

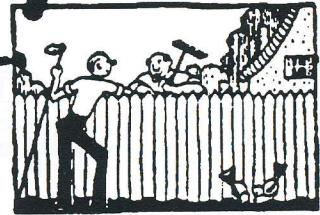


The Garden Spray

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

Affiliated with Gardeners of America and the Minnesota State Horticultural Society

January 1996, Volume 54, Number 1



January Dinner Meeting



Dried Flowers

Susan Holtan, who teaches classes on the subject at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, will discuss appropriate varieties of flowers to grow and how to dry and arrange them.

Date: Tuesday, January 9

Place: Lake Harriet United
Methodist Church
4901 Chowen Avenue South
Minneapolis

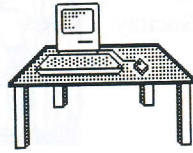
Times: 6:30 p.m. Dinner
7:00 p.m. Business Mtg.
7:30 p.m. Speaker

Cost: \$7.00 with advance
reservation

\$8.00 at the door
(if places are available)

At the business meeting, members will be voting on whether to award honorary memberships to Lloyd Bachman and Larry Corbett. Be sure to attend for this important vote!

The 1995 permanent reservation list remains in effect for this meeting. If you received a reservation card in 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, January 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. A new 1996 permanent reservation list will be available for you to sign at the January meeting.



The Editor's Desk

Andy Marlow

There are two mysteries left over from our magnificent Holiday Party:

Mystery #1: What happened to the turkey thighs? Each and every turkey was delivered sans thighs. We aficionados of dark meat felt slighted by this omission, but just think how the poor turkeys must have felt.

Mystery #2: What happened to Charlie Proctor's kitchen shears with the orange handles? Charlie brought them to help dismember his turkey and they disappeared. So far, searching the church has yielded little in the way of evidence, let alone shears. If you have any knowledge of their possible whereabouts, call Charlie at 893-1878.

Dwight Stone buttonholed me after the party to remind me—and I'm reminding of you—that the original intention of the President's Cup was to honor the non-officer who render the greatest service to the President over the past year. As Dwight said, "The officers we elect are supposed to work hard". Dwight is absolutely correct, but it's something we forget periodically. When I was President, in fact, I gave the Cup to Past President Russ Smith. I was reminded by some of the "old timers" (which I am rapidly becoming) that this was a no-no. Let's keep it in mind for the future.

This is not to minimize the contributions of Treasurer Howard Berg, who was awarded the Cup by President Voigt. Howard is one of those quiet, hard working guys who often gets overlooked. Howard is fully deserving of both the President's Cup and the Bronze Medal, which he also received.

Coming Attractions

January 2 - 7:30 pm
Board of Directors
Bob Voigt's House

January 9 - 6:30 pm
Dinner Meeting
Lake Harriet United Methodist Church
49th & Chowen Ave. So.

February 6 - 7:30 pm
Board of Directors
Bob Stepan's House

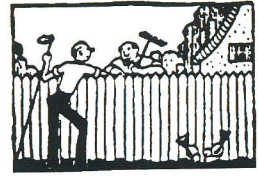
February 13 - 6:30 pm
Dinner Meeting
Lake Harriet United Methodist Church
49th & Chowen Ave. So.

March 5 - 7:30 pm
Board of Directors
Maurice Lindblom's House

March 19
Dayton's - Bachman's Flower Show
Dayton's Skyroom
12th Floor - Eighth & Nicollet Mall

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, Dale Fisher, Mary Maynard, Derrill Pankow, Merle Pulley



Tips and Snips

by Bob Stepan, President, MGCM

That really was a nice holiday party we had last month—it was a lot of fun seeing everyone dressed in their best and visiting with one another.

I want to thank everyone who was involved in the planning and execution of

the all the details! The lovely decorations and the food were superb. It's always nice to have spouses, family members and friends come along to make it a joyous event.

By now our snow and cold have forced us into a semi-idle mode, better known as

reflecting on last year. We look back and remember some of the really good things we planted that proved to be a delight. One flower that performed well for us was the French Vanilla Marigold from Burpees. The foliage and the creamy white color were beautiful. It blended with the raspberry dianthus in a bed of their own. We've tried some salmon and rose godetia that have also proved delightful.

The plants I've mentioned, or am about to mention, have been started from seed in our basement.

There were also a couple of vegetables that were new to us, one being the sweet million tomato. One plant is sufficient to supply an abundance of fruit for most households. Another was the habañero pepper. It's hotter by far than the jalapeño; all you need for a batch of five quarts of salsa is a single pepper!

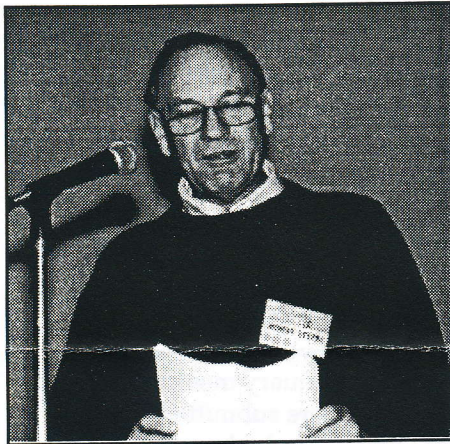


Photo by Chuck Carlson

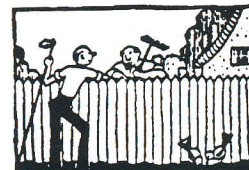
We also, of necessity, reflect on some of the varieties that didn't turn out so well and wonder if we did something wrong or if the plant just wasn't suited to our particular location. The questions is, should we try them again? Then it becomes a challenge to succeed. I think that's a mark of a true gardener, who gathers all the information and facts available and gives it the best possible test before writing it off.

Happy Gardening! And get busy starting to select something new to challenge your skills. Don't forget to check with the talented people we have in our club to see what their experience has been. Draw on the skills and techniques they have found that worked for them over the years.

We have an exciting year coming up for 1996. The public tour in July will be another way to see how some gardens are arranged to reflect their beauty. And prepare yourself to get involved in the Food, Flower and Foto Competition.



The Winter Gardener



'95 Awards at Holiday Party

The following awards were presented at the MGCM annual Holiday Party on December 5:

Tom Foley Memorial Trophy

Bob Voigt

Vegetable Sweepstakes at the Flower, Food and Foto Show

Blackbourn Trophy

Eldon Hugelen

Flower Sweepstakes at the Flower, Food and Foto Show

Robert L. Smith Cup

Mary Maynard

Best showing by a first time exhibitor at the Flower, Food and Foto Show

Photography Award

Lloyd Wittstock

Best photographs in the Flower, Food and Foto Show

Lehman Trophy

Eldon Hugelen

Best member's garden on the summer tour

President's Cup

Howard Berg

For service to the President during the year

Bronze Medal

Howard Berg

Outstanding long term service to MGCM

Industrial Award

ValleyFair

Outstanding commercial landscaping or beautification

Rookies of the Year for 1995

Delores Johnson

Dave W. Johnson (Fridley)

Jottings

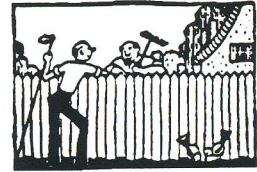
MGCM members will vote on nominations for two new honorary members at the January meeting. Petitions from members were submitted to the Board of Directors, who have voted to recommend honorary membership for Lloyd Bachman and Larry Corbett. Lloyd has been a member since 1950 and has served the club in many ways. Larry has been a member since 1946. MGCM will also have a special "Larry Corbett" day at the February meeting to celebrate Larry's half-century of membership in MGCM.



The deadline for submitting entries to the TGOA / MGCA slide contest is February 1, 1996. If you need the rules or entry forms, call Chuck Carlson at 571-0463.



Bob Kean reports that the native hemlock seedlings Doug Pike talked about at the November meeting are available from The Environmental Coop., P.O. Box 539, Osseo, MN 55369.



Board Meeting Minutes

Mary Maynard, Secretary

November 28, 1995

The meeting was called to order by Bob Voigt at 7:35 p.m. All officers and directors were present.

Old Business

Secretary's Report:

Minutes of November meeting approved on motion by Howard, second by Clyde.

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

Membership renewal: 116 renewals received as of November 28. Seven 1995 members are not renewing for 1996, for a variety of reasons.

New Business

Committee Chairs: Committee chairs are in place for all committees except Fragrance Garden.

Fragrance Garden: The Board appointed a committee to review the future of the Fragrance Garden. Committee members will include Bill Jepson, Henry Orfield, Clyde Thompson for sure, with potential additions of Dave Johnson, Maurice Lindblom, Bob Livingston and anyone else interested in participating. The Board assumes that we will continue operating the Fragrance Garden as usual in 1996. The committee will look into options and alternatives for following years. If anyone is interested in working on this committee, s/he should contact Bob Stepan.

New Member: One new application

for membership was approved on motion by Clyde, second by Bob S.: Sandra L. Engstrom

Tours '96: Dave Johnson (of Golden Valley) will head up committee for public fund raising tour in July. Kay Wolfe will handle the August tour.

Trophies: Kay mentioned that, as a relatively new member, she didn't know a lot about the history behind some of the named trophies — the Lehman trophy, for example. Bob V. will talk to Bill Hull about the possibility of putting something in the *Spray* about the history of our trophies.

Honorary Memberships: The Board received two nominations for honorary membership: Lloyd Bachman and Lawrence Corbett. Lawrence Corbett will have been a member for fifty years in 1996. On motion by Howard and second by Bill, the Board recommends approval of both nominations. Nominations will be presented to membership meeting in January.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 on motion by Clyde, second by Bill. Next meeting on January 2 at Bob Voigt's house.

New Member

Sandra L. Engstrom
1286 Kenilworth Court
Woodbury, MN 55125
Home Phone: 739-8720



Chuck's Chestnuts

by Chuck Carlson

The Chestnut

Introduction

I attended a class on propagation and was interested enough that I read more on the subject. This is a compilation of material I have read or experienced.

Propagation is the process of reproducing plants for your garden. It takes a bit longer than just going out and buying the plants. I enjoy the process and get some satisfaction from what I am able to accomplish.

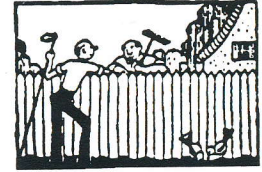
Propagation types

Propagation takes two forms, sexual and asexual. Sexual propagation means nothing more than reproducing plants from seed. The new offspring is the result of the union of male and female sex cells from the parent plants. In nature this is done by self pollination or by insects. Plants grown from the resulting seed will have the genetic characteristics of two parents. If the pollination is human controlled, the result will usually be a F1 hybrid. Every offspring has a certain amount of variation in either controlled or non-controlled pollination. Seeds gathered from hybrids will usually not look like the parent plant.

Asexual propagation is a vegetative process using material from a live plant. All the genetic characteristics of the plants providing the material are preserved. Cloning is another word for asexual propagation.

The Cycles

In order to understand the propagation process, it helps to understand a plant's life cycle. This cycle is also the



cycle of sexual propagation. It involves the following:

- seed germination
- vegetative growth
- flower formation
- pollination and fertilization
- seed and fruit development
- root development (including tubers, bulbs, corms & rhizomes)
- seed dissemination and conditioning

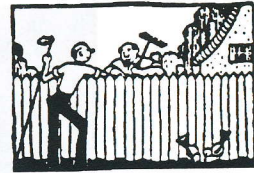
The asexual cycle on the other hand is a bit different. It can start by removing plant material from a parent plant sometime during or after the vegetative phase of a plant's growing cycle. The type of asexual propagation used is dependent on the plant type. In any case a typical asexual propagation cycle would look like this:

- collection of the material
- preparing the material
- root development or cellular uniting
- vegetative growth period
- flower formation
- continued growth cycle

With this short introduction I will stop and continue next month with the subject of sexual propagation.

The Tip

Tests were performed using melted snow for watering radishes and cucumbers. Researchers found it doubled the growth rate. Maybe this could be applied to winter propagation and watering of house plants. It has also been found that water treated with magnets is a growth stimulator. This sounds a bit on the weird side, but they are now selling magnets at supply houses. One last bit of information having nothing to do with gardening but I think it's interesting. It also shows how research data can be interpreted many ways—it has been shown that research causes cancer in rats.



1996 Officers and Directors

by Roger Sefelt and Andy Marlow

Bob Stepan **President**

Bob has served as Vice President, Director and chair of the Plant Auction Committee since becoming an MGCM member in 1986. He grows roses, annuals, and begonias. He enjoys starting geraniums from cuttings. The Stepan garden was featured on the 50th anniversary fund raising tour. Bob is retired from Royal Engineering and Manufacturing.

Maurice Lindblom **Vice President**

This is Maurice's first elective office in MGCM. He's been a member since 1991. He grows what he calls "tough perennials" and native plants. He has won several awards at the Minnesota State Fair. He is a physician and professor at the University of Minnesota School of Medicine.

Mary Maynard **Secretary**

Mary is serving her second term as MGCM Secretary. She's been an MGCM member since 1989. She enjoys collecting flowers, perennials and, especially, hostas. Mary won the Robert L. Smith Trophy for the best showing by a first time exhibitor at the 1995 Flower, Food and Foto Show. She is employed in information systems at Health Partners.

Howard Berg **Treasurer**

Howard is starting his second term as Treasurer. He's been an MGCM member since 1980 and in 1995 he was awarded both the Bronze Medal and the President's Cup. Howard grows both flowers and vegetables in raised beds at his home in Minnetonka. Howard recently retired after running his own construction company for many years.

Bob Voigt **Past President**

Bob is in his second go 'round with MGCM. He was a member in the 1960s, dropped out for a while and rejoined in 1990. He's served as Vice President and President. Bob is into large scale gardening at his farm on the St. Croix. He won the vegetable sweepstakes at the 1995 Flower, Food and Foto Show. He is a management consultant to nonprofit organizations in the areas of financial planning and capital campaigns.

Chuck Carlson **Director**

Chuck has served as Fragrance Garden Committee Chair for a number of years. He's been an MGCM member since 1989 and is serving his second term on the Board of Directors. He's also a regular columnist for the *Garden Spray*. Chuck is interested in general gardening, especially propagation. He really likes to try new varieties of flowers and vegetables. Chuck is retired from Honeywell after a career as an electrical engineer.

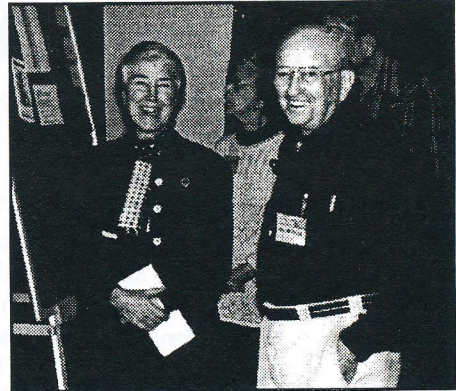
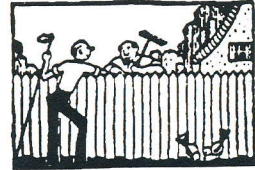
Bill Jepson **Director**

Bill has been an MGCM member only since 1992, but he's already in his second term on the Board. His interests include perennials, trees, garden photography and gardening-related carpentry. Bill is retired as Chief of Psychiatry at Hennepin County Medical Center.

Henry Orfield **Director**

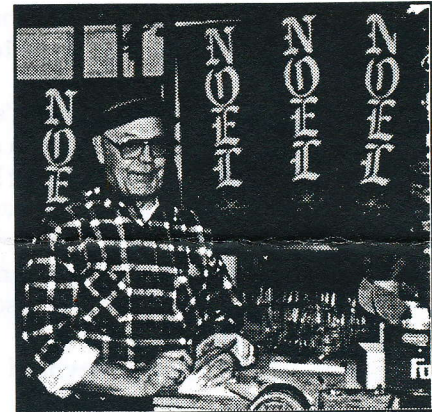
Henry, too, is starting his second term on the MGCM Board. He became an MGCM member in 1990. He lists his gardening interests as "roses, roses, roses", but photography is also a major

(continued on page 9)



November MGCM Activities

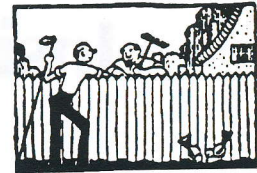
Photos clockwise from upper left: Mavis Voigt and Kay Wolfe enjoy fellowship at the November dinner meeting; Mavis Voigt and Phil Peterson admire the photo display;



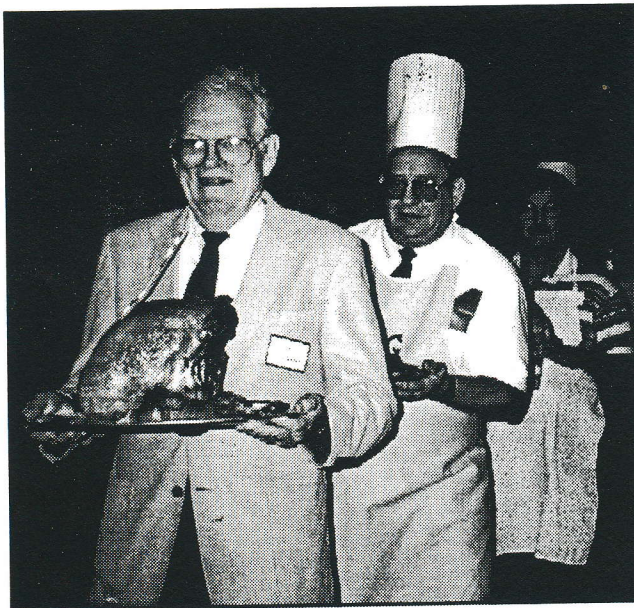
display; Howard Klier hosts wreath making at his nursery on November 24; Lee and Jerry Shannon apply their considerable skills to making a center piece; Mary Maynard applies some heavy duty tools to the job; Bob Churilla trims some greenery; and President Bob Voigt poses as the noted plant detective "Sam Shovel" at the November dinner meeting. All photos on this page by Chuck Carlson.



Holiday Party Photos



Left: Walt Gustafson and Bob Churilla march in the Parade of Turkeys; Bill Hull presents the MGCM Commercial Landscaping Award to ValleyFair's Scott McKenzie; Arlene and Dennis Savory hear the late Bob Savory memorialized by President Bob Voigt. Below: Howard and Ruth Berg show off the President's Cup and Bronze Medal, both presented to Howard at the Holiday Party. All photos by Walt and Melba Gustafson.



Officer Profiles

(continued from page 7)

interest. Several of Henry's photographs have appeared in MGCA calendars and he has won the Photography award at the Flower, Food and Foto Show several times. Henry is a general contractor.

Kay Wolfe

Director

Kay is in her second term on the MGCM Board and her second year as Chair of the Garden Tour Committee. She obviously plunged right into club activities after becoming a member in 1994. Perennials for the shade and garden design are two of her horticultural interests. Kay operates her own interior decorating and painting business.

Inside:

Page 2/	Editor's Column Events Calendar
Page 3/	President's Column
Page 4/	1995 Awards Jottings
Page 5/	Board Meeting Minutes New Member
Page 6/	Chuck's Chestnut
Page 7/	Officer & Director Profiles
Page 8/	November Activity Photos
Page 9/	Holiday Party Photos

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