

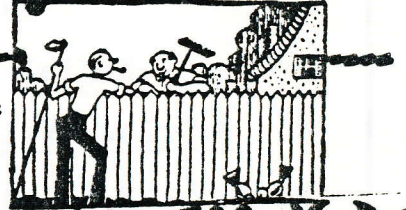


# The Garden Spray

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

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

December 1986, Volume 44, Number 12



## SEASON'S GREETINGS

'Twas  
the night  
before Christmas  
and all through the  
yard the branches were  
bare and the ground frozen  
hard; the roses were dormant  
and mulched all around to pro-  
tect them from damage if frost  
heaves the ground. The perennials  
were nestled all snug in their beds  
while visions of 5-10-5 danced in their  
heads. The new planted shrubs had been soaked  
by the hose to settle their roots for the long  
winter's doze; and out on the lawn, the new fallen  
snow protected the roots of the grasses below. When  
what to my wondering eyes should appear but a truck full  
of gifts of gardening gear. Saint Nick was the driver--the  
jolly old elf--and he winked as he said, "I'm a gardener myself.  
I've brought wilt-pruf, rootone, and gibberellin, too--Father can  
try them and see what they do. To start new plants - a propagat-  
ing kit. Sparkling new shears, for the old apple tree. To seed  
your new lawn, I've a patented sower; in case it should grow, here's  
a new power mower. For seed planting days, I've a trowel and a dibble.  
And a roll of wire mesh if the rabbits should nibble. For the feminine  
gardener, some gadgets she loves; plant stakes, a sprinkler, and water-  
proof gloves; a chemical agent for her compost pit. And for pH detecting,  
a soil testing kit. With these colorful flagstones, lay a new garden path;  
for the kids to enjoy, and bird feeder and bath. And last but not least, some  
well-rotted manure! A green Christmas year round, these gifts will insure." Then  
jolly Saint Nick, having emptied his load, started his truck and took to the road.  
And I heard him  
exclaim through  
the motor's loud  
hum;

"MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL, AND TO ALL A GREEN THUMB!"



FINAL NOTICE REGARDING

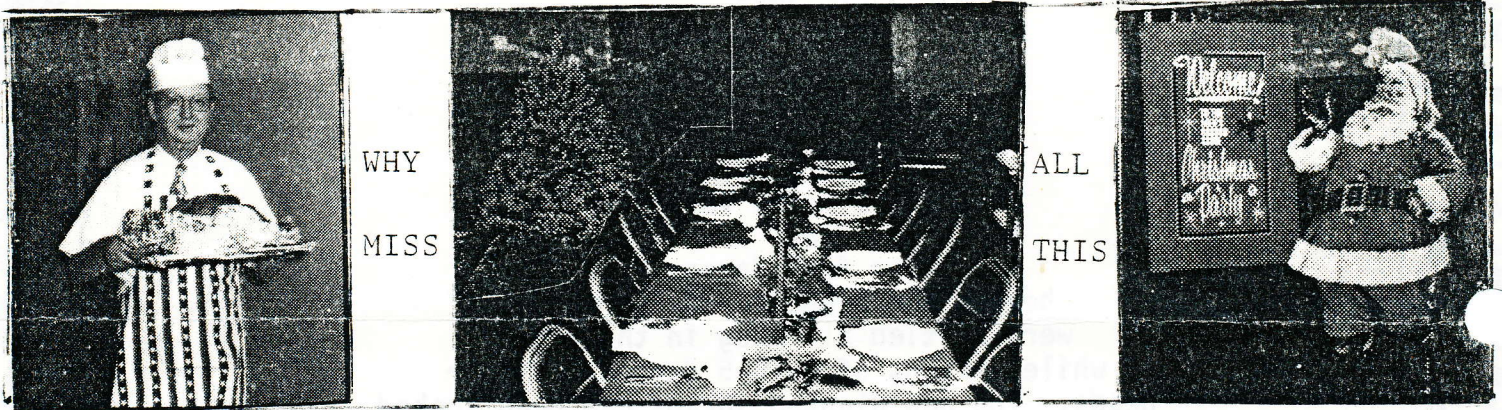
THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY  
- Our traditional annual event -

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1986 -- LAKE HARRIET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
(49th Street and Chown Avenue South)

Social Half-Hour      6:15                      Dinner      6:45

By reservation only at \$10.50 each. Wives, guests invited.

HURRY, THE RESERVATION DEADLINE IS SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6 --  
so get your reservation, together with your check, in the mail im-  
mediately to George McCollough, 8812 Tretbaugh Drive, Bloomington,  
MN 55431. Use the form found in the November SPRAY or write a note.  
(If there is any doubt about the mail service telephone ahead.)



OFFICERS and DIRECTORS for 1987

At the November 11th MGCM meeting the following members were elected to fill the club offices for 1987.

PRESIDENT:	Robert C. Olson	SECRETARY:	Rick L. Bonlender
VICE-PRESIDENT:	Duane A. Reynolds	TREASURER:	Joseph L. Stenger
DIRECTORS:	Howard H. Berg		Dave Moehnke
	Charles R. Proctor		Herbert L. Neby
IMMEDIATE PAST-PRESIDENT:	Robert G. Churilla		

ADDRESS CHANGES

Bob Churilla  
2608 - 34 Ave. N.E.  
St. Anthony, MN 55418

Leon Snyder  
16861 Saddlewood Trail  
Minnetonka, MN 55345

NEW MEMBERS

Craig J. Alexander      824-7225  
150 W. Minnehaha Pkwy.  
Mpls., MN 55419

John J. Kaul                      831-8354  
3618 W. 88 St.  
Bloomington, MN 55431

Philip F. Campbell      926-8356  
5312 Interlachen Blvd.  
Edina, MN 55436

Jeff T. Pearson                      699-9647  
1280 Boland Pl.  
St. Paul, MN 55116



## Arboretum Director Speaks at November MGCM Meeting

reported by Andy Marlow

Peter Olin, the Director of the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, was the speaker at the November meeting of the MGCM. He is only the third Director in the nearly 25 year history of the Arboretum. He's been acting director and now permanent director for more than a year. With a background in landscape architecture, he also has an appreciation for the horticulture, research and fund-raising functions of his job. He indicated, for instance, at the beginning of his presentation that he would become one of the newest members of MGCM, continuing a tradition begun with Dr. Leon Snyder and continued by Dr. Francis de Vos.

Mr. Olin announced immediately that he had brought no slides to show. He said the best way to get to know the Arboretum was to go there and see it, not merely look at pictures. There were many nods of agreement from the assembled members, many of whom are also members of the Arboretum.

In the last year or so, the Arboretum has been trying to redefine its mission. It had been, like many parts of the University, trying to serve every identifiable need. Olin now sees its mission divided into three parts: research, education and providing a place of "beauty and respite." During his talk, he elaborated on each of these goals.

### RESEARCH

The Arboretum has become famous for the development of new, cold-hardy varieties of trees and shrubs. Most are familiar with the Northern Lights Azaleas, the Northsun Forsythia and others. Work will continue on these and other species. In fact, Olin pointed out, there will be another Northern Lights variety introduced in 1987 and another in 1988. Also in the wings is the Autumn Splendor Buckeye - a hardier variety with good shape and great fall color. It has proven difficult to propagate, though. Grants for developing an effective propagation method are now in the works. One of the specific goals in the research area is shortening the time between development of new varieties and actually getting them to the nurseries.

The University's Horticultural Research Center, located near the Arboretum, has now been combined into the Arboretum. The Center has traditionally produced improved varieties of fruits, and will continue to perform that function as part of the Arboretum. 65% of all the apples grown in Minnesota, for instance, were developed at the Center. There will be another apple variety out in a year or so. And researchers are looking at some promising breakthroughs for new wine grapes that can be grown in our harsh climate.

Finally, in line with Mr. Olin's own interests, the Arboretum will conduct research into landscape architecture. Of particular interest is using construction materials, earth berms and plant materials to extend the usable outdoors season.

### EDUCATION

The Arboretum, Olin emphasized, is already one of the University's major



outreach facilities. There were over 105,000 visitors in 1985-86. Some 8500 school children were involved in the Learning Center and 65 adult classes and workshops were held.

Olin would like to begin some innovative programs to add to those numbers. among them are a project to distribute gardening, landscape and horticultural information on video tape and a proposal for a "plants on wheels" vehicle to take Arboretum programs to schools and other youth centers.

A recent Gallup poll, cited by Olin, revealed that flower gardening was #1 and vegetable gardening #3 in a list of American's preferred past times. Olin and his staff would like to capture that interest and enthusiasm by making the Arboretum the state center for home horticulture and landscaping.

### BEAUTY

Some major steps in increasing the beauty of the Arboretum have already been accomplished. The de Vos Home Demonstration Gardens will be completed next spring (they were dedicated last summer), and the new Woodland Garden will be dedicated.

Meanwhile, the back 600 acres of the grounds are being evaluated and assessed. This will result in a master plan that should make the collections of plant materials more accessible. Some improvements might include clustering collections around tram stops and creating "nodes of activity" on the back 600. There could be more picnic areas and a stronger emphasis on the interpretative areas. Olin also pointed to a need for more consistent and effective signage.

Roads also need to be improved. That process has already begun with a new entrance road from Highway 5, but some serious thought is now going into creating what Olin called "an entrance experience" - something that will involve more than just a new road.

All of these improvements cost money, of course. And there is also a need to restore the funds for maintenance, cut during the University's many budget crises. Olin would like to increase the Arboretum's endowment from \$500,000 to about \$8,000,000, create an endowment for education programs of \$1,800,000. match a \$750,000 grant from the Minnesota Campaign to fund a chair for cold-hardy research and construct a new visitor center with a 500 car parking lot. The bottom line, he says, is about \$13,000,000.

Finally, Olin would like to find better ways to acknowledge the enormous contributions to the operation of the Arboretum made by volunteers, many of them MGCM members. He would like to have written job descriptions for volunteer positions and develop an evaluation mechanism. And, he says, there needs to be a more structured relationship with the various plant societies, so both the societies and the Arboretum know what's expected of them.

Mr. Olin seems to have a clear idea of where the Arboretum should be headed as we approach the turn of the century. He, no doubt, acquired a number of enthusiastic supporters as a result of his presentation.





## BIG BOB'S CORNER

Well! Here it is, the last month of the year and I know that Ed Culbert is waiting for my article to reach him this evening. Well Ed, the Viking game is over and I'd best get to typing my article so that I can deliver it to you by the 10:00 P.M. news.

SEASON'S GREETINGS to all the members and their families. May this holiday season be the happiest and joyfulest season you have had.

This being the last month of my term as President of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, I feel that the year has gone by rather fast. It has been fun and a lot of work. I can still recall the days I spent on the phone to get a chairman for each of the different committees. As for my first meeting when Andy Marlow turned the Club over to me--my knees are still knocking. I felt at times, "What did I get myself into? Maybe I should resign" etc. But here it is the end of my term and I would like to say Thank You to the Board of Directors and to the Officers of the Club and especially to the members for electing me your President for 1986. Thank You.

About the time that you receive this SPRAY, it will be time for the greatest event of the year, the Christmas Party. I will be looking forward to seeing you all there. Remember your reservation must be turned in to George.

Thank you to Klier's Nursery for having us to their place the day after Thanksgiving to make Christmas Wreaths, Center Pieces, etc. The refreshments and the helping hand was appreciated. I am sure that we all enjoyed it and will be looking forward to doing it again next year.

To those of you that were at the last meeting I would like to apologize for the way the raffle was going. I was a little up tight over it because I felt, and the board that approved the raffle felt, that this would be a good way to make money for the 1988 Convention. At the time of writing this article I have taken in \$800.00 for the raffle. I am sorry that it did not turn out. I was sure that we would take in at least \$2800.00. But it looks like it backfired. I apologize for this and hope the new officers will come up with a better idea to make money.

## HINTS OF THE MONTH

1. Stay warm, healthy and bright thru the Holiday Season.
2. Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
3. Water you Christmas tree daily. Don't let it dry out.

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Occasionally Swedish Ivy plants are found with bronzed and cupped foliage, reduced growth, a hardened appearance and poor growth. This indicates a boron deficiency which often occurs in this crop. Swedish Ivy's need for boron, one of the minor elements, is higher than that of other plants.

Most flowering crabapples that are susceptible to fire blight are also susceptible to frost cracking during extremely cold winters. The point of entry for the fire blight causing organism may be through the frost cracks. Prune the affected branches with sterile shears, sterilize the pruning blades with alcohol or bleach and avoid fertilizing with excessive amounts of nitrogen.



## A REPORT FROM YOUR DIRECTOR

Bill Hull, past national president, and I attended the Board of Directors' meeting of the Mens' Garden Clubs of America in San Antonio, Texas on October 31 and November 1, 1986 representing the North Star Region. The meetings were held each morning from 8:30 to noon and were quite productive.

One of the major concerns which was resolved was the subject of ladies becoming members of Mens' Garden Clubs of America. That issue had been deferred via a standing rule voted in at the Mobile Alabama Convention in 1984 for a two year period. That Standing rule permitted clubs to establish Associate Memberships which could include ladies.

After fruitful discussion, the board, with no dissenting votes, incorporated this Associate Membership into our permanent by-laws, effective immediately.

The by-law thus reads "Any affiliated club may establish an associate class for women, subject to the following qualifications: Associate Members shall not pay MGCA dues and shall not serve as national officers, nor as convention delegates."

I think that issue has been put to rest.

The convention schedule has been established as follows:  
1987 Rockford Il.; 1988 Minneapolis, Mn.; 1989 Portland Or.; 1990 Des Moines Ia.; 1991 Raleigh N.C.; (tentative) 1991 Fort Wayne In.; (tentative)

The Endowment and Investment Fund, a fund created primarily through the efforts of Sherm Pinkham a Beloved member of the Minneapolis club and predecessor to this director, now has in excess of \$226,000 in the fund. This is made up of about \$137,000 from Life Memberships and the balance from memorials, tributes and special funds.

Life memberships were also discussed extensively.

A life membership is a very fine investment. Currently it only costs \$100. It replaces your annual dues to Mens' Garden Clubs of America, currently \$10.00 annually. The E&I fund pays the \$10.00 per living life member to MGCA for their operations, out of earnings of the E&I fund so that MGCA receives the same income as if you pay your dues directly to MGCA. The cost of Life memberships will be tied to Dues in MGCA in the future so if dues increase, life memberships will also increase.

- Russ Smith

### INCOME TAX PLANNING & MGCA LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

For weeks nearly every newspaper and magazine has carried articles about the importance of planning in connection with the new income tax law.

This year only, if you take the standard deduction and do not itemize, you can still deduct your contributions in full. Say for instance, if you were in the 30% tax bracket, if you became a life member of MGCA this year, it would only cost you \$70 as the remaining \$30 would be deducted from your income tax.

Besides that, there's another very important reason for giving this serious consideration. Next year, the life membership fee may be increased to \$150 or possibly \$200. It's something to think about seriously.

- Russ Smith



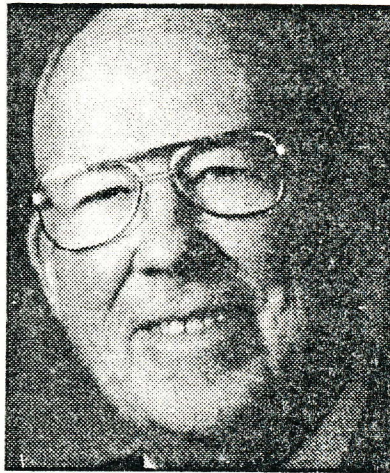
## O.C. (Clint) Turnquist; taught horticulture at 'U'

Orrin C. (Clint) Turnquist, 73, of Farmington, a retired horticultural science professor at the University of Minnesota and a vegetable judge at the Minnesota State Fair for nearly 40 years, died of leukemia Monday at Abbott Northwestern Hospital in Minneapolis.

Turnquist taught at the university from 1947 to 1978, and also worked for the Agricultural Extension Service for 32 years. About 1965, he developed the Anoka potato, a variety specially suited to Minnesota soils and grown in the Red River Valley and other parts of the state.

Commenting in a 1981 newspaper interview on being a vegetable judge, Turnquist said, "It's wonderful. You have to be on your toes, weighing all the different entries against each other in your head and you have to do it quickly and figure the points."

In 1949, he founded the Minnesota Vegetable Growers Association and was its secretary-treasurer for its first 34 years. He also was president of the Potato Association of America in 1961, superintendent of potato judging contests at the Red River Valley Winter Shows in Crookston for 32 years, orchard and garden editor for the Farmer magazine the



Orrin C. (Clint) Turnquist

past eight years and a member of the board of directors and former president of the Dakota County Fair Board.

"He always had a love for the outdoors and growing things, from boyhood," said his son-in-law, Todd Bachman. "And he loved to teach, whether it be at the university level or through extension classes."

He is survived by his wife, Gladys; daughter Barbara Bachman of Farmington; son Richard of Burnsville, and five grandchildren.

Minneapolis Star and Tribune  
Tuesday, November 18, 1986



## WE ARE GRATEFUL

The end of the year--A time to assess the past twelve months and, more importantly, to recognize those without whose help the SPRAY could not have continued to receive the high MGCA rating it has held beginning during Bill Hull's day as editor. My sincere thanks--

- To Glenn Bartsch who has for several years supplied the address labels which eliminate the monthly chore of addressing by hand some 150 copies of our publication.
- To Bob Churilla who has unfailingly hand delivered at my door his President's Letter in time to meet the SPRAY deadline.
- To Andy Marlow who hand delivers in computer print ready for the press his reviews of the talks by speakers at our monthly meetings.
- To Bill Hull, Bob Olson and Russ Smith regular contributors of articles often times already set up to go.
- To Chet Groger who annually prepares our Officer and Director Profiles and occasional other articles.
- To Joe Stenger who supplied pictures and Community Garden alerts in season.
- To Larry Corbett, Jack Kolb and Phil Smith who wrote feature articles during 1986.
- To Jim Fishbaugher, Fred Glasoe, Jerry Olson and Jerry Shannon who wrote obituary articles.
- To George McCollough who telephoned me several times a month with names of new members, late renewals, changes of address, etc.
- To Nancy Tallman who turns our original copy into an attractive typed page and unfailingly gets it back to us on schedule.
- To my wife, Barbara, who folds and labels while I staple, fasten and stamp.

As you can see getting out the SPRAY takes a lot of cooperation, a lot of volunteering not all of which shows up in what you read e.g. 1) The willingness of Albinson to Xerox the SPRAY while I wait. 2) The unsolicited adhesive baked material from advertisers which I cut and convert into substitutes for some of the adhesive labels I otherwise must purchase from the SPRAY budget.

## **HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES?**

Need we remind you? 1) George McCollough is leaving for warmer climes December 28 and wants a clean slate for incoming treasurer Joe Stenger. 2) Bill Hull won't be on hand to get the Roster printed this time so must have copy ready January 1. You want your name in the Roster, don't you? 3) After January 1 the SPRAY quits coming if your dues are late, and, We don't supply back numbers.

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



T E N   S P E C I A L   T I P S (From the NITE CRAWLER, Spokane)

1. Azalias love left over tea leaves, so do house plants such as philadendrons and rubber plants.
2. Spread a thick layer of manure on your asparagus patch after the ground has frozen in the fall. It does a double duty as winter protection and feed for spring.
3. For larger roses plant your scrap fish along side or feed them fish oil.
4. Fill a shaker with borax and sprinkle on soil next to beets. (provides boron)
5. To provide magnesium for fast development of tomatoes, peppers and eggplant, mix two tablespoons epsom salts to one gallon of water. Apply one pint to each plant just before bloom.
6. Mix one half cup epsom salts to one half bushel wood ashes, sprinkle around daffodils as they emerge from soil in the spring. (it adds potash, lime and magnesium)
7. Crushed egg shells mixed into soil around cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower (provides extra calcium which they require).
8. Coffee grounds are good for one thing, sprinkle over carrot planting to repel the root maggot, or around evergreens as a mulch.
9. Hold back on nitrogen rich fertilizer late in the season as this tends to make plants more susceptible to frost.
10. Herbs like lime and gritty soil. Mix ground oyster shell per hole about one handful per plant.

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



Return to  
**THE GARDEN SPRAY of MGCM, INC.**  
Edwin C. Culbert, Editor  
5315 Portland Avenue  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55417  
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**MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.**  
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**Secretary:** Duane A. Reynolds  
7116 - 39th Ave. N., New Hope 55427  
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**Past-President:** Andrew Marlow  
10700 Minnetonka Blvd., Minnetonka 55343

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**FIRST CLASS**

**To**

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Minnetonka, MN 55343