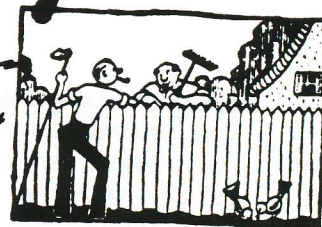




The Garden Spray

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



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

March 1989, Volume 47, Number 3

MARCH MGCM MEETING

The Dayton-Bachman Flower Show will highlight our March club meeting. Our annual visit to Dayton's, 8th and Nicollet, Minneapolis, 12th floor Sky Room will be on Tuesday March 14th at 6:00 PM. The theme of this year's show

A CHILD'S GARDEN... OF VERSES, SONGS, GAMES, ...AND OTHER THINGS.

is based on characters and ideas from writings by noted childrens author Tomie de Paola, who has illustrated over 150 books for children, and written the stories for 60 of them. His fresh and whimsical drawings have made him famous the world over.

We will be honored to have Tomie de Paola as our guest to discuss the show, his books and related topics of interest. Hence, although this is a school night, some of you may wish to invite your children or grandchildren to see and possibly meet one of the finest writers and illustrators of children's books in the country.

After the meeting we will adjourn to the 8th floor auditorium to tour a Tomie de Paola garden, complete with surprises, magic spells, extraordinary people, animals and birds. And thousands of flowers.

Invite your wife, your friends and prospective members to this special meeting of MGCM. Reservations must be received by Wed., May 8th. Send your reservation with full payment to: Duane Johnson, 1226 W. 53rd St., Mpls., MN 55419 (824-0295)
Adults \$12.00 Children 12 and under \$6.95

Duane: Please reserve _____ places for me at the Tuesday, March 14th, MGCM dinner meeting in Dayton's downtown Sky Room as follows:

_____ Adults at \$12.00 each \$ _____

_____ Children 12 and under at \$6.95 each \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

My check for \$ _____ payable to MGCM is enclosed.

Signed _____

February MCGM Meeting Report

by
Andy Marlow

Tree Pruning Ralph Greiling is a 1973 graduate of the College of Forestry at the University of Minnesota. While a student, he got a taste of urban tree care experience and decided to get into the business. He's been at it ever since, working by himself in the slow times and adding 3-5 other workers when it's busy.

Greiling says there are a number of reasons to trim trees. Removing deadwood is important, in that it lets wounds to an injured or sick tree begin to heal, and keeps the rotting process from moving into the main stem of the tree. It is also used to remove cracked or broken limbs that might come down on someone's head.

Trimming also is used to eliminate crossing branches and crowding. Branches that rub against one another create a friction point where it's possible for infection to enter the tree. Thinning out the top also reduces wind-loading on the limbs, which can, as we all know, bring down even the largest tree. Thinning also opens up a tree to allow it to dry quickly after a storm or more sun to get through to a garden or lawn. Finally, a tree may be trimmed where it comes into contact with buildings or wires of some kind.

Timing is very important in trimming a tree. The winter months are best for most trees. The tree will not lose much sap, nor will it be exposed to infections and diseases that could infect it. This is especially important for oak trees. Oak wilt is more pervasive here than in any other state. Elms are best trimmed in winter, too, to retard the spread of Dutch Elm disease. Apples and mountain ash trees are susceptible to fire blight infection and can only be trimmed in the winter months. Honey locust needs to be trimmed in winter or during a prolonged dry period. Other trees can be trimmed at almost any time.

Without a tree on hand in the church basement, Ralph declined to demonstrate the proper techniques for trimming. There are extension bulletins available on the subject from your local county agent. He did caution, however, that the old practice of applying tree wound dressing is actually counter productive. The wound will heal better without it. The only time to use it is when trimming oaks during the spring and early summer.

State Fair Curt Klint is superintendent of the vegetable show at the Minnesota State Fair. He took over that position when former superintendent Oren Turnquist passed away a few years ago. Like Turnquist, Klint was associated with the University of Minnesota for many years.

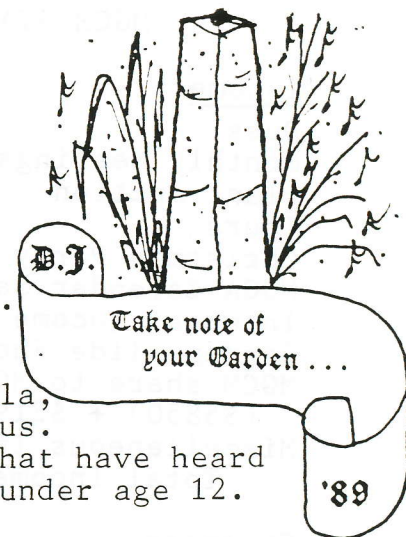
About 1000 exhibits a year appear at the State Fair and anyone is eligible to enter. Registration for entry must be done 2 weeks in advance, however, and the Premium Book containing schedule of entries for both flower and vegetable shows is available from the State Fair office just by calling in late spring or through the summer. Potential exhibitors can also get from their county extension agent a 4-H publication on how to prepare for vegetable exhibitions. The Premium Book, the 4-H publication, a garden and some interest are all that you need to get started.

Notes from the President . . .

Continuing the theme of the musical garden---

The musical word for the month is accelerando. If you're growing under lights most of those seeds should be started. Quicken your pace if you haven't.

The Dayton-Bachman show is an event you won't want to miss. We are very fortunate to have Tomie de Paola, author and illustrator of children's books speak to us. He comes highly recommended by my teaching friends that have heard him. We got a special meal price for your children under age 12. Don't miss this event.



MGCM - MARCH PERSON OF THE MONTH - The person of the month joined the club in 1978. Two years ago I was co-chair with him on the Fragrance Garden Committee. He is a positive problem solver. He is one who made many trips to the Garden. He watered, pruned, killed weeds, ordered plants, picked up plants--the list could go on. He made things happen at the 19th and Aldrich site.

He is a very active Club member. This year his committee participation includes Arbor Day, Community Garden, Flower and Vegetable Show, Plant Auction and Chair of the Sunshine Committee. He is always there when we need help. I'd like to recognize PHIL PETERSON as MGCM Person of the Month.

1989 - THE YEAR OF THE CUCUMBER The National Garden Bureau has designated 1989 as the year of the cucumber. It is only right that this popular vegetable receive such recognition. After all it is one of the five most popular vegetables. I can get that good taste in my mouth just thinking about eating a fresh "cuke" from the garden at a summer meal.

For those in the club who have young children: You might have a "Cuke Derby". Think about it. By getting four tiny wheels you could have your own race at your block party this year. You might also have a prize for the most imaginatively decorated burpless bloomers.

SHORT NOTES

- Mentor Gardeners - Feel free to call people listed in the Directory or call me.
- Club Brochures - Help advertise our club. Help get new members. Brochures will be available at our meetings and from the Duanes -- Reynolds and Johnson.

--Duane J.

The BOARD at it's January meeting:

- Discussed memorial plaques. A bronze plaque at an approximate cost of \$248.00 was selected.
- Ways to emphasize the Mentor Gardening program resulted in a suggestion to include appropriate comments in the new member induction ceremony. This would be a reminder to the entire membership of the opportunity.

--The tulip is not native of Holland. It comes from the mountains of Turkey. Even the name tulip comes from Turkey. It's from the Turkish word for turban.

MGCM STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSE FOR 1988

Income

Dues	\$ 3,398	
Monthly Meetings	4,277	
Plant Auction	3,641	
Tours	195	
Christmas Party	1,727	
MGCA Calendar Sales	1,740	
Interest Income	646	
Garden Slide Show Income	255	
MGCM share to MGCA 1988 Convention gain (\$5850) + \$219 Related income	6,069	
Miscellaneous Income	14	
Total Income		\$ 21,962

Expenses

Dues Paid to MGCA	\$ 2,038	
Dues Paid to Minn. State Hort. Society	856	
Garden Spray	1,118	
Monthly Meetings (Dinners, Rent, Servers)	4,085	
Plant Auction	2,266	
Tours	147	
Flower and Vegetable Show	305	
Christmas Party	2,799*	
Membership Directory	135	
Memorials & Remembrances	127	
Arbor Day	201	
Awards & Trophies	74	
MGCA Life Membership (1988 President)	100	
Arboretum Project	350	
Minn. State Hort. Society Bldg. Fund	150	
MGCA Building Maintenance Contribution	100	
MGCA Calendar Costs	1,498	
Bank Charges	78	
Fragrance Garden Repair & Upkeep	833	
Gardening Lessons Books for 1988 MGCA Convention	856	
Miscellaneous Expenses	222	
Total Expenses		\$ 18,338

Net Income Over Expenses

\$ 3,624

*This figure includes a non-related charge of \$619 for printing promotional brochures for use by the Minneapolis and the Minnetonka MGCs. The Minnetonka MGC paid its share. Payment for its share (\$287) of this sum was received from the Minnetonka club in January 1989.

Assets

Checking Account	\$ 4,711	
Cash	50	
		\$ 4,761

Savings Accounts

General	2,636	
Fragrance Garden Fund	430	
Certificates of Deposit	4,572	
		\$ 7,638

Inventory Metal Signs, Garden Lesson Books

190

WE'VE EATEN ALL OVER TOWN - AT GOOD PRICES

We've really eaten in style for many years at MGC of Minneapolis. But through those years we've gradually followed the world in spending a little more for our club dinners.

Having worked my way through several years of college and two degrees at the magnificent sum of twenty-five cents an hour, I'm like a lot of other fellow my age and hate to see club meals for six dollars - just because we can remember them being \$1.50. Yes, I know. When I made 25 cents an hour I could buy a gallon of gas or a haircut for one hour's work too.

It isn't hard for some of us to remember those good old 1950 meals at Hasty-Tasty at 1433 W. Lake street for \$1.50 - or Mount Olivet Lutheran Church in 1955 for the same price. That price held until 1957 when it went up to \$1.75.

Of course there were special situations, such as a catered meal at show time at the American Hardware Mutual Insurance company building when we really dug deep and paid \$2.40 or when we had a Christmas party at Mt. Olivet in 1957 for \$3.50, complete with turkey and all the trimmings.

We continued at the usual \$1.75 at Mt. Olivet until 1968 when it became \$2.00 and in June 1970 when it jumped 50% to \$3.00. Then, after July and August tours, that same year, the price dropped back to \$2.00. Why? Probably bus charges for the tours.

In the meantime we had a Christmas dinner at the Thunderbird in 1968 for \$5.50 and at the Sheraton Motor Inn in 1969 for \$6.50 - then back to Mt. Olivet in 1970 for the Parade of Turkey Carvers at \$4.00.

We've had special banquets and tours for many years, eating in a few different places, usually with excellent food. I remember quite well when I approached DeLaria's about serving us chicken for a tour and they somewhat reluctantly went along that first time. I'm sure they are satisfied today with our mutual association.

We've had a lot of good people work on our food arrangements. The first thought is of Bill Swain's Grill 'n Grub committee when Bill had groups of us working to feed the club outside. Those were the days when we owned cooking utensils, metal plates, cups, flatware - all lost now.

Whenever we feel a little grumpy about a particular meal remember the problems our officers sometimes go through to find that wonderful person who can satisfy us all and at a price we can accept. If we've jumped from \$1.50 to \$6.00 for a meal we know good and well our household costs for food, and our dining out otherwise have increased at least that much. And we'll never have any turkey better than that we enjoyed at our Christmas 1988 dinner. Agreed?

Bill Hull
Club Historian

Wow! With disc
with disc
cover pri
... TIME
favorites
no more

Bill Hull missed several meeting/eating places in his article "We've Eaten All Over Town". Before Bill's time we met at the Fountain Terrace in the Medical Arts building. There we sat on a great horseshoe shaped bench around one big long table. First comers who failed to slide way in deserved to have (and had) their feet stepped on.

One Christmas party was held in Stauffer's basement restaurant--Where the IDS building now stands. A few monthly meetings were held there, too, but we more often met at the Park Board shop at 38th and Bryant.

Perhaps the most memorable of all Christmas parties was held in Donaldson's Tea Room downtown. Member George Luxton, Minneapolis Star garden columnist whose column trade-mark was an old, caped lady with an umbrella was the speaker. George had barely started his talk when "Grandma" complete with cape, bonnet and umbrella stalked in. Brandishing her umbrella over his head she lectured him, "George, you no good young whelp, the only green thumb you ever had you got the time you painted the back stoop!" George completely taken aback was at loss for words until Frank Janes removed bonnet and wig.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Tuesday, May 9, 1989 - Plant Auction. This years auction will be at Lynhurst Park Community Center. If you want to place a special order or want/need certain plants, call Dave Johnson so he can find the materials you want.

Return to
THE GARDEN SPRAY of MGCM, Inc.
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To

Mr. Howard H. Berg
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