

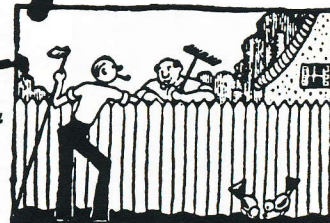


The Garden Spray

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

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

February 1985, Volume 43, Number 22



NEXT MGCM MEETING

TUESDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 12, 1985

LAKE HARRIET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CHOWEN AVENUE SOUTH at 49th STREET

DINNER 6:00 P.M. PRICE \$5.00

BE SURE TO USE THE RESERVATION CARD

Our SPEAKER for the evening will be member Glenn Ray, executive secretary of the Minnesota State Horticultural Society, photographer and writer of gardening articles.

His TOPIC will be WINTER LANDSCAPING. Knowing Glenn we'll bet he will extol the use of evergreens and, like William Rogers who talked to us a few years ago, urge us to paint our houses some color other than drab or snow white. But come. Hear and see for yourself.

* * * * *



Bring a Guest or a Friend.

WERE YOU? DID YOU?

Were you at the January 8th meeting? Did you sign up for a committee? If you weren't there or haven't signed up you still have a chance. Read the poem below. Then turn to pages 7-8. Check in the space in front of the committee(s) of your choice and mail or deliver the sheet to Andy Marlow.

Are you an active member,
the kind that would be missed,
or are you just contented
that your name is on the list?
Do you attend the meetings
and mingle with the crowd,
or do you stay at home
and crab both long and loud?
Do you take an active part
to help the club along?
Or are you satisfied to be
the kind to "just belong"?

IN MEMORIAM

- ROBERT L. SMITH 1935-1984 -



Men's Garden Club member Robert L. Smith died very suddenly on Monday afternoon December 17th. Smith was a construction superintendent for the M. A. Mortenson Co. and was currently working on the new Veterans Administration hospital. En route home from work he stopped at the health spa where he regularly exercised. There he collapsed and could not be revived. He had no previous history of any heart problem.

Brought into MGCM in 1981 by his brother Russel, Bob quickly became deeply involved in our activities. He was co-chairman of summer tours in 1983, Tour chairman in 1984 when he also handled club raffles. His garden as those who visited it on tour in 1982 will remember reflected his construction interest with planters, decks and trellises. The succession of raised beds separated by woodchip paths provided an eyeful of beautiful annuals. Equally enticing were his beds of vegetables. His roses and dahlias drew special commendation this year.

Smith was born in Princeton, Minnesota but shortly thereafter the family moved to Milaca where both he and his wife, Margery, grew up and finished high school. Besides his wife he is survived by his 5 children Cindy, Jeff, Joel, Scott and Thomas; by his parents Stanley and Margaret; by his brothers Russel and Neil, his sister Ruth Boggs and his grandsons Joshua and Thomas Jr.

We extend our sympathy to the family. Their loss is also our loss. We have lost a valuable member--an exemplary gardener.

DRIFT FROM THE SPRAYER

Do you remember coal ashes--cinders--the kind that was used as ballast between railroad ties? In our town (Eveleth) cinders also were used as a base for sidewalks. 8" boards were pegged upright 4'-6' apart and the space between was filled with cinders and ashes. Then months later after all was well trodden down and compacted the concrete was laid. Those "ashes" were sharp and gritty and would scratch your face if another kid tripped you. You didn't need any salt when you spread them on icy walks.

Those days vanished with the steam engine. But, ashes are making a comeback--wood ashes--now that wood stoves and fireplaces are again popular. Since salt used to melt sidewalk ice can cause serious damage to plants wood ashes, sawdust and coarse sand are recommended instead. Sawdust is about as easy to get as cinders. Wood ashes are as dirty as or are dirtier than coal ashes. That leaves only coarse sand which if warmed a bit before strewing is better anyway.

Save the wood ashes for your garden next spring. Spread them over the soil and dig them in. Piled 1" or more deep they cake as I learned when I used them to cover my peony beds. The nutrient composition of unleached wood ashes will generally be 0 percent nitrogen, 1-2% phosphate (P_2O_5) and

(See DRIFT p. 8)

FROM THE WEED PATCH....

by Andy Marlow

For a gardener, these months of deep winter are a time to simply be endured. Nothing, of course, can be done outdoors. With low light levels and cool temperatures indoors, few of the tropical plants we've adapted for indoor growing want to show much other than foliage. The dozen or so African violets under lights in the basement, even though they are the cool-tolerant Optimara variety, are even reluctant to display much color. Mostly gardeners must be content with dreaming about longer days and warmer temperatures.

Not so, though, for gardeners with a greenhouse and a fat enough wallet to keep it heated all winter. Our January board meeting was held at the home of Past President Russ Smith and before the meeting most of us had the chance to tour his lean-to greenhouse that covers the roof of his garage. Since it's a tuck-under garage, that puts the greenhouse on the main level, just off the family room. A few of his many orchids were in bloom, with many more sending up buds. Even though it was night time, the greenhouse looked bright and alive -- with lots of promise of things to come.

Promises of things to come have also been filling my mailbox of late. Almost like clockwork, the first garden seed catalog showed up the day after Christmas. There's been pretty much a steady stream since then, brightening up the dreary days and providing the spark for planning and dreaming about the season to come.

For the first time, I've received the Thompson and Morgan catalog. They're a British firm and it's interesting to see the difference between the types of flowers popular over there and American favorites. Delphiniums rate several complete pages, where most U.S. catalogs have at most three or four listings. They even offer seeds for the rare red-flowering varieties.

Ever since they came out, all of us at my house, including the now two year old, have enjoyed the Sugar Snap Pea. Most of them never make it to the house, having been eaten right in the vegetable plot. For an equally long time, my wife has said "I sure wish they'd develop a stringless variety!" Most catalogs are now featuring Sugar Daddy, described as fulfilling her wish.

Remember, when you're looking over your crop of catalogs keep an eye out for a special variety to grow and enter in the MGCM Flower and Vegetable Show. Even if it is the deep of winter, it's not too early to begin dreaming about a blue ribbon come August.

GARDEN PHOTOGRAPHY THE SUBJECT OF THE PROGRAM AT THE JANUARY MEETING
Reported by Chet Groger

Member Larry Catron is a prime example of some of the undiscovered talent in our club. As a former member of the staff of the Graphic Arts Department at the University of Minnesota, Larry is well versed in all aspects of photography. When he became interested in our club at a flower and vegetable show at the Arboretum, he became a member and began to apply his photography to gardening. He now heads our Photography Committee and reminded our members that the deadline for slides to be submitted to MGCA for judging and possible awards at the 1985 Convention in Chicago would be February 1st. His committee will review them and submit them to the MGCA Photography Committee for judging.

Basic photography has not changed over the years, just the equipment. Larry says the photographer is still more important than the equipment. He showed big enlargements of photos taken in the 1930's with his first folding-bellows camera, proving that equipment then was equivalent to today's sophisticated equipment. The photographer can be ingenious in getting the best possible "shot" and Larry showed some of the ideas he uses: A single telescoping Unipod tucked just above the belt can steady a camera. A pair of vise-grip pliers with threaded camera mounts welded at strategic places can be a big help around wood or metal objects where it can be clamped. A Bolex multi-jointed low tripod can be used to get a photo in any position, especially of that special bloom close to the ground.

By using different combinations of lens extenders, Larry can get close-ups at any distance down to inches. He makes good use of wide-angle lenses and zoom lenses for the best possible picture. If sunlight and shade together make for an uneven exposure, Larry suggests waiting for a cloudy day.

A camera is most useful for a record of memorable events. Larry showed a succession of slides to illustrate the point, beginning with some from our MGCM tours and including specially composed views of gardens, places and people in a dozen or more countries around the world. He has a special interest in the Japanese culture as it relates to the appreciation of beauty.

Larry closed his program with a taste of the St. Anthony Waterfront slide show that he has given to many organizations in the Twin Cities. With his equipment, he has been able to record the history of the Falls and neighboring area and is able to depict it on the screen as a permanent record of its development. It is a valuable piece of Minneapolis history and is entirely the work of Larry Catron. The small part of it we viewed shows just another aspect of the value of a camera. Larry's entire presentation should encourage us to make better use of photography in our gardens.

EDITORS NOTE: With this issue Chet Groger takes over as 1985 reporter on talks at our monthly meetings. Andy Marlow plans to resume reporting after his term as president is over. Andy has done a superb job; but Chet has shown previously that he, too, is an able writer so we are confident the reporting is in good hands. Regular monthly reports of this nature, the monthly letters from the president, Bill Hull's articles, contributions from time to time by other members make the SPRAY an award winner. We thank all for what they have done/are doing. We invite others to send in ideas, articles, etc.

MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MPLS.
INCOME STATEMENT
FOR 1984

ACCOUNT NAME	1984 BUDGET	1984 ACTUAL	ADOPTED
			1/8/85 1985 BUDGET
Dues	\$ 3,100.00	\$ 2,614.00	\$ 2,800.00
Monthly Meetings	3,500.00	3,292.00	3,400.00
Monthly Auctions	150.00	304.50	300.00
Spring Plant Auction	3,200.00	3,444.25	3,400.00
Tours	1,600.00	1,406.50	1,500.00
Christmas Party	1,800.00	1,863.00	2,000.00
MGCA Calendar Receipts	2,000.00	1,561.50	1,700.00
Interest Income	600.00	689.46	600.00
Gardeners Receipts	50.00	-0-	25.00
Gardening Lessons Books	825.00	363.00	350.00
Miscellaneous Income	50.00	79.66	50.00
INCOME TOTALS	\$16,875.00	\$15,617.87	\$16,125.00

EXPENSES

Dues to MGCA	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,090.00	\$ 1,170.00
Dues to Mn. Hort. Soc.	854.00	770.00	900.00
Garden Spray Expenses	1,100.00	935.07	1,000.00
Monthly Meeting	3,400.00	3,105.55	3,125.00
Monthly Auctions	50.00	90.26	100.00
Spring Plant Auction	2,000.00	2,091.16	2,025.00
Tour Expenses	1,500.00	1,225.49	1,300.00
Flower & Vegetable Show	400.00	319.60	300.00
Christmas Party	1,800.00	2,246.04	2,000.00
Directory Expenses	200.00	101.23	148.00
Memorials Expense	25.00	-0-	25.00
Remembrances	75.00	129.43	120.00
Honorariums	50.00	50.00	50.00
Arbor Day	250.00	232.00	250.00
Awards & Trophies	100.00	76.14	100.00
MGCA Life Membership	100.00	100.00	100.00
Nat'l Convention Delegates	600.00	600.00	600.00
Arboretum Project	350.00	350.00	350.00
Minn. Hort. Bldg. Project	150.00	150.00	150.00
MGCA Calendar Costs	1,700.00	1,302.00	1,375.00
Bank Charges	50.00	56.55	50.00
Gardeners Purchases	25.00	-0-	25.00
Gardening Lessons Book	796.00	517.94	762.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	100.00	66.64	100.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$16,875.00	\$15,605.10	\$16,125.00

NET GAIN FOR 1984.....\$12.17

NOTE

The fragrance garden's 1984 interest income was \$30.28.
The above account totals includes the fragrance garden so we need to subtract that \$30.28 from the \$12.77 to determine our regular activity loss. It is.....\$17.51

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 1984 SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT

(Editor's Note: The following is an abridgement of Duane Reynold's report at the January meeting. Many of the items, appropriately included in the report, have been covered earlier in the GARDEN SPRAY so have been condensed or omitted in this resumé.)

1984 marked the 42nd year in the history of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis. The secretaries minutes indicate the following events occurred:

We began the year with 131 members and ended with 126 members. New members include Glenn Olson, Kenneth Albers, Claus Johnson, Clayton Wilson, David Moehnke, Walter Gustafson and John England. Five members joined late in 1983 and had their memberships credited to 1984. They are Charles Thiehausen, Mike Ross, Larry Bagge, Dwight Stone and Herman Strachauer.

Our membership would be stronger, but during the year the following members passed away. Paul Denn, Sherm Pinkham, R. L. Smith, Herman Strachauer, Evald Johnson and Walter Quist - Charter Member.

Ten men had perfect attendance during 1984 and will be awarded the Green Thumb Award. They are: One Year--Charlie Jonas, Andy Marlow, Herb Nevy, Bob Churilla, Dale Durst, Bob Olson, Phil Peterson and Ed Culbert; Two Years--Vern Carlson; Five Years--Chet Groger.

Other awards earned during the year and presented tonight were: The Spade Award - for recruiting new members - to Jerry Shannon. The Rookie of the Year - to Duane Reynolds.



Groger
Five
Years



Shannon
Spade
Club



Reynolds
Rookie of
the Year

Four delegates attended the 1984 National Convention: Ed Culbert, Russ Smith, Bill Hull and Lloyd Nerburn. During the convention the following occurred: -MGCM was awarded the 1988 National Convention. -MGCM was awarded an Honors Club certificate for having a membership increase. -MGCM received a Certificate of Excellence for its club bulletin "The Garden Spray".

During 1984 the MGCM also received national recognition and was awarded the National Arbor Day Award for its replanting efforts near Lake Harriet Rose Garden.

The Arbor Day planting during 1984 was a 2" Imperial Locust at the Lake Harriet Garden Center.

Russ Smith replaced Sherm Pinkham as North Star Regional Director to MGC

Three tours were held during the year: The first, a tour of member gardens, was attended by 77 members and guests. The second, a tour of the Normandale Japanese Garden and member gardens, was attended by 46
(See SECRETARY p. 8)

MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS

COMMITTEES

- ARBOR DAY COMMITTEE - to select and arrange the planting of a tree on Arbor Day in the metropolitan area.
- AUDITING COMMITTEE - to annually audit the financial records of the club.
- AWARDS/TROPHY COMMITTEE - to establish criteria for awards/trophies, to have trophies engraved and to present them at appropriate events and designated Club meetings.
- CALENDAR COMMITTEE - to work with the membership in the sale and distribution of MGCA calendars.
- CHRISTMAS PARTY COMMITTEE - to plan and make arrangements for the Club's annual gala event, the Christmas Party.
- COMMUNITY (FRAGRANCE) GARDEN COMMITTEE - to plan and organize the planting and maintenance of the garden area and to supervise the actual work of planting and maintenance.
- EMERGENCY TELEPHONING COMMITTEE - to assist in notifying members in the event of an emergency, such as the death of a member.
- FLOWER AND VEGETABLE SHOW COMMITTEE - to plan, promote, supervise and make all necessary arrangements for the Club's summer show.
- GARDEN SPRAY COMMITTEE - to assist the Editor in publishing and distributing the monthly Club bulletin.
- HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE - to greet old and new members and guests at each meeting, to distribute and collect name tags, and to offer/arrange transportation for members with problems in this area.
- MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE - to promote and maintain Club membership, to assist new and prospective members at meetings and to induct new members into the Club.
- PHOTOGRAPHY COMMITTEE - to plan, promote and solicit photos of member's flower and vegetable gardens, landscape projects, decks and patios and other gardening interests. To conduct an annual MGCM slide competition with winners to be entered in the MGCA contest.
- PLANT AUCTION COMMITTEE - to plan and operate the annual spring sale, including the procurement of plant materials and selection of the site for the sale.
- RAFFLE COMMITTEE - to conduct raffles of plants and garden materials at monthly meetings.
- SHOW AND TELL COMMITTEE - to plan and supervise a table at monthly meetings where members may display and discuss their prize gardening items, house plants, flowers or vegetables.

- **SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS COMMITTEE** - to organize and promote special interest groups within the Club, each oriented to special plants or growing methods.
- **SUNSHINE COMMITTEE** - to keep in touch with members who are hospitalized or ill, to send appropriate get-well cards signed by members, and to send flowers or plants as directed.
- **TOUR COMMITTEE** - to select gardens for summer tours, to visit ahead of time gardens to be toured, and to arrange for meals and transportation for tours as necessary.
- **YOUTH GARDENING EDUCATION COMMITTEE** - to promote and supervise gardening among the youth of the community.

SECRETARY from p. 6
members. The final tour, again a tour of member and other notable gardens, was attended by 73 members and guests.

The auction gained the club over \$1,300.00 and was attended by over 140 members and guests.

DRIFT from p. 2
4-10% potash (K_2O). Wood ashes will add a minimum amount of P_2O_5 and K_2O to soils. However, the major contribution of wood ashes is in the form of calcium carbonate, which increases the need for more frequent monitoring of the soil pH.

- 8 -



Return to
THE GARDEN SPRAY of MGCM, INC.
Edwin C. Culbert, Editor
5315 Portland Avenue
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55417

MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.
CLUB OFFICERS:

President: Andrew Marlow
10700 Minnetonka Blvd., Minnetonka 55343
Vice-President: Robert G. Churilla
3725 Lincoln St. N. E., Columbia Hts. 55421
Secretary: Duane A. Reynolds
7116 - 39th Ave. N., New Hope 55427
Treasurer: George H. McCollough
8812 Tretbough Dr., Bloomington 55431
Past-President: Russell C. Smith
1610 Holdbridge Terrace, Wayzata 55391
DIRECTORS:

Robert C. Olson
2840 Glenhurst Ave., St. Louis Park 55416
Charles R. Proctor
5205 Grandview Lane, Edina 55436
Howard H. Berg
10107 Lakeview Dr., Minnetonka 55343
Stanley P. Van Vorst
2210 Edgecumbe Rd., St. Paul 55116



FIRST CLASS MAIL

To

MR. HOWARD H. BERG
10107 LAKEVIEW DRIVE
MINNETONKA, MN 55343