

Member-- Mens Garden Clubs of America . Minnesota State Horticultural Society

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September 1963 Associate Editors Volume 21, No. 9 Wm. H. Hull, Otto Nelson G. Victor Lowrie, Editor

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September Meeting

Date:

50th Street and Knox Avenue South Charles Proctor Treasurer

Time: 5:45 p.m.

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Officers

September 10, 1963 Ev. Haedecke President Place: Mount Olivet Church G. R. Christenson Secretary

> Office of the Secretary 8300 Sheridan Ave. S.

PROGRAM

A Year with Iris

Gus Sindt, President Minnesota State Horticultural Society

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DUTCH ELM DISEASE SUBJECT OF SHADE TREE SHORT COURSE

Dutch elm disease will be the subject of the first day's sessions of the Shade Tree Maintenance Short Course in the University of Minnesota's St. Paul Campus Student Center September 16.

Second day of the two-day event will be spent at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum located on State Highway 5, 3 miles east of Chanhassen.

Sponsored by the University of Minnesota Department of Horticultural Science and the Agricultural Extension Service, the short course is planned for nurserymen, arborists and for people professionally engaged in tree maintenance in parks, on public or private grounds. The event is also open to the public. Registration fee is \$4.

Harold McNabb, associate professor of forest pathology at Iowa State University, Ames, will discuss success, failure and new approaches with Dutch elm disease. Donald Goe, director of the State Bureau of Plant Industry, will report on distribution and present situation of the disease. John A. Lofgren, University Extension entomologist, will discuss control and prevention, and Herbert Johnson, University Extension plant pathologist, will describe symptoms and methods of collecting samples for diagnosis. Donald White, assistant professor of horticultural science, University of Minnesota, will talk on tree culture.

The program will begin at 9 a.m., with registration at 8 a.m.

Tours of the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum are scheduled for Tuesday, September 17. Demonstrations will also be given on pruning, stump removal and tree fertilization.

Coordinators of the short course are C. Gustav Hard, extension horticulturist, and Al Keating, Department of Agricultural Short Courses, University of Minnesota.

Further information is available from the Department of Agricultural Short Courses, University of Minnesota, St. Paul 55101.

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RESEARCH AT UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

As part of the program of breeding ornamental shrubs for Minnesota, crosses were made in 1957 between the Mollis azalea and two northeastern North American species, Rhododendron nudiflorum and Rhododendron roseum. Hybrids from the crosses, started from seed in 1958, have been outstanding for hardiness and bloom quality, the Minnesota horticulturists said. The 1962 bloom followed a cold winter with temperatures reaching -30° on March 1. Colors of the crosses are a pure deep pink in the Rhododendron roseum hybrid and pink to nearly white in the Rhododendron nudiflorum.

Institute of Agriculture University of Minnesota

L. C. SNYDER GETS NATIONAL HORTICULTURAL AWARD

Leon C. Snyder, head of the Department of Horticultural Science at the University of Minnesota, has received the Gold Medal award of the Men's Garden Clubs of America.

The medal, awarded for outstanding achievement in horticulture, is the highest award of the organization, which comprises more than 10,000 affiliated members. The medal is awarded no more than once a year.

The award was presented to Snyder this week by William H. Hull, 6104 Oaklawn Ave., Edina, newly elected president of the Men's Garden Clubs of America. Announcement of the honor had been made earlier in Rockford, Ill., at the recently held national convention of the group, which Snyder was unable to attend.

In awarding the medal, the Men's Garden Clubs of America cited Snyder for his "personal horticultural achievements, his effect on countless youth who in turn will further influence horticulture, the effect he as an individual has had on horticulture in Minnesota, particularly in the field of ornamental shrubbery, and his leadership in establishing the Minnesota State Arboretum."

A member of the University of Minnesota staff since 1945, Snyder was promoted to head of the horticulture department and superintendent of the University Fruit Breeding Farm in 1953. In 1958, he assumed the added responsibility of director of the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum.

Before coming to Minnesota, he taught at South Dakota State College and the University of Wyoming. He holds a doctor of philosophy degree from the University of Washington.

He is the author and co-author of many University bulletins on horticulture,

He holds membership in the American Society for Horticultural Science; Sigma Xi, national honorary science fraternity; Gamma Sigma Delta, national honorary agricultural fraternity; and the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis. He was named a director of the American Association of Botanical Eardens and Arboretums in 1960.

Institute of Agriculture University of Minnesota ... and able, too!

We tip our hats to both of them, and say, "Thank you," for bringing their honors to our club---proud we are to have them as members of MGCM--- and to Bill we extend our best wishes for a successful year at the helm of MGCA.



Leon C. Snyder (left), head of the Department of Horticulture at the University of Minnesota, is shown receiving the Gold Medal Award of the Men's Garden Clubs of America from William H. Hull, 6104 Oaklawn Avenue, Edina, president-elect of the organization. The award was given in recognition of Snyder's horticultural achievements.

OVER THE GARDEN GATE

by Bill Hull

What a wonderful Ladies' Night we had last month (August) with 105 people present. A fine chicken dinner at Gar Anderson's where we saw some excellent flowers, vegetables and fruit trees. Then by bus to Felix Dhainen's for a series of beautifully terraced back yards, showing what neighborhood interest can do. Nice flowers at Felix's, too. Then to Charlie Reif's for a lovely big garden with lots of phlox. Cold lemonade was considerately furnished by Manly and Mrs. Jackson. Then to Ron Twite's for beautiful roses nicely landscaped, and a flower bed atop a compost pile. A good evening.

The highlight of the evening was being able to award Dr. Leon Snyder the Gold Medal of the Men's Garden Clubs of America, which was my official commission to perform as national president-elect. Awarded no more than once a year and only by MGCA, this medal goes to anyone in horticulture anywhere in the world. The official citation reads, "For his own personal horticultural achievements, his effect on countless youth who in turn will develop new varieties for years to come, the contribution he as an individual has made in horticulture in Minnesota, and for his leadership in establishing the Minnesota State Arboretum."

At the University of Minnesota since 1945, he is a full professor and Head of the Department of Horticulture. We could enumerate at great length Leon's literary contributions, his new horticultural introductions, his many honors. Suffice it to say, he is again honored and recognized, as deserved. We all congratulate Leon and Vera Snyder for this honor.

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How about a chance for a report of the convention from President Ev Haedecke, Sherm Pinkham, Einar Johnson, Otto Erickson, Les Johnson and Bill Hull, who, with their wives, attended? There were 20 of us there from Minnesota. We have a few slides and some interesting stories. Ev Haedecke, who moderated a breakfast program, and was honored by election to a national director's position (for which we all congratulate him) also caused a lot of glee by staging a cornhusking contest at the Corn Boil. The Rockford MGC Bulletin says, "A fellow from Minnesota - a champion - tried to show the Iowa fellows how it was done." That's oil, fellows.

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Another honor, awarded at the convention and again at our August Meeting was to The Garden Spray and Editor Vic Lowrie. Picked as one of the ten best club bulletins from our 250 clubs, The Garden Spray and Vic were awarded a Certificate of Recognition. Congratulations, Vic, and thanks again for your years of work for Minneapolis MGC.

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As for me, most of you know I was honored by being elected National president for 1964. I accept this with humility and am still rather awed. Certainly it is an important office, but will probably be no more work than being a vice-president for three years. I'd like a chance, Ev, to tell the club members how MGCA works. May I have fifteen minutes, sometime?

This is a good time to offer my thanks to you in the Minneapolis MGC, My association here is just really beginning, even though I am told I served the longest on our Minneapolis Board of anyone (six years). Your contributions to me in friendship and gardening know-how have been tremendous, and will continue for years to come. I particularly thank Vic Lowrie and Jack Cohen who first whetted my gardening interest, with Vic sponsoring me as a member, and past national president Herb Kahlert, who nominated me as a national director seven years ago.

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Early this spring, we distributed some vegetable test seeds, through the bulletin board at a meeting. If you selected some of these, now is the time to report on them. Won't you please drop me a line right away, giving your evaluation of these seeds as grown in Minnesota. This will be turned over to the national committee for compilation. But now, please.

Anybody have some time to construct a solar cooker? I have an interesting book on this subject with plans for a cooker which can be home-constructed. Basic purpose is to provide cooking heat for foreign areas where fuel is scarce. These cookers seem to be about three feet in diameter, and bring the sun's rays to an overhead focal point. It is said they get very hot.

THE FULTON SCHOOL GARDEN CLUB

This is the third year during which MMGC, led by Les Johnson, has sponsored the Fulton School Garden Club - seventy-two children from the first through the sixth grades joined the club this spring. About forty or forty-five of these young gardeners maintained their interest throughout the summer, and had nice little gardens. Some raise flowers, some grow vegetables, and a few maintained both. All gained pleasure and new knowledge about growing things.

The group of 10 M.M.G. Club members who took on the job of visiting, encouraging and advising these children are taking colored slides of them, which will be shown at the school in September shortly after school opens. At this time, they hold a little show, which the whole school attends and cheers for their schoolmates.

The M.M.G. Club has procured ribbons which will be presented at the September meeting to the young club members who have completed their project.

Twenty-five of the children exhibited at our Flower Show some of the flowers and vegetables they produced, which made a pretty display and attracted considerable interest.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

To all the good people who helped make the Flower Show successful, the first in line being our own member-exhibitors; to the Garden Glub Show Committee, chairmanned by Gharlie Proctor, and his helpers for the hard work they put in which culminated in a most interesting and colorful event; to American Hardware Mutual Insurance Co. who made available their attractive building and all the facilities so necessary in setting up a show; and to Northland Milk and Ice Cream Co., who loaned the bottles for the flower specimens.

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OUR SINCERE APPRECIATION.

To Those who Helped
Dress up our Show and
Give it Educational
Value

Many of our members put forth a tremendous amount of time and real effort in order to beautify and make our Flower Show not only successful but also more meaningful for the general public.

Take, for example, the exhibit of dahlias and orchids displayed by the Bryants. This was an extremely interesting and colorful exhibit -- the most popular one on the floor. All the material had to be packed and transported from Excelsior to town, set up in display, then dismantled, packed and transported back to Excelsior. Such an exhibit entails many hours of work as well as imagination, not to mention the risk of damage involved. We thank you, Bob and Olga, for your very generous contribution.

Bruce Johnstone spent hours arranging a display of 33 Northrup King grown annuals---an unusually colorful exhibit which added a great deal of interest to the show. Thank you, Bruce.

Roger Koopmans made a special trip from Faribault to set up a Lehman gardens display of clematis. Both Dick, who is away on vacation, and Roger were disappointed in not having any mums to exhibit, but they compensated for this loss by having Gladys Thorne build a number of attractive arrangements. Thank you, Roger and Gladys.

Bob Smith's fruit and vegetable display was a real eye opener of what can be grown, and with what excellent quality---an amazing exhibition of cultural perfection---24 fruits and vegetables, all of extraordinary size and without a blemish. Thank you, Bob, for the encouraging demonstration.

Then there was P. W. Young's and Otto Nelson's outstanding display of tuberous begonias. Boy, how they can grow them -- many thanks P. W. and Otto.

The display of 38 varieties of roses by Jerry Olson and Al Nelson made an interesting as well as educational showing. The golf motive was clever. Our appreciation is extended to you, too, Jerry and Al.

A warm "Thank you" to Bachmans for their colorful display of 32 annuals and perennials; to the Park Board for their beautiful display of 50 roses and annuals; and to Leon Snyder for the educational display of shrubs and trees for the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum.

Another display that attracted unusual attention was the exhibit of flowers and vegetables grown by 25 children of the Fulton School Garden Club. You will read more about this group elsewhere in The Spray.

G. Victor Lowrie

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Visitors' Day at the University of Minnesota Fruit Breeding Farm near Excelsior has been scheduled for Saturday, September 14, according to L. C. Snyder, head of the University's horticulture department.

Open to the public, Visitors' Day is held annually to acquaint people with the work of the 230-acre Fruit Breeding Farm, particularly in developing new varieties. Guided tours will be conducted of the experimental orchards and research plots during both morning and afternoon.

Sponsors of the event are the Minnesota State Horticultural Society and the University's department of horticulture.

The University Fruit Breeding Farm is located 5 miles southwest of Excelsior on State Highway 5.

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Another Garden Show has come and gone, and despite the ill omens of our unusual growing year, it was highly creditable. Quality was excellent, quantity far exceeded our pessimistic fears, with 29 individuals making about 600 entries. The continuing success of this large undertaking is a grand tribute to the willingness of all of you to step in wherever needed. I don't dare attempt to mention those who went all-out to put on the show, for I would be certain to omit someone. However, I do particularly want to mention Otto Erickson, who drove some 20 miles from North St. Paul, and Fred Rodda, who spent between three and four hours Saturday morning making his entries. Special thanks, also, to Mrs. Einor Johnson, who worked hard arranging the vases of glads which dressed up the exhibition hall so beautifully. Also to Mrs. Dolph Bezoier, who brought in and made her husband's entries after he was hospitalized Friday night. Last, but not least, to the members and non-members whose special exhibition tables provided the final touch.