

Celebrating Our 55th Year

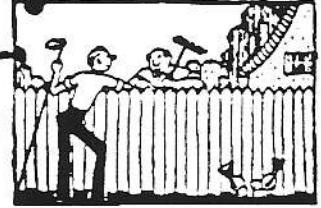


# The Garden Spray

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

Affiliated with Gardeners of America and the Minnesota State Horticultural Society

Sept  
August 1997, Volume 55, Number 8<sup>9</sup>



## September Dinner Meeting...

# Minnesota Gardens

We are happy to welcome back an old friend as our speaker for the September program. Dorothy Johnson, former\* Executive Director of the Minnesota State Horticultural Society, will talk to us about gardens that she has visited throughout the state of Minnesota, often in association with various MSHS initiatives.

\*Dorothy concluded her assignment as Executive Director on August 1. She has agreed to stay on with MSHS through the end of the year, working on special projects, after which she looks forward to retiring and building a lake home near Nisswa.



Date: Tuesday September 9, 1997

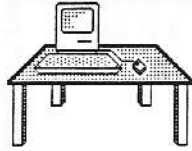
Place: Lake Harriet United Methodist Church  
49th and Chowen Avenue South

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

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

## Important Note about Reservations

The 1997 permanent reservation list is in effect for this meeting. Check your mailing label. If it says "p" in the corner, you are on the permanent list. If there is no "p" on your label, you are not on the permanent reservation list and must call Director Kay Wolfe by Friday, September 5, to be assured a place at dinner. If you are on the permanent list and will not attend, you must notify Kay by the same deadline or risk being responsible for the price of your dinner. Kay can be reached at 922-0762. Leave a message on her voice mail if you can't reach her in person or send her an e-mail at [opperwolfe@att.worldnet.com](mailto:opperwolfe@att.worldnet.com).



### The Editor's Desk

Andy Marlow

The MGCM Awards Committee needs your help. We're looking for a special garden to receive the MGCM Industrial Beautification Award for 1997. The award is given annually for outstanding use of plant materials at a commercial or industrial site in the Twin Cities.

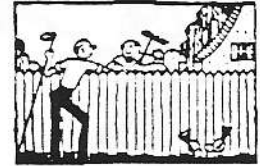
If you know of a garden that might fit these specifications, share your knowledge with us. We'll go inspect the garden and - who knows - maybe the one you nominate will be the winner announced at the annual MGCM Holiday Party.

Nominating a garden is simple. Make a note of the company and the address. Then give Bill Hull, Ritchie Miller or me a call. Our numbers are all in the club directory. We'll take care of the rest.

Just for your information, Valleyfair amusement park won this award in 1995. The 1996 winner was RidgePointe apartment complex in Minnetonka, home of MGCM member Stan Crist.

I wasn't able to participate in this year's Flower, Food and Foto Show as an exhibitor, but Chuck Carlson did press me into service as one of several judges for the Foto part of the competition. The number and quality of entries was very impressive!

I knew our members had talent for growing things, but you also have the skills and talent to photograph the fruits of your labors in their best light (that's a pun, of course). The process of selecting the best print was a protracted, disputatious and, eventually, successful one. Great job, all you shutterbugs!



## Coming Attractions

**Tuesday, September 2-7:30 pm**  
Board of Directors' Meeting  
Kay Wolfe's House

**Tuesday, September 9-6:30 pm**  
MGCM Dinner Meeting  
Lake Harriet United Methodist Church  
49th & Chowen Avenue South

**Tuesday, October 7-7:30 pm**  
Board of Directors' Meeting  
Bob Stepan's House

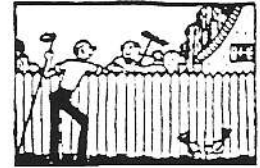
**Tuesday, October 14-6:30 pm**  
MGCM Dinner Meeting  
Lake Harriet United Methodist Church  
49th & Chowen Avenue South

**Tuesday, November 4-7:30 pm**  
Board of Directors' Meeting  
Maury Lindblom's House

**Tuesday, November 11-6:30 pm**  
MGCM Dinner Meeting  
Lake Harriet United Methodist Church  
49th & Chowen Avenue South

*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.....Chuck Carlson,  
Richard Coldren, Sher Curry and  
Robert Olson



# Maury's Musings

by Maury Lindblom, President, MGCM

"Nothing succeeds like success"—we've all heard this saying many times. I don't know where it came from, but I



Photo by Lloyd Wittstock

certainly believe it to be true. A current example of the truth of this saying is the way MGCM has progressed from one success to another this year.

It started with the excellent attendance we had at the regular meetings that has been maintained all year long. The July tour was one of the most successful ever with 120 on the

tour of East metro gardens. Then in August we had 75 on the Sunday tour of gardens in the West metro area.

On August 9 and 10 we held our annual Flower, Food and Foto Show at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. Although the number of entrants was about the same as other years, there were new exhibitors, too. The number of specimens exhibited taxed the capacity of the auditorium at the Arboretum! Fierce competition was noted especially in Rudbeckias, Phlox, Russian Sage and Hostas. Many new varieties of flowers and vegetables were shown. I have never seen so many varieties of beans, or so many little-known perennials. (Thanks to Bob Voigt and Eldon Hugelen.)

Large numbers of the public visited the show and seemed reluctant to leave when it was over. Both club members and the public contributed to the success of the plant sale held in conjunction with the show.

Remember though, all of the successes the club has enjoyed have not just happened, nor have they just been due to good luck. The committees have spent

countless hours in planning and implementation of these events. These dedicated folks deserve a lot of credit.

There are also a lot of things the average club member can do even if they are not on a committee. Attendance at as many meetings as possible, going on tours, exhibiting at the flower show and always keeping an alert eye for new members are some of the things that come to mind.

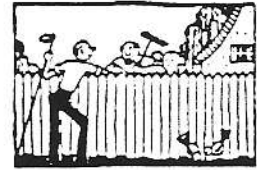
"Nothing succeeds like success"—how true, but the success is always the product of dedication and hard work.

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## Dues Increase for 1998

Although the Board of Directors held off as long as possible, we need to increase MGCM membership dues by \$3.00 to \$42 for 1998. The Minnesota State Horticultural Society raised dues for members of affiliated clubs (MGCM is one of them) from \$14 to \$17 last year, and we are finally passing this increase on to our members.

The Board is also concerned about being able to cover the costs of publishing the *Garden Spray* with our local dues, but we will keep our local club dues at \$10 for 1998. It is possible, though, that we may need to increase dues again in 1999 if we cannot cover projected increases in the cost of publishing the *Spray*. For now, however, we are limiting dues increases to \$3.00.



# Flower, Food and Foto Show Results

by Mel Anderson, Cochair  
Flower, Food & Foto Show Committee

A record number of entries were received at the Fifth Annual MGCM Flower, Food and Foto Show—a total of 979! There were 552 flower entries, 69 food entries and 358 foto entries. At the first Flower, Food and Foto Show in 1993 there were 567 entries. We ran out of bottles, special award ribbons and filled up the Snyder Building Auditorium completely. The largest group of entries was hostas—53 of them.

There were 24 exhibitors in flowers and food, plus 18 in the foto contest. Their ages ranged from Ashley Thompson, age 14, to Ted Olson, a very young 92. Ted won two blue ribbons with his two entries.

There were two new exhibitors in flower and food, and seven in fotos. The best showing by a new exhibitor was Margaret Hibberd with 52 points, while Carole Ann Brekke had 34. Both were very impressive showings for new exhibitors.

## Flowers

The National Flower Award (the big pink ribbon) was won by Duane Johnson with salvia 'Blue Victoria'. A total of 30 salvias specimens were entered.

The Flower Sweepstakes Award was won by Mary Maynard with 102 points. Henry Orfield was a close second with 99 points.

The Best Flower and Best of the Show ribbons were won by Chuck Carlson with Lisianthus 'Blue Rim'. The Reserve Champion was Bob Voigt with Hypericum 'St. John's Wart'.

## Food

The National Vegetable Award (the big orange ribbon) was won by Bob Voigt with 'Vidi' green bell peppers. There were eight pepper entries.

The Vegetable Sweepstakes was also won by Bob Voigt. He had 54 points.

Second was Chuck Carlson with 17 points.

The Best Vegetable was 'Sweet Chelsia' tomato entered by Bob Voigt. Chuck Carlson's 'Vulcan' Swiss Chard was the Reserve Champion.

## Foto

The Best of Show (overall and slide class) was a series on orchids, cattleya 'Mendenhall' by Henry Orfield.

The Best of Class in prints was a photo by Dale Bohlke, a new exhibitor.

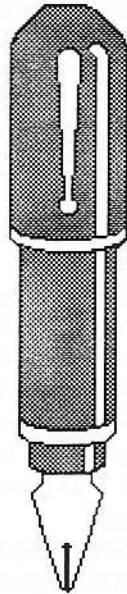
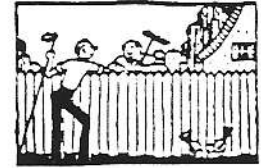
Henry Orfield compiled 76 points to lead the sweepstakes results. Merle Pulley, a new exhibitor, finished second with 36 points and Lloyd Wittstock had 35.

Cochair Duane Johnson and I wish to thank all the committee members, the exhibitors and the club members who have given us support over the past five years. It was a great, fun ride!

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## Address Change

John F. Moon  
8500 Franlo Road, #310  
Eden Prairie MN 55344-3952  
Phone: 996-0788



# Board Meeting Minutes

Walt Muehlegger, Secretary

August 5, 1997

The meeting was called to order by Maury Lindblom at 7:35 p.m. Members present were Chuck Benson, Howard Berg, Chuck Carlson, Margaret Hibberd, Maury Lindblom, Mary Maynard, Ritchie Miller, Kay Wolfe. Bob Stephan was absent.

## Old Business

**Secretary's Report:** The minutes of the July Board meeting were approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** The report was approved on motion by Mary, seconded by Kay.

The original dues increase for 1998 moved by Margaret and seconded by Ritchie was amended to \$42 and passed. This includes \$15 to Gardeners of America, \$17 to MSHS (up \$3 from last year), and growing *Spray* expenses approaching \$1 per member per month.

Response to inquiries into bonding for the Treasurer determined that it was not needed.

Mary moved, Ritchie seconded, and motion passed to pay Russ Smith an additional unused \$200 since he was the only delegate attending this year's TGOA/MGCA convention. For next year's budget it should be clarified how much is to be divided among delegates and if anything might be given to other attendees.

**Vice President's Report:** Future programs include:

- September - Dorothy Johnson of MSHS on Gardens in Minnesota
- October - Steve Kelley of Kelley & Kelley on Trends in Perennials.
- November - Sher Curry is working up a slide show about garden structures entitled, "The Good, the Bad and the Ugly."
- January - Joan Cooper is working on a presentation involving flowers and travel.

## Committee Reports

**Arbor Day:** The magnolia died and Chuck B. will look into a replacement.

**Flower, Food and Foto Show:** Still hoping for a large turnout - committee is calling to encourage entries. Looking to buy the vases from Rose Society Convention cheap and possibly sell valuable milk bottles. Chuck C. reported more photo entries than ever.

**Perennial Garden:** Chuck C. and Henry Orfield marked the 500 foot border at Lake Harriet on Friday and club members planted August 2. Another planting in September is expected.

**Holiday Party:** The committee is taking under advisement home grown talent and the Board hopes for the return of major award presentations.

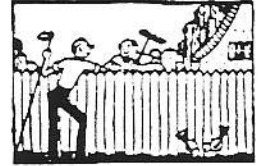
**Biennial tour:** Committee feels this should happen in 1998 and ideas for gardens to be on tour are already coming in.

## New Business

New Board members Ritchie Miller and Margaret Hibberd were welcomed.

Request for money for plants for Women's Memorial Garden on the State Capital Grounds, Maury will seek information and we will consider donation in next year's budget.

(continued on page 7)



# Chuck's Chestnuts

by Chuck Carlson

I hope you attended the MGCM Flower, Food and Foto show at the Arboretum. I thought it was a show that provided the public a good example of the gardening abilities of the club's members. The different varieties of plant material was fantastic. I even use this show to give me ideas for new plants to grow in the future.

We have a lot of fun getting the entries ready and of course there is that anticipation in waiting for the judges to finish to see the results. We had some first timers again this year and I got the impression they enjoyed the experience. It is not a cut-throat competition but one where we have fun, so next year I expect members to participate even if only with one or two items. I know you all have something in your garden or home to bring. Ted Olson brought two house plants, a Hoya and a potted succulent. Not only were they interesting and educational, they were blue ribbon winners.

If you want to learn more, volunteer to be a clerk for the judges. I did it again this year and learned more about the judging criteria and considerations. I have listed some of their comments and gems of wisdom below.

- Keep the specimens clean. This can make the difference between a first, second or third.
- If there are dead or fading flowers, seed pods, browning leaves, etc., judiciously remove them. Make the cut so it is not visible to a casual look by the judges.
- Remove any bugs, caterpillars etc. Sometimes this can reject a specimen

from consideration.

- Foliage should be part of the specimen. It can make a difference between first, and third. It is not a complete necessity but highly desired. Just don't allow the foliage to be in the water.
- Make sure the foliage is free of holes or disease.
- If multiple specimens are required, their placement in the container with respect to each other is important. Make it look appealing and artistic.
- If multiple specimens are required, make them all the same size, shape and color. This goes for vegetables and flowers.
- The best vegetable is one that is at the maturity stage and size of the best commercial salability.
- Never mix colors and variations of the same variety as one entry. Submit multiple entries for colors or variations.
- If the rules call for 3 stems or spikes make sure they are separate. A number of entries were rejected from consideration when the top looked like three but were connected together under the water.
- The judges sometimes break ties with details such as having the correct name and variety on the entry tag. If you know it, write it on the tag.
- If you can't meet all the rules, submit it anyway. It may be a winner without following the details.

## The Tip

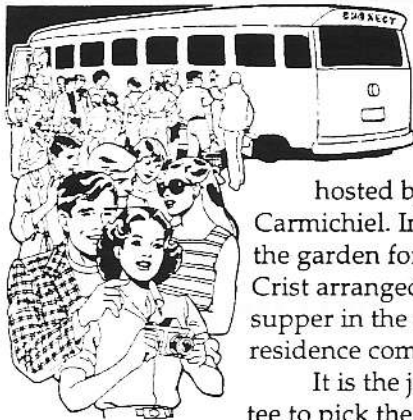
Enter next year's Flower, Food and Foto. When entering a flower show, read and follow the schedule which defines the rules of the show. Better yet participate in all the club's functions you can. You will learn about gardening and have fun, too.

# Tour News

by Kay Wolfe, Chair  
Tour Committee

Our Garden Tour Season is over for the year—and what a great season it was! The response has been tremendous—all thought our tours this summer were fabulous. And what a great turnout—120 attended the July tour and 75 in August!

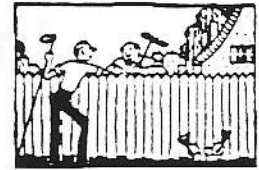
We wouldn't have great tours without great gardens to see. Most of the gardens visited this year belong to members who have joined MGCM in the last two years. Thanks so much to all the garden owners who shared their gardens with us: Gary Geister, Walt Muehlegger, Carol Ann Brekke, Lynette Uzzell, Marilyn Brummer, and Stan Crist.



In addition to club members gardens, we visited the Scherer family garden (the late Mr. Scherer was a former MGCM member), and Noerenberg Gardens, hosted by head gardener Arla Carmichiel. In addition to preparing the garden for the August tour, Stan Crist arranged for us to eat our supper in the community room of his residence complex.

It is the job of the Tour Committee to pick the Lehman Trophy winner for the *Best Garden* on the summer tours. This is going to be a particularly difficult job because there were so many beautiful gardens! Committee members already have asked if they can split their vote!

Thanks also to all those who worked on the committee to organize these events. So many members participate it makes my job of being the chairperson a joy—and I'm so proud to be a member of this club!



In Memoriam...

## Joyce Muehlegger

Condolences go out from all members of MGCM to Walt Muehlegger, who lost his lovely wife Joyce to cancer in early August. Walt had resigned as MGCM Secretary in order to help nurse Joyce through her final days.

Those of us who were fortunate enough to visit the Muehlegger's gardens on the July tour also had the opportunity to meet Joyce. She was a delightful lady whoseemed pleased to see so many of us enjoying their gardens. She will be missed.

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## Board Minutes

(continued from page 5)

Moved by Ritchie and seconded by Mary to divide the \$400 Arboretum donation with \$200 going to the general fund and \$200 to the Green Research account in response to Harold Pellet's request and as thanks for his donations to the club over the years.

A new *Garden Spray* editor is needed for 1998. Andy Marlow has well earned his retirement to work on other club projects. Maury will charge the nominating committee with finding a new editor.

**Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m. on motion by Mary seconded by Chuck C. The next board meeting will be Tuesday, September 2, at Kay Wolfe's.



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## MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.

### CLUB OFFICERS:

**President:** Maurice Lindblom  
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**Secretary:** Margaret Hibberd  
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**Treasurer:** Howard H. Berg  
10107 Lakeview Dr., Minnetonka, MN 55305  
**Past President:** Bob Stepan  
7717 Riverdale Dr., Brooklyn Park, MN 55444

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# The Garden Spray

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