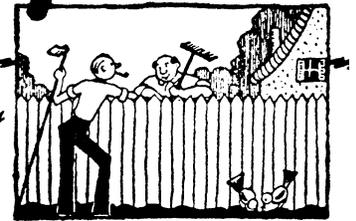




The Garden Spray

BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS



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

July 1965
Volume 23, No. 7
G. Victor Lowrie, Editor

Associate Editors:
Wm. H. Hull, Neil Barry

July Meeting

July 13, 1965

Otto Nelson's
5409 Girard Ave. So.

5:45 p.m.

\$1.75

Officers

Charles Proctor	Pres.
R. E. Smith (Bob)	V.P.
G.R.Christenson (Bud)	Sec.
S.F.Pinkham (Sherm)	Treas.

PROGRAM

July Garden Tour

The tour meeting will gather for De Laria's usual fine fare at Otto Nelson's. From here we will travel by bus to visit the following gardens:

Jim Bezat
6633 First Ave. So.

Harry Witter
6932 3rd Ave. So.

Bill Swanson
9908 Humboldt Ave. So.

If a couple of these names don't sound familiar to you, you are right. Last year a group from Richfield Men's Garden Club visited some of our members' gardens. We are going to return the compliment this year. Incidentally, I understand one of them won the Richfield Club's Lehman Trophy last year.

Arrangements for the flower show are well under way. More detail about this inside.

CLIPPINGS

by Charlie Proctor

Welcome to the following new members. We hope they will be able to attend this meeting so you can meet them.

Bill Cutcliffe, 2665 Huntington Ave. S., sponsored by W. Menzel
Elwood Swanson, 11041 Queen Ave. S., sponsored by Ewald Johnson
Wallace McCurdy, 5037 Newton Ave. S., sponsored by Nate Siegel
Cal Callendine, 6027 James Ave. S., sponsored by Charlie Wasley
Wm. Bogart, 9765 Russell Ave. S., sponsored by Don Berne

Russell Gardens, Elk River, feature over 800 varieties of daylilies from the nation's foremost hybridizers. The main show is from the second week of July thru the third week of August, and flower enthusiasts are invited to visit it.

The planning group for the flower show met and got this big project off to a good start. Our aim is two-fold: To have the best show ever, and to attract more attendance than we have experienced the past few years.

To accomplish this aim will call for everyone to do his bit in one way or another. First and foremost is the need to publicize our efforts. We have arranged for publicity through national and state magazines and notices to reasonably nearby clubs. But the best advertising in the world is our own personal word of mouth. You all undoubtedly have many friends who are interested in flowers and gardening. These are the ones who should provide the bulk of our attendance, and you are the one to encourage them.

It is also not too early to start deciding what you plan to enter yourself. We are still aiming for a show where every active member has at least one entry. So, let's start pampering those plants that offer hopes of producing a ribbon winner!

I hope many of you availed yourself of the opportunity to visit the Rose Show. As usual they put on a real fine exhibition.

The Richfield Garden Club Council (of Women's Garden Clubs) will hold their annual flower show at Southdale Garden Court on August 5 and 6. This show will tend more to arrangements, but they do have a horticulture section. A good opportunity for all of us to see what other gardeners are doing.

A real vote of thanks to Cortis Rice for his very complete and clear talk on the procedures in entering exhibits for a flower show. We hope this will spur all of you to enter this year. Also, thanks to Howard Kaerwer, of Northrup King, for a very fine talk on lawn-grass varieties and lawn care in general. A University of Wisconsin graduate, Mr. Kaerwer has been with Northrup King since 1940 and specializes in grass breeding.

On another page we will reproduce Report No. 4 by the Minnesota Roadside Council. Thanks to all of you who wrote or called your legislators to urge favorable action on this legislation.

....continued on next page

CLIPPINGS

(Continued)

The Minnesota State Horticultural Society is in difficulty because of legislative action, as explained in a letter from the Society reproduced below:

Society State Support

Apparently we have little influence on the actions of the legislature in regard to support of the State Society. Our state legislators, for some reason difficult to understand, have again reduced our appropriated funds. Last session they cut off \$2,500 per year. (This necessitated the increase in membership fees.) This time they cut off another \$1,000 per year. This leaves only \$4,000 per year of state funds to help the society do its work during the coming biennium -- less than one-sixth of the total sum needed to operate the society for one year.

Possibly this reflects a planned policy of eventually eliminating support funds entirely. Or, perhaps it merely reflects a lack of communication of society members with their legislators to explain the state-wide educational work and the needs of the society.

Whatever the reason, we will have a difficult time during the next two years trying to maintain the traditional benefits to the members and to the state as a whole. This would be a good time for every member to question his representative and senator as to the logic of the recent legislature's action -- and to request that the society's regular annual appropriation (\$7,500) be restored when the legislature meets at its next regular session.

How about talking to or writing your legislators to urge them to give consideration to restoring at least a portion of the appropriation cut.

I want to reiterate the plea Bill Hull made in his June article with regard to club property. Will anyone who has any club property in his possession, please report it to Bud Christianson or me. Of most vital concern, of course, is the club photo book; but, there undoubtedly are other articles which should be accounted for.

AFFILIATED CLUB IN BEMIDJI

We're pleased to announce that we have an affiliated Men's Garden Club in Bemidji as of last month. This is a club which has been in existence for some time and doing a fine job of serving its community. Bill Hull heard of it and telephoned officers in the club, expressing an invitation, which they accepted and have now been chartered as an affiliated group. Look them up if you are in Bemidji. This is one of six new clubs in MGCA this last month.

AMERICAN HERITAGE, APRICOT NECTAR and MATTERHORN Receive AARS Honors

For the first time in four years, All-American Rose Selections has named more than two roses to receive top national honors for 1966.

Two years of intensive trials in twenty-three official test gardens scattered throughout the nation were necessary to single out American Heritage, a hybrid tea rose of majesty and beauty; Matterhorn, a vigorous free-blooming hybrid white tea; and the delightfully fragrant, rich apricot-colored Apricot Nectar, a floribunda, as the finest of the new crop of roses.

To take their places among the sixty-eight great All-America roses that have received AARS awards in the past twenty-seven years, the trio of 1966 winners had many hurdles to cross on their road to fame.

First of all, among thousands of rose hybrid seedlings in the research fields, they had to be outstanding enough to attract the attention and interest of the rose breeder.

From that point competition constantly grew more fierce as the rose breeder continued to judge and discard from among his ever narrowing group of selections, always seeking the rose so perfect that it would be a worthy candidate for an AARS award.

When the three were finally adjudged AARS candidate material by their originators and were enrolled for All-America testing, actually the battle for prestige and honor was only just begun.

They were planted in twenty-three official AARS test gardens strategically located to encompass all soils and climates in the United States. There, under the close scrutiny of eagle-eyed, well-trained official judges, these candidates had to battle it out for two years with scores of other equally carefully selected hybrid offspring from most of the great rose breeders of the world.

During this period they were numerically rated with great exactness for every characteristic that is important in the quality of a rose, such as bud form, flower form, floriferousness, foliage, vigor, habit and disease resistance, to name but a few of the list.

At the end of two years of testing, their numerical ratings from every judge were gathered together with those of all other candidate roses and presented to the AARS awards committee, meeting in closed session. From this meeting came the news of the winners of the 1966 awards - American Heritage, Apricot Nectar and Matterhorn with the accompanying joy of their inventors and the inevitable disappointment of the many whose offspring had failed to make the grade.

UNIVERSITY ARBORETUM

The University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum is playing an important role in introducing new plants to Minnesota gardens.

If you were to check the list of plants offered for sale at Minnesota nurseries this spring, you would be aware of many new plant materials unheard of in this area just a few years ago. Some of these new plants were grown in Minnesota for the first time in the arboretum, according to Leon C. Snyder, superintendent of the arboretum and head of the University's Department of Horticultural Science. In some cases, nurserymen have introduced the new varieties and furnished plants for arboretum collections so the public would be able to see and study them.

At the end of the 1964 growing season, the arboretum had nearly 10,000 plants representing more than 2,000 species and cultivars in the various plant collections. In addition, more than 400 native species are now growing in the arboretum. This past year approximately 300 species and cultivars were added to the arboretum collections, and seventy-seven were removed because they either lacked sufficient hardiness or had little ornamental value. An important objective of the arboretum is to carry on research in testing and developing hardy ornamentals for home landscaping.

Among the ornamentals of special interest to visitors this year will be the ninety varieties of flowering crabapple, the azalea and rhododendron collection which now has nearly 1,400 plants which should bloom in May and June, more than 200 varieties of old-fashioned roses and eighty varieties of daylilies.

In addition to the plants added this past year, a number of projects were started, some were continued and others completed at the arboretum. One of the newer projects is the establishment of a bird area where trees, shrubs and vines could be planted to furnish food and shelter for song birds. On the fifteen acres selected for this purpose, several rustic bridges were built and fruiting plants were started. The flowering crabapple collection was extended to furnish a background.

An ornamental grass area has been planted near the bird area. Seeds of the various ornamental grasses are expected to be a source of food for the birds.

A major project just completed has been the addition of trellises designed by Edwin Lundie, a St. Paul architect, for the vine collection and contributed by the Minnetonka Garden Club. Clematis furnished by Lehman Gardens, Faribault, for these trellises will be planted this year.

Work has continued on the bog trail, a project supported by the Federated Garden Clubs of Minnesota. Corduroy paths consisting of 4-foot lengths of elm logs were built from the main trail to give access to many new plants. Display labels have been made for about 150 plants along the trail. Popular for nature hikes, the bog trail can be reached after a short walk around the lake. The bog garden, one of the natural beauty spots in the arboretum, consists of a small lake surrounded by wetlands with rich native bog vegetation. Growing in the bog garden are such native and introduced plants as cattails, marsh marigolds, pitcher plants, orchids, wild calla lilies and highbush cranberry.

.....continued

UNIVERSITY ARBORETUM

continued

Early spring visitors to the arboretum will see evidence of many wildflowers in the woodland garden — trilliums, lady slippers, hepaticas, Dutchman's breeches, and bloodroot. The trail through the woodland garden has now been resurfaced with wood chips and a wooden bench has been built. A printed arboretum guide enables visitors to tour the area on foot and to identify the wild flowers that provide color through most of the season.

Planted in a natural setting, the arboretum gives Minnesotans an opportunity to study plant materials in natural landscape groupings and to see the variety of plants available for landscaping. Woodland trails make it possible to walk through the arboretum to view the plantings. Size of the arboretum is now 322 acres, with the recent donation of 20 acres of rolling, tree-covered land by Mrs. John S. Pillsbury, Sr., Wayzata.

Some 25,000 people visited the arboretum in 1964, including 161 organized groups.

Guided trailer tours will be conducted each Saturday at 1 p.m. in July. Guides will discuss plants of interest and answer questions.

Members of the Landscape Arboretum will be admitted to the tours by showing their membership cards. Non-members will be charged 75 cents for the trailer tours to help pay for guide service.

The arboretum is open daily from 8 a.m. to sundown. Visitors are welcome to explore various areas of the arboretum on any day during those hours but are encouraged to stop at the arboretum office to get a copy of the "Guide to the Arboretum," which contains a map and lists points of interest.

BIG PUMPKIN CONTEST CATCHES ON

The Big Pumpkin (any cucurbit) contest is really rolling this year. In addition to the seeds we are distributing to youth in this area, some other areas and regions are going full blast. Charlie Saunders in Mobile, Alabama, sent out 800 notices to groups in the Dixie states. Vice President Ed Moyer and Director Jim Wilson are giving it a big push in California; Director Larry Grove is covering all the 100 counties in Iowa; one area in Washington has challenged another to an inter-region contest; and Director Ed Friedrich of Wisconsin who heads up the national project, is pushing it hard in that area also. As Ed says, "To steal from the Chinese — '65 will be the Year of the Pumpkin."

GARDENING CAN BE DANGEROUS TOO

Each year numerous children and some adults are poisoned as the result of eating various plants and berries. A surprising number of these poisonings occur close to home, often in the victim's own garden.

Although it is not necessary to stop growing beautiful flowers just because some contain poison, gardeners should realize the dangers they might possibly encounter. Tell youngsters that it is dangerous to put leaves or stems of plants into their mouths and, above all, don't store bulbs where children can get to them. Even honey made by bees in an area grown with rhododendron and mountain laurel, no problem in this area, can be found to be poisonous; so, let's be careful.

We are indebted to the Dallas (Oregon) Dibbler (MGC of Dallas) for this list of poisonous plants possibly cultivated in our gardens. Those marked with an asterisk can be fatal if taken in quantities which a child might eat.

<u>Plant</u>	<u>Poisonous Part</u>
*Bittersweet	Berry
*Bluebonnets	Seed
*Burning Bush	Leaves
*Castor Bean	Seed
Columbine	Berry
*Cyclamen	Tuber
*Dumb Cane	any
*Elephant's Ears	any
Four O'clock	Root, Seed
*Foxglove	Leaves
*Iris	Underground stem
*Ivy	Leaves
*Jimson weed	any
*Lily-of-the-valley	any
*Mock Orange	Fruit
*Monkshood	Root
*Mountain Laurel	any
*Narcissus	Bulb
*Oleander	Leaves
*Pimpernel	any
*Pinks	Seed
*Potatøe	Seeds, Sprouts
*Rhododendron	any
*Scotch Broom	Seed
*Spanish Bayonet	Root
Spider Lily	Bulb
Sweet Peas	Stem
*Tulip	Bulb

WARNING: DO NOT DELAY! If a child should eat any of these berries or plants, call your doctor immediately!

continued

Following is copied Report No. 4 as mentioned in Charlie's column:

MINNESOTA ROADSIDE COUNCIL
1325 Bailey Road
St. Paul, Minn. 55110

June 17, 1965

Report No. 4

WE ARE CERTAIN that members of the Minnesota Roadside Council will be interested in a few details concerning the billboard control legislation which was passed by the 1965 legislature.

TWO BILLBOARD CONTROL BILLS were enacted in the closing moments of the session. One measure was concerned with the Interstate Highway System, the other with billboards along state trunk highways. It is of interest that neither of these bills meets Federal standards. However, both are considered acceptable pieces of legislation and, if nothing else, the first fruits of a campaign which has been under way for nearly a decade.

BOTH MEASURES are similar in some respects. Both declare it is necessary to reasonably zone and have regulations and control of advertising devices on lands adjacent to highways. Both bills provide for a scenic area board, composed of the commissioner of highways, commissioner of business development, commissioner of conservation and the director of the Minnesota Historical Society. The measures give authority to the board to establish scenic areas adjacent to Interstate and trunk highway systems. These areas shall be located outside of the existing boundaries of cities, villages and boroughs and shall not include areas zoned for commercial or industrial purposes.

THE TRUNK HIGHWAY BILL requires that billboards be 3,200 ft. apart on the same side of highway. In the case of the Interstate, signs must be 5,100 ft. apart. Both conforming to the law shall be removed on or before July 1, 1969. Both laws provide for a system of sign permits and fees.

ALSO OF INTEREST to Roadside Council members will be the new law which requires that junk yards within half a mile from a state trunk highway be "screened" by trees or foliage. Such natural screening must be at least eight feet high at maturity.

IN CONCLUSION, we'd like to take this opportunity to thank members of the Roadside council all over Minnesota for their efforts on behalf of this legislation. Special credit goes to those who contacted their legislators. One legislator, by the way, reported his biggest load of mail came from those who sought control of billboards. Finally, this is not the end of the Roadside Council. It will continue to function when issues of interest present themselves.

(signed)

Vincent K. Bailey, Chairman