

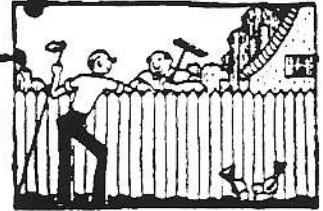


The Garden Spray

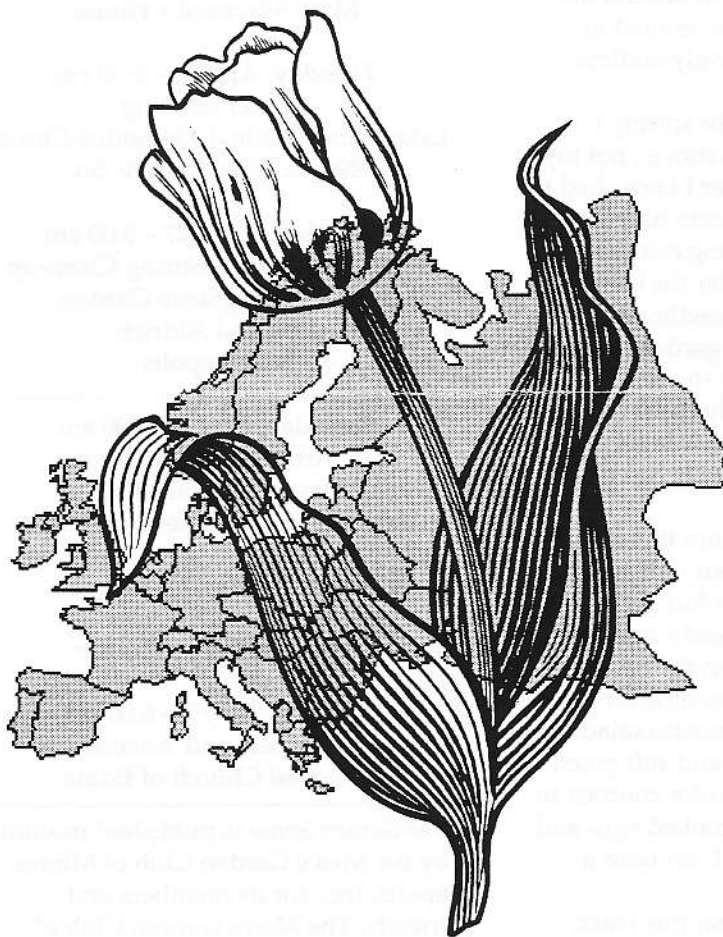
Bulletin of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc.

Affiliated with Gardeners of America and the Minnesota State Horticultural Society

April 1996, Volume 54, Number 4



April Dinner Meeting:



The Spring Flowers of Europe

MGCM's Fred Glasoe takes you on a guided tour of Europe's spring gardens. From Amsterdam to the bulb growing region of Haarlem to Belgium to France and Monet's Garden, you see and hear Fred share highlights of some of Europe's finest gardens.

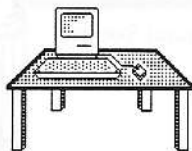
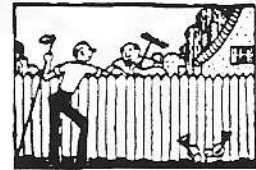
Date: Tuesday April 9

Time: Dinner	6:30 pm
Business meeting	7:00 pm
Program	7:30 pm

Place: Lake Harriet United Methodist Church
49th & Chowen Avenue South
Minneapolis

Cost: \$7.00 if reserved in advance
\$8.00 at the door if there are meals available

The 1996 permanent reservation list is in effect for this meeting. If you received a reservation card with this issue of the *Garden Spray*, you are not on the permanent reservation list and must mail your card back to Secretary Mary Maynard by Friday, April 5, to be assured a place at dinner. If you are on the permanent list and will not attend, you must notify Mary by the same deadline or risk being responsible for the price of your dinner.



The Editor's Desk

Andy Marlow

As I write this, we are recovering from what I hope is the last big snow fall of the season. No, this snow fall did not come unusually late, but it seemed to prolong an already seemingly endless winter.

People were ready for spring. I wanted to use my garden shovel, not my snow shovel. One gardener I know had to shovel some of the snow onto his cold frames and hope the heating cables would keep it warm enough under the blanket of white insulation that his seedlings wouldn't freeze. Another gardener I know (notice how I'm not using any names) has had lettuce seedlings ready to set out for a week already. Just think how leggy they will be by the time he actually can plant them in the garden.

In his *Chestnuts* column this month, Chuck Carlson writes about radishes. I always loved radishes as a kid because they were the first thing ready from the garden in the spring. When the first radishes were ready, it was time for Mom to make the first batch of potato salad. The bright red of the radishes and soft green of the scallions made a nice color contrast to the white potatoes, hard cooked eggs and mustardy salad dressing. I can taste it now!

No matter the weather this week, gardening events lie ahead. Just look at the events calendar over to the right. Fragrance Garden clean up on April 27, Arbor Day Planting on May 4, the Plant Sale and Auction on May 9 and Fragrance Garden planting on May 18 are all just around the corner.

Coming Attractions

Tuesday, April 2 – 7:30 pm
Board of Directors
Mary Maynard's House

Tuesday, April 9 – 6:30 pm
Dinner Meeting
Lake Harriet United Methodist Church
49th & Chowen Ave. So.

Saturday, April 27 – 9:00 am
Fragrance Garden Spring Clean-up
MGCM Fragrance Garden
19th and Aldrich
Minneapolis

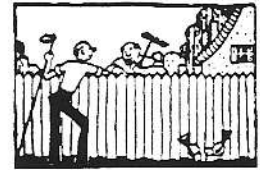
Saturday, May 4 – 9:00 am
Arbor Day Planting
Minnehaha Falls Park
near the Historic Stevens House

Tuesday, May 7 – 7:30 pm
Board of Directors
Howard Berg's House

Tuesday, May 7 – 6:00 pm
Plant Sale and Auction
Colonial Church of Edina

The Garden Spray is published monthly by the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc., for its members and friends. The Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis is a not-for-profit, equal opportunity organization.

Editor.....Andrew J. Marlow
Staff.....Ed Biren, Chuck Carlson, Sher Curry, Dale Fisher, Bill Hull, Bob Olson, Derrill Pankow and Merle Pulley



Tips and Snips

by Bob Stepan, President, MGCM

This month I am going to yield my space to one of our new honorary members. What he has to say is considerably more informative than anything I could write. But before I turn my column over to Lloyd Bachman, I just want to remind you about upcoming events – Arbor Day on May 4, the Plant Sale and Auction on May 9, and the public garden tours in July. Keep your schedule open to participate in these MGCM activities.

And now a few words from Lloyd Bachman:

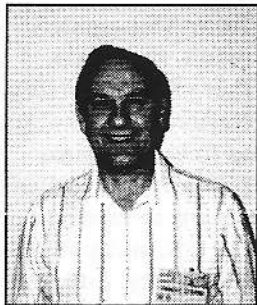


Photo by
Ted Olson

Dear Bob,
I received a check for \$39.00 from Howard Berg which indicates my dues paying days are over. Thank you and all the members of MGCM for this honor.

Since moving to the Farmington area, my attendance at meetings has been low. My love for the Club has never diminished.

I think back over the years and how Leon Snyder would say to me, "If you want a new horticulture building and an Arboretum, you must get involved." He was responsible for my serving for seventeen years on the U of M Advisory Council for the St. Paul Campus.

I'll never forget riding with him to appear before the Senate Interim Building Commission to testify for the need for a new horticulture building on the St. Paul Campus. I asked him which one of his two dreams would come true. He responded, "We're going to get them both—an Arboretum and a new Hort Building."

Well, what a wonderful vision he had and what a joy it was to see his dreams come true. He introduced me at

the meeting before the Senate Building Commission. One of the State Senators replied," Bachman. Oh, you are the petunia plucker from out there on Lyndale Avenue."

I held my ground, however, and this same Senator later (seven or eight years later) was the one who convinced his colleagues that Horticulture was a very important part of our culture. We got that new building, and one of the finest in the country. An institution that brought young people into the field of horticulture. So many of our members were so eager to help Leon Snyder complete his dream of an Arboretum.

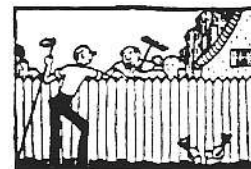
You can see why I am proud of our Club. Please accept the enclosed check to be used in any way that the Board might act upon, to further the needs of young people who wish to promote or study Horticulture.

Sincerely, Lloyd

New Members

Barb Gasterland
5501 Knox Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55419
Home phone: 922-2290

Gary Geister
3615 Wescott
Eagan, MN 55123
Home phone: 683-9135
Work phone: 451-7369



Plant Auction Preview

BY Eldon Hugelen, Plant Auction Co-Chair

Your garden is going to be great after the MGCM Plant Sale and Auction!

The sale this year is May 7, the first Tuesday of the month, at our new location, Colonial Church of Edina, just off Highway 62 and Tracy Avenue in Edina.

Here are some of the exciting plants that will be offered:

Roses – potted hardy shrub roses from Sam Kedem in Hastings, MN. 'Robusta', Mordens and 'Winnipeg Park' plus others Jerry Olson told us about last October. Also a selection of miniature roses.

Hostas – Savory's will provide some of their introductions on this, their 50th anniversary year. Bachman's will provide Hosta x 'Marion Bachman'. Who wouldn't want a Bachman in their garden? And possibly some starter hostas from Shady Oaks Nursery in Waseca like last year.

Alpine Plants – from Betty Ann Addison, Rice Creek Gardens.

Herbs – from Theresa Mieseler, Shady Acres Herb Farm

Native Plants and Grasses – from Landscape Alternatives

Chrysanthemums – from Dooley Gardens, Hutchinson. The hardy species mum (*Dendranthema rubellum*) and the 1996 U of M release 'Snowscape'.

Dwarf Conifers – from Bill Swanson, the Botanical Gardens.

Perennials galore – from Ambergate Gardens, Bachman's, Borbeleta Gardens, and Shady Oaks Nursery.

Annuals – A for Ageratum through Z for Zinnia, Begonias to Rudbeckias, Cosmos to Snapdragons, Dianthus to Marigolds, Impatiens to Lisianthus. Geraniums by the pot, and patio baskets for Mother's Day. Provided by our good friends at Malmborg's, Flower Farm and Chastek Greenhouses.

Plus – those rare plant finds from the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum.

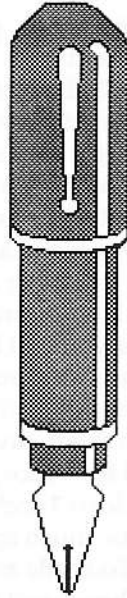
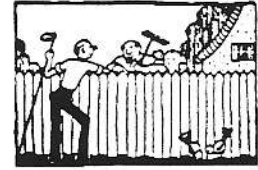
Country Store – Don't forget when you go through your garden this spring to pot up those extra plants for the country store. Someone will be glad to give them a good home. Also, if you are growing plants from seed, bring your extras for the Country Store.

As the committee shops for the auction, you may have a plant in mind you'd like to find. Let us know and we will try to find it. Mary Maynard has already requested the special hosta she will bid for.

So invite your garden friends and neighbors to join us at the auction.



Jerry Shannon (left) and Delores Johnson take the Green Thumb pledge from Bill Hull. They were awarded the coveted Green Thumb for perfect attendance at Club functions during 1995.



Board Meeting Minutes

Mary Maynard, Secretary

March 12, 1996

Present: Howard Berg, Chuck Carlson, Bill Jepson, Maurice Lindblom, Mary Maynard, Hen Orfield, Bob Stepan, Kay Wolfe. **Not Present:** Bob Voigt

The meeting was called to order by Bob Stepan at 7:40 p.m.

Old Business

Secretary's Report: Minutes of February meeting approved on motion by Chuck, second by Henry.

Treasurer's Report: Report was approved as presented on motion by Mary, second by Maury.

Vice President's Report:

April Program: Fred Glasoe (Spring Flowers of Europe)

May Program: Plant Auction

June Program: Theresa Meisler (Shady Acres Herb Farm)

September Program: Esther Filson (Ornamental grasses)

Other possible program topics: "Surfing the Internet for Gardening Information" and Dale Bachman on the Rose Bowl Float construction.

Interest Tables will continue at regular meetings.

Tour Committee: Still finalizing dates for club tour. May be in June or may be in August. Public tour dates set for July 13-14. Garden selection soon.

New Business

Honorary membership and dona-

tion: Lloyd Bachman sent a moving letter to the Club upon his appointment as an honorary member. He also included a sizable donation to the club to be used for furthering education of young people. Lloyd's letter will be published in the *Spray*, and the donation will be used to fund at least one horticultural scholarship.

New Members: Two new applications for membership were approved on motion by Kay, second by Chuck: Gary Geister and Barb Gasterland

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 on motion by Mary, second by Kay.

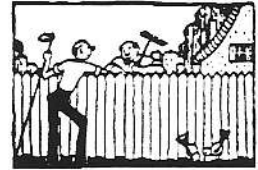
Next meeting on April 2 at Mary Maynard's palatial estate.

I'll Bet You Didn't Know...

why the Men's Garden Clubs of America/Gardeners of America has its home office in Johnston, Iowa, just outside of Des Moines.

The organization had previously had its headquarters in North Carolina, Mississippi and New York before it decided it needed its own quarters at a permanent location. A special headquarters committee was appointed with Past President Bill Hull (that's me) as chair. The Committee, without any funds allocated to its budget, checked out several spots and narrowed the selection to either Rockford, Illinois, or Des Moines, Iowa. After much deliberation, the committee recommended Des Moines as its first choice. The Board of Directors eventually concurred and initiated actions to build there. After a time, the Post Office said this particular location was in Johnston, not Des Moines and requested that be the post office address. So it was done.

Bill Hull, MGCM Historian



Chuck's Chestnuts

by Chuck Carlson

The Chestnut

What was grown in China as early as the 7th century BCE? What did the pharaohs daily feed the slaves building the Pyramids? What was introduced to Japan a 1000 years ago and remains one of Japan's most popular and best selling vegetables? What did the Greeks fashion into gold offerings to the God Apollo?

Have you decided what it is yet? Maybe this will help. Though the seeds are small some varieties can grow as big as 70 pounds, while others are only an ounce. They are roots and come in colors of almost black, lavender, yellow, rose, scarlet, green and white. The Romans brought it to England and called it the Radix. Today's name is the Radish.

Radishes are very popular throughout the world. Germans eat thinly sliced salted pieces with their beer. The French have slices of the red ones with white tips on crisp buttered bread as appetizers. In Japan they eat their Daikons raw, cooked or pickled in great quantities. These are some of the reasons The National Garden Bureau is celebrating 1996 as "The Year of the Radish".

The radish belongs to the mustard or Cruciferae family which also encompasses watercress, broccoli and others. The red radish we are most familiar with is *Radish, sativus* while the daikon is *R. sativus longipinnatus*.

They can be sweet, mild, peppery, or downright pungent. One thing is sure;

they can be pithy when past maturity or grown in weather that is too hot.

They should be planted in a sunny area that has well drained soil. The first planting can be early—as soon the soil can be worked, usually about 4 weeks before the frost free date. They should germinate in less than a week and are good companions to carrots and other longer maturing vegetables. Thin the plants out to 1 to 2 inch spacing or you will have all leaves and no bottoms. Don't supply too much nitrogen or again you will have all tops. When you thin them, save and use the leaves in salad for a nice peppery flavor.

Water at least 1 inch per week. If watered too much splitting will occur. Too little and the roots will be fibrous and tough. Short season varieties should be ready in about 30 days

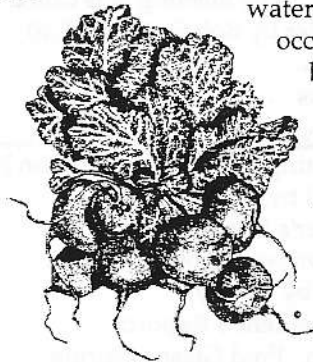
They are a guilt free snack—94% water with 3 ounces providing less than 20 calories. They have about the same potassium as bananas and half the ascorbic acid of oranges. They can also be

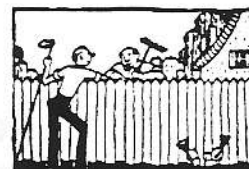
grown in pots that have about 4 or more inches of soil.

The biggest pest is the cabbage root maggot. I also feel the onion maggot has dined on some of mine but I found that planting early and not in the same place where onions have been grown helps.

THE TIP

Plant a few radishes early for the best results. If you have too little space available, plant some with your flowers or other plants. Not only will you see where you have planted things, since they germinate fast, you can harvest them before they hinder your main crop or flower specimens. You will be using the area twice and the price is nice.





Ferns for Your Garden

Those of us with shady yards are in constant search of suitable plants that will not only grow, but thrive under low light conditions. Ferns are among the most attractive and desirable plants for these conditions. They add texture and visual interest galore.

Betty Peterson is primarily a hosta grower. I did some committee work with her when the American Hosta Society held it's annual convention here in 1990. Her garden is ever changing and always spectacular. She makes wonderful use of ferns to set off her hostas.

Betty's garden was toured by the Midwest Regional Hosta Society last summer, and so many people asked about her ferns that she compiled a list for the *Hosta Leaves*. Every one of these ferns is growing in her garden. A list of plant sources is on page 9. *Hosta Leaves* is the bulletin of the Midwest Regional Hosta Society and is edited by MGCM member Bob Olson. Betty's fern list is republished here with permission.

Proper Name:

Adiantum pedatum

Adiantum venustum

Adiantum pedatum subsp.

Asplenium scolopendrium

Aspl. scolopendrium 'Christatum'

Asplenium scolopendrium
'Kaye's lacerate'

Asplenium trichomanes

Athyrium felix-femina

Athyrium felix-femina 'Cristatum'

Ath. felix-femina 'Forma rebellum'

Ath. felix-femina 'Fancy fronds'

Ath. felix-femina 'Minutissimum'

Athyrium felix-femina 'Frizelliae'

Athyrium niponicum 'Pictum'

Common Name:

(*Native to Minnesota)

*Maidenhair fern

Himalayan Maidenhair fern

Dwarf Maidenhair fern

Hart's-tongue fern

Crested Hart's-tongue fern

Kaye's lacerated fern

*Maidenhair spleenwort

*Lady fern

Crested lady fern

*Red-stemmed lady fern

Dwarf fimbriate lady fern

Miniature lady fern

Tatting fern

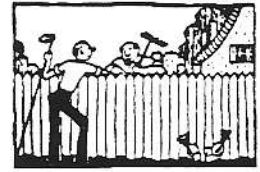
Japanese painted fern

(continued on page 8)

Fern List

(continued from page 7)

<i>Athyrium otophorum</i>	Auriculate lady fern
<i>Athyrium pycnocarpon</i>	*Glade fern
<i>Athyrium thelypteroides</i>	*Silvery spleenwort
<i>Botrychium virginianum</i>	*Rattlesnake fern
<i>Cystopteris bulbifera</i>	*Berry bladder fern
<i>Cystopteris fragilis</i>	*Fragile fern
<i>Dryopteris affinis</i>	Male fern
<i>Dryopteris affinis</i> 'Crispa cristata'	("crossed-fingers fern"—A. Troedsson's term)
<i>Dryopteris affinis</i> 'Crispa gracillis'	Dwarf golden-scaled male fern
<i>Dryopt. affinis</i> 'Cristata the King'	The king golden-scaled male fern
<i>Dryopt. affinis</i> 'Rumplestiltskin'	Rumplestiltskin fern 'Robust'
<i>D. affinis X felix-mas</i> 'Robusta'	Hybrid male fern
<i>Dryopteris cristata</i>	*Crested fern
<i>Dryopteris dilatata</i>	Broad buckler fern
<i>Dryopteris erythrosora</i>	Autumn fern
<i>D. filix-mas</i> 'Linearis congesta'	Slender congested male fern
<i>D. filix-mas</i> 'Linearis polydactyla'	Slender crested male fern
<i>Dryopteris goldeana</i>	*Goldie's fern
<i>Dryopteris marginalis</i>	Leatherwood fern
<i>Dryopteris spinulosa</i>	Spinulose shield fern
<i>Gymnocarpium dryopteris</i>	*Oak fern
<i>Gymno. dryopteris</i> 'Plumnisum'	Plumose oak fern
<i>Matteuccia struthiopteris</i>	*Ostrich fern

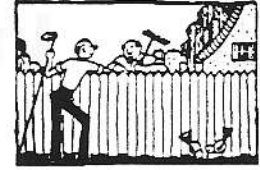


(continued on page 9)

Fern List

(continued from page 7)

<i>Onoclea sensibilis</i>	*Sensitive fern
<i>Osmunda cinnamomea</i>	*Cinnamon fern
<i>Osmunda claytoniana</i>	*Interrupted fern
<i>Osmunda regalis</i>	*Royal fern
<i>Osmunda regalis</i> 'Cristata'	Crested royal fern
<i>Polypodium virginianum</i>	*Common polypody
<i>Polystichum aculatum</i>	
<i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i>	*Christmas fern
<i>Polystichum braunii</i>	*Braun's holly fern
<i>Polystichum setiferum</i>	Soft shield fern
<i>P. setiferum rotundum</i> 'Barfod'	Crested rounded soft shield fern
<i>P. setiferum triminutatum</i>	Tripinnate soft shield fern
<i>Polystichum Tsus-simense</i>	Tsus-sima holly fern
<i>Thelypteris decursive-pinnata</i>	Japanese beech fern
<i>Woodsia ilvensis</i>	*Rusty woodsia



Sources of Ferns Listed by Betty Peterson:

FANCY FRONDS

40830 172nd SE
Goldbar, Washington 98251
(360) 793-1472
Catalogue: \$2.00

WE-DO NURSERIES

Route 5 box 724
Marion, North Carolina 28752
(704) 738-8300
Catalogue: \$2.00

AMBERGATE GARDENS

8015 Krey Avenue
Waconia, Minnesota 55387
(612) 443-2248
Catalogue: \$2.00

SISKIYOU RARE PLANT NURSERY

2825 Cummings Road
Medford, Oregon 97501
(503) 772-6846

ORCHID GARDENS

2232 139th Avenue NW
Andover, Minnesota 55304
Catalogue: \$0.75

ARROWHEAD ALPINES

PO Box 857
Fowlerville, Michigan
(517) 323-3581

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