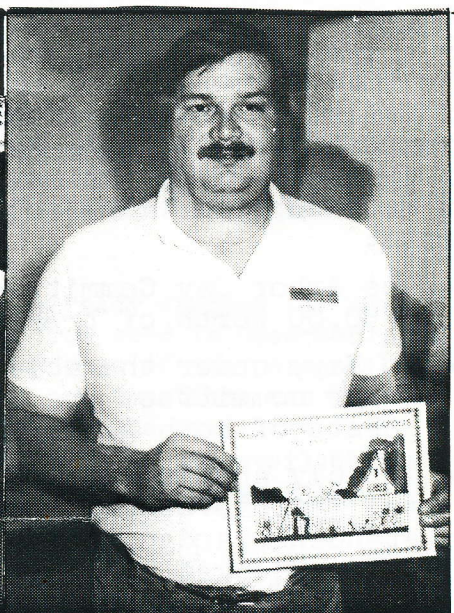


Jerry Shannon
MGCA Life Membership



THREE AWARDS GIVEN
AT JANUARY MEETING

Fred Glasoe
Seven Green Thumbs



Gregory Smith
Rookie of the Year

Seven members received Green Thumb awards (gloves) from Bill Hull. The seven and their years of perfect attendance at club meetings were: One year (1982) Charles Proctor, Jerry Shannon and Cameron Smith; Two years (1981, 1982) Sherman Pinkham and Robert L. Smith; Three years (1980, 1981, 1982) Chet Groger; Seven years (1976-1982) Fred Glasoe.

NEXT MEN'S GARDEN CLUB MEETING
TUESDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 8, 1983
LAKE HARRIET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
(Chowen Ave. So. at 49th St.)
DINNER 6:00 P.M. PRICE \$5.00
Have you something to auction? Bring it.

MICHAEL ZINS will talk on "SELECTING UNCOMMON TREES and SHRUBS". Mr. Zins is an Area Extension Horticulturist with the Extension Service located at the Arboretum. He specializes in woody ornamental plants. Mr. Zins is a graduate of the University of Minnesota; Department of Horticulture and has been associated with the Arboretum approximately 20 years.

GET THAT RESERVATION CARD BACK TO BOB CHURILLA PROMPTLY!

BY-LAWS CHANGE PROPOSAL

The MGCM Board recommends a change in our By-Laws re the procedure for awarding Honorary Memberships. The following is submitted for member consideration in February and for approval at the March meeting: (NOTE: The March meeting will be held in conjunction with the Dayton-Bachman flower show on Thursday evening March 24.)

ARTICLE I, Section 2. Honorary Members. (Second paragraph)
The Board will consider all recommendations (at its November meeting) and, if any are deemed acceptable, not more than one may be presented (awarded) annually. ~~by-the-Board-to-the-total-membership-at-the-Annual-Meeting-for ratification-by-the-membership.~~

1982 IN RETROSPECT

(....Items more fully covered in secretary's report)

It has been 365 days since I stood before you and assumed the position of President of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis. Part of the strength of a successful organization is its committees and their chairmen. MGCM is no exception. The following is a resume of their outstanding accomplishments:

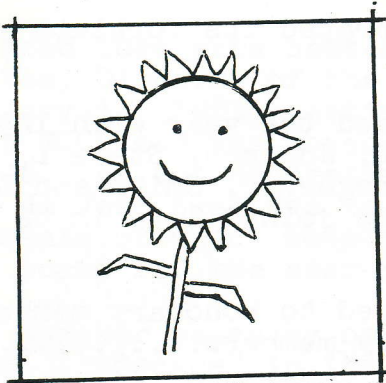
- The Arbor Day Committee under the leadership of Ray Marshall planted \$750.00 worth of trees at Lyndale Gardens near Lake Harriet.
- In May, under the able leadership of Bob Livingston, Carleton Nelson and their committee the annual plant sale and auction was held. This year guests of both genders were invited. The Club's profit was \$759.14.
- In July and August, the garden tour committee under the leadership of the Smith brothers, Russ and Robert L., planned and executed two outstanding garden tours. After viewing all the excellent gardens the garden judged the most outstanding was that of Stanley Van Vorst.
- In August the annual flower and vegetable show was held at the Minnesota Arboretum. Charlie Proctor, Bob Smith and their committee did an outstanding job in staging this event. Bob Smith won the Tom Foley Memorial Trophy as the vegetable sweepstakes winner and Dave Johnson won the Blackbourn Trophy as flower sweepstakes winner.
- Throughout the growing season the Fragrance Garden never looked better due to the hard work of Archie Caple, Phil Peterson and their fine committee.
- The calendar committee with Sherm Pinkham at the helm sold calendars that profited the Club \$452.00.
- The last major committee to work their magic was the Christmas committee under the leadership of Dave Johnson and Russ Backes. 193 members and their guests thoroughly enjoyed themselves on December 7th.

Another event of the year worthy of noting was the April meeting where 160 members and their guests met at Dayton's for dinner to view and enjoy the Dayton-Bachman Flower Show. The President's Cup was awarded to Orrin Turnquist at the Christmas Party. Also at the Christmas Party, Fred Glasoe was awarded the Bronze Medal for long time service to the Club.

Yes, gentlemen, the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis is alive and well, starting into its 41st year and it's because of you as its members and its conscientious officers and Board of Directors.

--Jerry Shannon, President

JUST AMONG US GARDENERS



With January behind us, which is historically the height of the winter season, we now are approaching spring. Some may argue that January is the bottom of the winter season but, either way, we can start to prepare for another season in the outdoor garden.

To shorten the winter months and to extend the gardening season I urge every member to consider indoor gardening as a supplement to outdoor gardening. It is an inexpensive way to enjoy gardening a full 12 months of the year and it also provides the facilities to start spring seedlings. A two-tube 48" fixture costs about \$1.00 per month to operate and their combinations and manners of use are endless. Once you have started such a light program, you can design it to suit your own interests. Both flowering and green tropical plants are a challenge and can become especially interesting during our winter months. If anyone would like to become acquainted with indoor gardening, please call me and drop by with your wife to see what happened to us when we became interested.

By now, those with indoor light facilities have plants already started for next spring. Begonias (including tuberous begonias started from seed in December), geraniums (including plants from cuttings last fall) and some of the perennials are already growing for spring transplanting. Petunias and impatiens can be started soon. Only by trial and error do you learn what is the best time to start certain seeds under your conditions. A primary factor is the availability of a cool lighted area or a cold frame to help harden off the young seedlings and hold the young plants until time to set them out in late May. It becomes a game of trying to attain maximum growth under lights by late April and then move them to the cool area in order to allow space under lights for the later developing plants such as marigolds and zinnias. There is a sense of accomplishment in the ability to start plants from seed and see them through to maturity. If you have not yet tried it, I urge you to do so.

Keep the MGCA 1983 National Convention in Tucson in mind. Its theme is "Fun in the Sun II", having been held there in 1972. Dates are Saturday, April 16, through Tuesday, April 19. Our club has again budgeted funds to help cover registration costs and those members attending will be certified as delegates. We must know by our March meeting who will attend as delegates.

The Men's Garden Clubs of America has expanded their activities in the last year or two with new programs and fund raisers. The Gardener has been turned into a genuine horticultural magazine and is now available to the general public as a bi-monthly magazine at \$10.00 per year. Any subscriptions we can sell through our club will net our club \$2.00. The MGCA Endowment and Investment Fund under the stewardship of Sherm Pinkham and his committee, the MGCA Community Projects Committee with their slide shows, the MGCA Jacket Committee and the MGCA Calendar Committee are all fairly recent fund raising additions to MGCA. Until you have access to all of the material made available to affiliated clubs, you do not realize how active and vital an organization the Men's Garden Clubs of America really is. If any of you members would like to review the MGCA Manuals and programs, please let me know. You will find them interesting reading and you will be proud to be a member. Like any organization, getting involved is half the fun. Get acquainted with MGCA and take a part in MGCM. Serve on those committees and serve on the board when you are asked. You will enjoy every minute of it.

- Chet Groger

1982 SECRETARY'S REPORT
(Abbreviated to eliminate duplication)

In 1982 the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis celebrated its fortieth anniversary. Highlights of the year are as follows:

The Club started the year with 117 members and ended the year with 123. The following men joined with dues for 1982: Dennis D. Johnson, Steve L. Kirchner, Edward A. Martinco, Douglas L. Smith, Gregory P. Smith and Lloyd C. Wittstock. (This does not include the seven who joined late in 82 with dues for 1983.)

Otto Nelson, Dick Lehman and Vic Lowrie were elected to honorary membership by the Club. The Club now has nine living honorary members.....

Sherman Pinkham was nominated for and was awarded the Silver Medal for outstanding service to MGCA at the Annual Convention of the Men's Garden Clubs of America in Toledo, Ohio. Club members serving as delegates to the convention were Sherm Pinkham, Bill Hull and Ed Culbert. Bill Hull was appointed MGCA Historian effective March 1. Bill and Chet Groger received certificates of appreciation for their service to MGCA.

Barbara Flanagan, staff writer for the Minneapolis Star and Tribune was given an award in recognition of her advocacy for civic beautification.

The Club activities were varied and well received this year. Over 1500 calendars were sold;.....the Fragrance Garden had additional landscaping timbers put in place and received a donated ornamental vase; the Flower and Vegetable Show had 29 exhibitors, 464 items exhibited and some new exhibiting classes;..... --Kent Canine

EXCERPTS OF LETTER FROM BILL BROOKS TO CHET GROGER

"Your December 6th letter was delayed in reaching me probably because it had to be forwarded from Apache Junction to my new address (William W. Brooks, 15223 Pageland Circle, Fountain Hills, AZ 85268). We sold our house at King's Ranch and about a year ago moved into a new one which we had built here at Fountain Hills.....

"I do not have an office telephone number since I sold my business in Tempe several years ago and am retired. My home telephone number is 602-837-2509.....I would be glad to hear from any of the members who might be visiting in Arizona.".....

REMEMBER the youngsters when planning for your garden. Children love to have an area for planting something of their own choice. They feel a sense of pride in taking care of and seeing development of a favorite flower or vegetable. Prepare for that extra plot and give yourself and the children many enjoyable hours all summer long. Be ready when planting time comes.

NEW MEMBERS

Richard J. Bormes 474-3429
20365 Knightsbridge Rd. 473-3839
Excelsior, MN. 55331

Dr. Robert C. Olson 920-8327
2840 Glenhurst Ave. 221-3448
St. Louis Park, MN. 55416

James P. Tuff 881-0830
8541 Thomas Ave. S.
Bloomington, MN. 55431

Neil F. Whitfield 935-2449
4308 Blenheim Circle
Minnetonka, MN. 55343

ARBORETUM UPDATE AT THE JANUARY MGCM MEETING
by Andy Marlow

"A good idea gets better" was the theme of the talk by MGCM member Francis de Vos, Director of the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, at the January 11, 1983, meeting. The good idea, de Vos noted, actually originated with MGCM and was moved along by Vic Lowrie and other members in the mid-1950s. As the Arboretum enters this, its 25th year, many changes are afoot, and de Vos' task was to provide his audience with a look at the plans, some elements of which have already been completed while others are on the drawing board for the near future.

The speaker began by noting that this was the only major Arboretum with the word "landscape" in its official title. Most, he said, are primarily botanic collections, while the Minnesota institution strives to place its plant collection in a landscape setting. Research, of course, is another function. Many plants now being sold by nurseries and by catalog were either developed or tested at the Arboretum. De Vos said because of the Arboretum "we have a much better understanding of cold hardiness" today. These two functions, he stated, were kept at the top of the agenda as plans were developed to improve the Arboretum.

Improvements were necessary for a number of reasons. First was overcrowding. The annual attendance is approaching 100,000. In the future, it may reach 3 or 4 times that number. The large number of visitors created problems with circulation and parking. The Ordway picnic shelter area became a bottleneck, with pedestrians and cars fighting for the right-of-way.

Another problem was the management of circulation on the 3-mile Arboretum Drive. Traffic was difficult to manage. Often visitors would drive by the appropriate parking area before noticing the plant collection they were interested in viewing. Backing up and walking on the roadway are both dangerous. And, the farther along the drive a person gets, the less likely he is to stop to view a collection of plants.

Finally, improving access for the young, the old and people with limited mobility was considered. De Vos noted that those with less mobility should be entitled to enjoy a public facility and that they often find greater joy in the experience than those who can get around better. The average age of an Arboretum visitor, for example, is much higher than that of the average zoo goer.

The process of planning the improvements began with some basic decisions. The first was to develop a nucleus of about 60 acres of landscape gardens with both hard and soft surface paths and a visitor center with room to park 450 cars to take some of the pressure off the Snyder Education Building. Then aerial photographs were taken, graphic maps with color-coded areas drawn and the plan began to take shape. Carrying out the plan is expected to cost about \$1.3 million. About \$30,000 is left to raise.

The rest of the talk was devoted to slides and commentary on the parts of the plan that have already been accomplished. Development of the first new garden was forced somewhat by the loss of elm trees to Dutch elm disease. The hosta bed was moved to a new location, described by de Vos as "a great new area". He said it's "the finest hosta collection you'll find anywhere in the country". Some of the azalea collection has been moved to an adjacent area to provide a beautiful example of a shady landscaped area.

The rose garden has also been moved. It's now enclosed by the clematis trellis. The two plants complement each other very well. There are a
(over)

number of levels to the new garden, a fountain, a stream with a picturesque little bridge, and a gazebo with a marvelous view. All are set off by the beauty of the display of rose blossoms. This garden was completed and dedicated last September.

Profits from the Arboretum gift shop financed a renovation of the terrace area near the Snyder building. A larger flagstone terrace was installed; the path over the hill to the perennial and herb gardens made less steep; and more trees planted to provide a shady spot for resting. On the new path an overlook has been provided so visitors can enjoy the waterfall without having to go around and below it. This whole area is in the process of becoming a full-fledged park garden.

Plans for 1983 include continued work on the new perennial garden and the development of some home demonstration gardens. De Vos said these will be of various shapes and sizes, sunny and shady, to give visitors an idea of what they might do in their own yards. Fences, retaining walls and other landscape construction materials will also be a part of this exhibit.

Throughout his talk, the speaker emphasized that while these changes are taking place, the existing parts of the arboretum will remain essentially the same. The major plantings around Arboretum Drive will still be there for enjoyment. In fact, he envisions visitors parking near the visitor center, touring the nuclear gardens on foot (or eventually by mini-bus) and then getting back into their cars for a motor tour of the Drive. "A good idea gets better" is indeed an apt way to think of the dynamic plans described by de Vos.

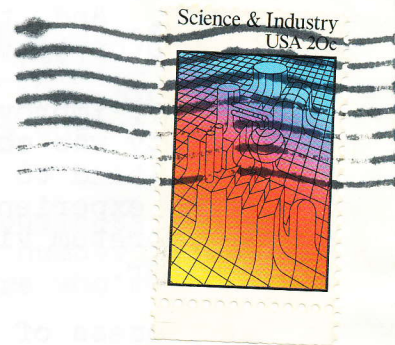
Return to
THE GARDEN SPRAY of MGCM, INC.
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* * * * *

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