

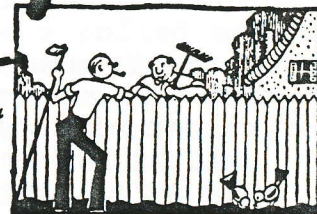


# The Garden Spray

BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.

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

April 1985, Volume 43, Number 4



OUR NEXT MGCM MEETING IS ON THE REGULAR DATE  
which is

TUESDAY EVENING, APRIL 9th, 1985

And, Again, Will Be In

THE LAKE HARRIET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH BASEMENT  
(Chowen Avenue South at West 49th Street)

DINNER: 6 PM

COST: \$5.00

PROGRAM: 7 PM

A PROFILE OF A VEGETABLE GARDENER AND HIS GARDEN

So, EXTRA! EXTRA! Hurry to the April 9th Dinner Meeting. Our guest speaker will be talking to us about his vegetable garden and how he became interested in the growing of prize winning vegetables. We will hear him talk about how he prepares the soil, feeds the soil, waters it, and sprays throughout the growing season. We don't know but he may give us a secret or two on how he does it. We will also hear him talk about himself and how and why he grows those prize winning vegetables. Yes! if you haven't guessed by now, our SPEAKER FOR APRIL is none other than our own BOB SMITH, Mr. Vegetable Gardener himself.

So! Hurry to the April meeting. Bob, may just give you enough information to beat him out at the Annual August Vegetable and Flower Show.

RETURN YOUR RESERVATION CARD TO DUANE REYNOLDS AT ONCE!!

If your name is Berg, Vern Carlson, Churilla, Culbert, Deane, Durst, Glasoe, Groger, Harwell, Dave Johnson, Knoblauch, Marlow, McCollough, Neby, Jerry Olson, Robert Olson, Peterson, Proctor, Reynolds, Russ Smith, Stone or Vixo you did not receive a return card because you signed up on the permanent reservation list. This obligates you to call Duane Reynolds if you can't attend a meeting. If no cancellation is received, you pay.

COMING MAY 14th OUR ANNUAL COUNTRY STORE and AUCTION

Look over your stuff under lights. You always have too much. Set some of it aside for the country store. If you have anything else saleable at the country store plan to bring that, too.

--Dave Johnson, chairman

IT'S YOUR LAST CHANCE TO clean shovels, spades, hoes and other equipment. Use a five gallon container, add water and a tablespoon of liquid detergent to help the clods release from the blade. When the soil is removed, dry and sharpen. Sharpen garden tools with a broad file. Tools sharpened on a power grinder heat and lose their temper. Such metal is less spring-like and more brittle. Wipe new motor oil on the blades.



### IN MEMORY OF OTTO H. ERICKSON

A kind and gentle man, a loving husband and father, an excellent gardener and a good friend to those of us in MGCM who knew and loved him has gone to his reward.

I first knew him in 1944 when we both won awards in the Victory Garden Competition that year. Otto and his wife had a "Gem" of a flower garden at their home (I think Thora was as much responsible for its perfection as he.) and rented a plot where he demonstrated his prowess as an award winning Vegetable gardener.

It was not until 1954, when I joined MGCM that I really got to know Otto. He had moved to a couple acres of raw woods situated between two lakes near North St. Paul, where he and Thora had cleared and built a "Park" of lawns, flower gardens and woods paths that was a delight to visit.

Otto was a long time employee of N.S.P.--an engineer in the power plant--and commuted daily; yet he still found time for his many varied interests. He was well read, an avid bird watcher who had catalogued many rare visitors to his woods and feeders. Otto had the ability to make and keep friends who will treasure their memory of him.

--Les Johnson

Otto Erickson whose long time friend, Les Johnson, wrote the tribute above was born in Sweden on May 9, 1897. He died in Sun City, Arizona on February 21, 1985. Otto and his wife Thora, who preceded him in death, had moved to Sun City after his retirement. He maintained contact with MGCM over the years. MGCM members who had occasion to visit Arizona made a practice of calling on him. His most recent visitors, Dr. and Mrs. Snyder, had reported him to be not in his usual good health when they stopped to see him earlier this year.

### PLANT FOR THE FLOWER and VEGETABLE SHOW

It may seem that August is far in the future but it is not too early to plan for the flowers and vegetables you will need for displaying at our show on August 17th and 18th. This year we will give National Awards for zinnias and for peppers so plan to include them in your planting. This should be the year for the majority of our members to enter many items in the show.

--Phil Peterson, Co-Chairman

## **MEN'S GARDEN CLUBS OF AMERICA, INC. NATIONAL CONVENTION**

**Chicago, Ill. — July 16-20, 1985**

See the GARDENER magazine you received in mid-March for details and reservation forms. This will be a good place to "glad hand" and boost for our 1988 convention.



FROM THE WEED PATCH.....

by Andy Marlow

For some time the Board of Directors has been discussing how to increase participation in the Club's annual Flower and Vegetable Show at the Arboretum in August. With a small degree of fluctuation, we've had roughly the same number of exhibits and exhibitors over the last few years. The number of exhibits has been adequate, but a few men have supplied most of those numbers by entering many items each. Then there are a few, such as yours truly, who bring a few items to "fill up the benches". The fact remains that less than a quarter of our members enter the show, with just a few more attending to help out with the show or view the exhibits. That's not very good representation for a club of our size and ability.

Some members of the Board and the Show committee thought the long drive to the Arboretum might be inhibiting entries, so we arranged an "in-town" drop off point for people who didn't want to make the long trip. Others thought educating members might help and arranged to have successful exhibitors give short demonstrations at monthly meetings on how to show various classes of exhibits. We still had about the same number of entries.

I'm convinced that once a member gets his feet wet by showing a few items, he'll realize that his efforts stand up pretty darn well in relation to the others. Who knows, he might even win a ribbon or two in the process. If we can convince a few more men that it's not all that tough to prepare flowers and vegetables to show and that judges are not supercritical old so-and-sos, we could be on our way to making this show the club's premier public event.

So we're going to try coercion! Our regular June meeting at the church will feature a mini-show. Vegetables won't be ready yet, of course, but we'll be able to have flowers that don't bloom at the right time for the August show. We'll have as many classes as we have flowers for, and they'll be judged and ribbons will be awarded. Afterward, we'll have the judges explain to us all why they did what they did; what separates a prize winner from an also ran. Everyone should learn a great deal that they can apply to the later summer event.

Now the coercion. Every member who attends the June meeting will be expected to bring one or, at most, two entries. In return he'll get a dollar off the price of his meal. Start planning now to have at least one item ready to show.

It's not too early to begin planning for the big August show, either. Committee Co-Chairmen Phil Peterson and Dale Durst have announced that the bell pepper and the zinnia will be the national award vegetable and flower. These are plants that many of us grow, so let's make sure that no one walks off with a National Award ribbon without having to beat some stiff competition.

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It's spring. It's a time of rejuvenation. Buds are breaking. New growth is starting. What better time for this slogan:

***Every Member Sponsors A New Member***

WE WELCOME TWO NEW MEMBERS THIS MONTH

Albert Miller      729-2482  
3443 - 20 Ave. S., Mpls. 55407

Robert E. Kelly    529-7643  
1319 - 46 Ave. N., Mpls. 55412



## THE COMMUNITY GARDEN

Hello. This is the first time as a Chairman of any Committee for me, so here goes.

Our project, the Community Garden, is the most visible contribution our club gives to the Minneapolis public, and to the Society of the Blind.

In the past our club has planted about 1,500 plants in May of each year in this garden. It involves a lot of work, with the largest part being planting. For the planting part I intend to contact as many members as possible for help on it. I plan, also, to schedule our committee members for maintenance during the growing season.

Before I retired I was in charge of an agency office in the Minneapolis Grain Exchange Building. At that time I had an elderly man, who was blind, visit our office to have his mail read to him. Mike Kooreny was an immigrant to this country from eastern Europe. At the age of 2 he had smallpox which blinded him for life. Mike made his living by tuning pianos. His sense of direction and memory was uncanny. One time when he came to our office he asked me if we had some roses on our counter. I asked him, how he knew that. In reply, he told me he was taken to the Fragrance Garden a number of times. He also said he could tell the difference in smell between all flowers.

So, Members, lets do a good job on the garden again.

--Joseph L. Stenger, Committee-Chairman

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## MGCA CONVENTION - 1988 REQUIRES MGCM TO SIGN UP NEW MEMBERS

The time has come to do a little reminiscing. For you new members, some of this memo will not mean much until you have read the entire article.

Whose garden will take the place of Archie Flack's English border? Whose garden will take the place of Fred Holzman's roses? Who will replace Manley Jackson's, Carl Holst's, Glen Cerney's, Harold Kaufman's, Joe Witmer's, and many more gardens and gardeners? These men are no longer among us and their gardens were the mainstay of our tours during the 1967 National Convention held in Minneapolis.

Sure, we still have Henry Halverson, Dave Johnson, Phil Smith, Vern Carlson, Les Johnson, Jerry Olson, Otto Nelson, Bill Hull, Dale Durst, Nate Siegel, Bob Smith, Dr. Snyder whose gardens were on the tours, but not all of them are able to maintain a tour garden anymore.

To have the kind of gardens we like to show off, we need more people who will put forth the effort to have a garden worthy of being on a tour. Are you one of these people? If the answer is "yes", now is the time to start planning for a show garden for July 1988.

Along with this issue of the "Spray" is a pink application form for membership in MGCM. Take it, review it, and find a good gardener who will put forth the effort to have his place ready for showing to people from all over the U.S. who look forward to seeing good gardens because from past experience they know we have the best gardens in MGCA.

--Dwight Stone



MEN'S GARDEN CLUB  
OF MINNEAPOLIS

Membership Application:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ WIFE: \_\_\_\_\_  
                    (Last)                    (First)                    (Init)

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
                    \_\_\_\_\_  
                    (City)                    (State)                    ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
  Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

EMPLOYER: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
                    \_\_\_\_\_  
                    (City)                    (State)                    ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE/STATUS: \_\_\_\_\_

My horticultural activities/interests are as follows;

Currently Active With:

- |  |                                    |                                      |
|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> House Plants        | <input type="checkbox"/> Foliage   | <input type="checkbox"/> Flowering   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetable Gardening |                                    |                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flower Gardening    | <input type="checkbox"/> Annuals   | <input type="checkbox"/> Perennials  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trees/Shrubs        |                                    |                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fruits              | <input type="checkbox"/> Trees     | <input type="checkbox"/> Bush        |
|  |                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Vines       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Container Gardening |                                    |                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lawns/Landscaping   |                                    |                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse          | <input type="checkbox"/> Gardening | <input type="checkbox"/> Propagation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Growing Under Lites | <input type="checkbox"/> Garden    | <input type="checkbox"/> Propagation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydro-ponics        |                                    |                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Others              |                                    |                                      |
- \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Interested In:

- |  |
|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> House Plants      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetables        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flowers           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trees/Shrubs      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fruits            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Container Gardens |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lawns             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouses       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lite Growing      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hydro-ponics      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Others            |
- \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

My reasons for desiring membership in this club are; \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



If accepted as an active member of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis I will serve on the following club committees:

- |                               |                             |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ----- Plant Auction           | ----- Photography           |
| ----- Garden Tours            | ----- Christmas Party       |
| ----- Community Garden        | ----- Awards                |
| ----- On Committees as needed | ----- Flower/Vegetable Show |

If accepted as an active member of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, I certify that to the best of my abilities, I will

- Faithfully Attend the scheduled monthly meetings,
- Participate and be involved with the Club Committees as indicated in the above,
- Pursue horticultural activities to improve my growing abilities,
- Willingly share and make available my horticultural abilities and knowledge with club members and other individuals of my community.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

SPONSOR'S STATEMENT:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

I have reviewed this application for club membership and certify that the applicant has a definite interest in horticulture and involved as indicated, and I will with my best efforts assist this applicant in being an active club member and, \_\_\_\_\_

MGCM Dues: 7.00  
MGCA Dues: 10.00  
Minn. Hort. Dues: 7.00

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

Board Actions:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

DUES: <sup>24.00</sup>~~\$25.00~~ per year  
(Includes MGCM dues, Nat'l  
MGC, and Minn Hort Society  
dues)