

MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS

AUCTION

THE BIGGEST

THE RICHEST

THE MOST AMAZING

**ANNUAL PLANT SALE AND AUCTION
EVER HELD**

Plant Sale - Tuesday afternoon, May 8th

Plant Auction - Tuesday evening, May 8th

THE PARK BOARD GREENHOUSES
38th St. and BRYANT AV. SOUTH

Ladies are Invited to
the afternoon Sale
Men guests cordially welcome
at the evening Auction

**DINNER at 5:30 P.M.
COME - HAVE FUN!
SAVE MONEY, TOO!**



OVER THE GARDEN FENCE

By Bill Hull

Its flower show time in much of the country. Recently in Dallas I attended a giant city-wide show in Fair Park at which thousands attended. A tremendous undertaking, filling a large building. Last week in Detroit I was fortunate enough to visit the Fleurs Internationales at the Ford Rotunda at which strange and exotic flowers from many countries were exhibited. My only criticism of both shows: unusual plants were not identified.

Our own show committee is working hard on our June Show with the Richfield Club. We'll certainly want to be 100% active in this first joint competition.

At this writing George Luxton is hospitalized and we all wish him a speedy recovery. By the time you read this, we hope he'll be approaching normal health again.

Herb Kahlert has returned from his southern trip visiting many affiliated clubs in his official role as national president. Herb gave us an interesting review of his trip at the April meeting.

Now Herb is making final plans for our annual convention in St. Louis May 15th. Also going are P. W. Young and Bill Hull as delegates, and Scotty Carmean as an alternate. Perhaps others.

Art Fakler passed on a cartoon showing an expressman carting in several huge cartons marked "Seeds". The wife at the door, turns to her husband and asks "Where do you want him to put the seeds you ordered from the winter catalog?" How true.

Glad to see Vic Lowrie back from a La Jolla vacation, looking tanned and rested.

Judging from reports I get over the fence, winter kill this winter was at a minimum. If this turns out to be true, we can credit it to very little alternate freezing and thawing, with sufficient snow to keep the ground covered.

For a minute there, I thought we were going to have trouble finding someone willing and qualified to accept 2000 free bulbs!

Among the new garden gadgets is a device that times actual minutes worked in the garden as against the hours leaning against the fence. The distributors recommend every male gardener buy one for his wife so he can check up on his garden's progress

We certainly owe a vote of thanks to Leon Snyder, Archie Flack, P. W. Young and others for the success of the special April Auction, which guaranteed our Arboretum Fund donation. Although a few of the fellows were very generous, everyone had a lot of fun and a chance at some new shrubs and trees.

I'll bet these Richfield boys are top-notch poker players. When the two committees sat down to work out the schedule, those boys looked at our 1955 schedule and jokingly asked for an interpretation. You know those famous last words at the poker table: "How do you play this game?"

An auction in May, a tour and show in June, a tour in July and August, a show in September and maybe a tour. October hosts to the Horticulture Society. A busy but enjoyable summer

HOSTA (FUNKIA) PLANTAINLILY

Have you ever considered using Hostas in variety for those shaded places. The bold use of the various kinds produce a distinctive foliage effect. They all grow in neat foliage mounds, some with more arching leaves than others and their flowers form terminal racemes on short or long stems to suit almost any shady situation.

They are extremely hardy, are not subject to serious diseases or attack by insects. All develop into excellent specimens, are suitable for the perennial border and the dwarf varieties make interesting plants for the rock garden or for edging shady beds. Below is a list of sixteen of the better known named varieties taken from a recent booklet on shade plants by Mackwoods Gardens:

1. **HOSTA SIEBOLDIANA**, Siebold Plantainlily.
A stately plant with large, glaucous leaves prominently gray-green during spring and early summer. Foliage-Mound: 18 to 25 inches high. Leaf Blade: Glauous, gray-green. 10 to 13 inches long by 8 to 11 inches wide. Flowers: Faint Lilac to almost white.
2. **HOSTA GLAUCA**, Shortcluster Plantainlily.
An outstanding foliage plant with large, powdery bluish leaves during spring and early summer. Foliage-Mound: 18 to 22 inches high. Leaf Blade: Glau bluish, paler beneath. 9 to 10 inches long by 8 1/2 to 9 inches wide. Flowers: Faint lilac. almost white.
3. **HOSTA ERROMENA**, Midsummer Plantainlily.
A neat growing, green-leaved sort. Foliage-Mound: 15 to 18 inches high. Blade: Dark Green above. About 8 inches long by 3 to 5 inches wide. Flowers: Pale Lilac.
4. **HOSTA FORTUNEI ALBO-MARGINATA**, Whiterim Fortunes Plantainlily.
Decorative plant of slow growth with variegated leaves. Foliage-Mound: About 12 inches high with arching leaves. Leaf Blade: Dark green with narrow, irregular margin of white and marbling of green shades, 7 to 10 inches long by 3 1/2 to 6 inches wide. Flowers: Pale lilac.
5. **HOSTA LANCIFOLIA (JAPONICA) (LANCEOLATA), ALBO-MARGINATA**
A robust and fast growing kind with attractive white-margined leaves. Foliage-Mound: About 15 inches high. Leaf Blade: Dark green, marbled with different shades of green near the edges and with narrow, irregular margins of cream-white. Somewhat wavy, about 7 inches long by 2 3/4 to 3 1/2 inches wide. Flowers: Pale lilac.
6. **HOSTA UNDULATA UNIVITTATA (VARIEGATA)**, Wavy-leaved.
Neat, low-growing, variegated-leaved sort. Foliage-Mound: About 12 inches high. Leaf Blade: Wavy and curling, deep green, centrally striped with an irregular creamy white band about 1 inch wide and tapering to the tip and base of the blade. About 6 inches long by 3 to 4 inches wide. Flowers: Pale lavender.
7. **HOSTA CAERULEA (VENTRICOSA)**, Blue Plantainlily.
A sturdy free-flowering kind of great merit. Foliage-Mound: About 22 inches high. Leaf Blade: Rich deep green, to 10 inches long by 7 to 8 inches wide. Flowers: Lavendar-purple, mottled and striped with lighter color on inside.
8. **HOSTA AOKI**, Aoki Plantainlily.
Sturdy and fast growing sort with pleasing "long," green leaves. Foliage-Mound: About 20 inches high. Leaf Blade: Dark green above, glaucous beneath. To 11 inches long by 6 1/2 to 7 1/2 inches wide. Flowers: Pale lilac.
9. **HOSTA FORTUNEI VIRIDIS-MARGINATA**.
Interesting leaf coloration during spring and early summer. Foliage-Mound: About 16 inches high with arching leaves. Leaf Blade: Light or olive green

HOSTA (FUNKIA) PLANTAINLILY (Cont)

- by 5 3/4 inches wide. Flowers: Pinkish lilac in bud, opening to pastel lilac penciled inside with deeper lilac.
10. HOSTA FORTUNIE GIGANTEA, Giant Fortunes Plantainlily.
Tall-growing sort with effective blue-green foliage: Foliage-Mound: 16 to 20 inches high. Leaf Blade: Glauous, blue-green, on both sides, with thread-like silver line on margin. About 9 inches long by 5 1/2 to 6 1/2 inches wide. Flowers: Pale lilac with pinkish cast.
 11. HOSTA FORTUNEI, Tallcluster Plantainlily. Fortunes Plantainlily.
Low growing kind with showy flowers on tall, erect stems. Foliage-Mound: 8 to 10 inches high. Leaf Blade: Glauous, blue-green on both sides with thread-like silver line on margin. About 5 inches long by 3 1/2 inches wide. Flowers Pale lilac with pinkish cast.
 12. HOSTA DECORATA MARGINATA, Whiterim Blunt Plantainlily.
Attractive, free-blooming sort with showy flowers, and pleasing white bordered leaves. Foliage-Mound: About 10 inches high. Leaf Blade: Dull, dark green above with irregular white margin. Lustrous beneath. About 6 1/2 inches long by 3 1/2 inches wide. Flowers: Deep lilac in bud, opening to lilac with faint lilac stripes on inside.

PREPARE FOR THE FLOWER SHOW

If we look on gardening as work, we cannot enjoy it. But if we look upon it as a form of recreation, an outlet for some of our artistic, poetic or what have you expression we can get a lot of pleasure from it.

The same is true with the Flower Show. Let's not look upon the preparations as work, but as a means of expressing or exposing the results of our garden efforts. Now that we are in the midst of putting into form, the garden plans that we dreamed up during the long winter months, we can project our dreams to what we will do with what we raise..

But first we must give our attention to the planting and raising of our flowers and vegetables. Maybe we were not able to raise all types of plants under our basement lights so we must buy some plants.

The Club Auction is a good place to get some of your plants. The others you will need should be purchased from a reliable dealer, select only well-grown plants from known varieties.

Buy only the best, plant only in good soil, water and fertilize carefully, watch for insects and disease.

Have you tried a small arrangement for the TV set? Surprise your wife by buying her a few flowers and knock her completely off her feet by arranging them. Try it some evening. She will love you the more for it, and you will be learning the art of arranging (maybe she has a birthday soon.)

Spring flowers, tulips, hyacinths, narcissus, etc. make wonderful blossoms to practice with.

Hoe, brother, hoe for the Spring Flower Show!

The Hardshell Crab.