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

July 1981, Volume 38, Number 7

TIME FOR ACTION

Gentlemen, the opportunity again has come for the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis to be of valuable service to the community. A great horticultural tragedy has hit Minneapolis. The tornado of June 14th leveled one of the finest collections of mature tree specimens in the state. The giant Gingko that stood majestically by the Lake Harriet-Lyndale Gardens Rose Gardens has been destroyed along with the evergreen collection and the Crabapples which the club donated a few years ago. When the chain saws finish clearing the debris, there will be very few mature trees left in the park. Such a wonderful resource within the limits of the city should not be lost. It is time for us to give of our time, our service and our money to gain replacements for this park.

After a beginning spark from Ev Haedecke, I polled the Club board and received support from them as well as enthusiastic support from every club member I talked to about the club serving as a catalyst for a reforestation project. The Minneapolis Park Board is facing serious cutbacks in its budget and would not have any money for replacements for some of these trees. The park district lost a total of 2,000 street trees in the tornado which is a serious setback considering the amount of money already required to replace trees lost to Dutch elm disease.

We who live in Minneapolis and surrounding communities have often enjoyed the beauty of the area and will benefit from its restoration. To implement this ambitious program I have formed a committee of club members headed by a newer member, Lou Schultz. Lou has had recent experience in organizing such an endeavor when he was the chairman of the grounds committee of the Good Samaritan United Methodist Church in Edina. He purchased plants and organized work committees to undertake that ambitious project, and did a fine job of it. Dr. Leon Snyder has volunteered to help, as has Carl Holst who used to be head horticulturalist for the Minneapolis Park Board. Other members on the committee include Glenn Ray of the State Horticultural Society, Dwight Stone, Larry Corbett, Dick Stehly, Jim Fishbaugher, Carleton Nelson and myself. I consider every member of the Garden Club a member of this committee and hope everyone helps to contribute in one form or another.

To start the ball rolling our board must approve the allocation of seed money from our reserve fund. The membership will then be asked to make personal contributions. We will then solicit additional contributions from whatever sources we can. We will ask nurseries to donate materials, or at least give us the best deal they can on the materials. We will solicit (over)

money from businesses in the area and from the general public. This project can be our most significant contribution to our community since we helped start the University of Minnesota Arboretum.

Theodore Wirth planted the major part of the area well before 1940. I hope by the year 2020, and beyond, it will again look as it did only a few days ago. It is up to us now to make sure it does.

-- Ray Marshall

TREES LOST IN TORNADO IN LAKE HARRIET-LYNDALE GARDENS

TREES LOST IN TORNADO IN DAKE HARRIET-DINDAME GAMDENS
ROSE GARDEN SIDE OF ROSEWAY ROAD 2 25' Mugho Pine 2 50-60' Ash 1 60' Honeylocust 2 50-60' Elms 1 40' Gingko 1 50' Swiss Stone Pine 9 60' Blue Spruce 1 60' White Fir (broke in half) 5 60' Douglas Fir 2 Cottonwoods thinned out 1 30' White Cedar 1 White Spruce 2 50' Hackberries 1 Sugar Maple (1/2 dammaged) The River Birch and Cucumber Magnolias were significantly damaged.
CEMETERY SIDE OF ROSEWAY ROAD 2 15' Red Pine
RANDOM NOTES
Treasurer George McCollough reports the May auction figures as of June 19, 1981 were: Receipts Disbursements Net Sherman Pinkham and Ed. Culbert were our delegates to the MGCA convention in Austin, Texas. Sherm stayed over a day for a post-convention tour to San Antonio. Their report will appear in the August SPRAY.
OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON JULY 14, 1981. (Members and male guests only) ASSEMBLE AT NORMANDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE, 9700 France Avenue South. 5:30 Dinner and tour of the Japanese Garden. 6:30 Bus tour of gardens in the south area. (Leave your cars at the college.) SEND RESERVATIONS WITH CHECK (\$7.00 per person) TO FRED GLASOE. by Wednesday, July 8. No reservations or cancellations after July 10.
RESERVATION(S) FOR MGCM DINNER and TOUR TUESDAY EVENING JULY 14. Return this form with your check payable to MGCM to Fred Glasoe, 618 E. 58 Street, Minneapolis, MN. 55417
I plan to attend. Reserve places for me (\$7.00 each)
My check for \$ is enclosed.
Your signature

SHOW - SHOW - SHOW (It's all up to you, fellows)

As you know, the Annual Flower/Vegetable Show is only 7 weeks away. the flowers and vegetables you have been nurturing should be coming along in great shape. I trust many of you followed the suggestions Jerry Shannon made in his article in the April SPRAY. It is not too early to mentally earmark items you plan to enter in the competition.

Incidentally, so that you can give them special attention, I might tell you that the National Award this year will go for the best zinnia and cucumber entries.

Following this article are the rules for Youth Vegetable exhibition. you have not already done so, let's get a youngster interested in participating. Note the discrepancy between this and my article in the June SPRAY -- The top age is 18 rather than the 16 mentioned in June.

We are still looking for 50% participation. Do we make it this year? -- Charlie Proctor, Show Chairman

(All those listed in the 1981 club directory, P.S. for show committee. plus Darwin Price and Burton Deane)

There will be a meeting of the full committee to check that all functions are being attended to. It will be Monday, July 6 at 7:30 P.M. at my home, 4131 York Ave. S. If I don't hear from you, I will assume you will be there.

--Charlie

YOUTH VEGETABLE EXHIBITION AT MGCM 1981 GARDEN SHOW Minnesota Landscape Arboretum Saturday, August 22 and Sunday, August 23, 1981

Eligibility

All youths through the age of 18 who have grown vegetables in their own garden.

Two age brackets of competition:

- Through 12 years of age - 13 through 18 years of age

Sponsorship

Exhibitors must be sponsored by a member of the Men's Garden Club.

Awards

Ribbons for:

- All meritorious exhibits

- 10 Court of Honor exhibits (5 in each age bracket) - 2 Grand Champion exhibits (one in each age bracket)

- A \$10 gift certificate for each Grand Champion exhibit

Rules for Entry

Exhibits must be entered and registered at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, Chaska, from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Saturday, August 22 1) (continued over) Judging will begin at 11:30 a.m.

- 2) No exhibits may be removed until after 4:30 p.m., Sunday, August 23.
- 3) Identification of each competing entry will be by official registration tag upon which the name of the exhibitor will be concealed unt; after the judging.
- Each exhibitor will be required to fill out a registration and scoring sheet to be delivered to the clerk in charge.
- 5) Exhibitors are not limited in the number of entries as long as each entry is a different combination of three kinds of vegetables.
- 6) Exhibitors shall provide paper plates or other containers on which their entries are displayed.
- 7) All entries must be grown and prepared for display by the exhibitor.

Exhibits

All entries must be collections of three kinds of vegetables. They may be a combination of three of any of the kinds listed below with the required number of specimens for each as indicated for small, medium and large size vegetables.

Small vegetables - 12 specimens required

green beans

wax beans

lima beans

peas

radishes

any other small size vegetable

Medium size vegetables - 3 specimens required

beets carrots kohlrabi peppers onions

potatoes

sweet corn tomatoes

cucumbers parsnips summer squash any other medium size vegetable

Large size vegetables - 1 specimen required

broccoli

eggplant

pumpkin Swiss chard

winter squash watermelon

cabbage cauliflower muskmelon any other large size vegetable

Examples of eligible entries:

12 green beans, 3 tomatoes, 1 winter squash

3 potatoes, 3 tomatoes, 3 peppers 1 eggplant, 3 ears of sweet corn, 3 carrots

There is no limit to number of entries per exhibitor as long as they are different combinations of 3 kinds of vegetables.

Diana Denecke and Gloria Danielson of the Minnesota Herb Society planted the herb section of the Fragrance Garden on May 16. They finished their job. We didn't do as well.

Who left a hoe at the Community Garden? See Ray Marshall.

THINGS TO REMEMBER WHEN SELECTING AND PREPARING VEGETABLES FOR EXHIBIT:

Specimens should be uniform in every respect, especially in size, shape, color and maturity.

- Not small or oversize for the variety.

- Shape must be typical for the variety. - Color must be typical for the variety; must be bright and uniform. (Don't shine or wax)

- All vegetables should be at the same stage of maturity.

Proper grooming and trimming procedures tell you --

- Specimens should be clean.

Wash root crops.

Dip leafy vegetables in cool water.

Wipe some vegetables with a damp cloth.

Clean other vegetables with a soft bristled brush.

- Trim tops and tap root of root vegetables.

- Leave wrapper leaves on cabbage, husks on corn and scales on onions.

- Remove stems from tomatoes and muskmelons.

- Leave stems on beans, cucumbers, squash, pumpkins and watermelons.

- Exhibit Swiss chard and celery as one plant.

Your vegetables should be of edible maturity.

- Many reach their highest quality when young and immature (sometimes determined by size; sometimes determined by color; sometimes determined by texture.)

- Some vegetables should be fully mature.

Vegetables that have a longer shelf life are preferred for showing.

- Should be firm and not break down.

- Some lose quality quickly such as leafy greens and sweet corn.

- Should not be overripe, shrivelled or wilted.

- Care should be taken in handling specimens to avoid mechnical injury.

One final word --

- No insects should be present on specimens.

- Do not wrap specimens in transparent films to maintain quality.

- No specimens should be exhibited in water.

For additional information or instructions contact any member of the club or the show chairman, Charles Proctor at 926-9408.

NEW MEMBERS NOT IN DIRECTORY

699-1782 Raymond D: Campbell 776-8585 1095 Davern

Theodore L. Johnson 1855 Saunders Ave.

699-1725

55116 St: Paul. MN:

St. Paul, MN. 55116

881-8187 Leo J. Grebner 10204 Parkview Circle Bloomington, MN.

Richard L. Leming 5309 Hollywood Rd. Edina, MN: 55436 929-5317

473-1665 Daniel P. Jach 2640 Jewel Lane 377-8133 Plymouth, MN: 55447

IN MEMORIAM

1975 Photo

CLARENCE A. "JACK" PETERSON

"Jack" as he was known to almost all of us in the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, was born in Minneapolis on March 7, 1893 and departed this earthly life on June 4, 1981, having attained the age of 88. He had been in poor health the last couple of years and was not able to attend our Garden Club meetings. He and his wife lived at Friendship Village, 8100 Highwood Drive, in Bloomington. They moved from 18 East 49th Street in 1979.

Jack joined the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis in 1952. He was a faithful and active member and at one time, 1977, had had eleven consecutive years of perfect attendance. He was an even tempered and friendly man always using sound judgment.

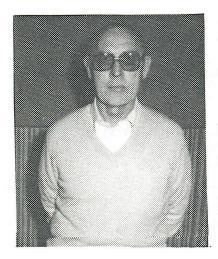
Roses were one of his favorite flowers and I was told that he used to raise some nice ones. The presence of the beautiful sprays of roses at the mortuary was also evidence of his love of roses. He also grew some vegetables. I know he raised Swedish Brown beans in his latter years of gardening for I gave him some information as to when to harvest them. My father used to raise quite a few on the farm in Wisconsin when I was young and I did not forget the harvesting.

Jack was a member of Temple Baptist church of Minneapolis all his life; also a member of the Ark Lodge and of the American Legion. He had his own insurance agency.

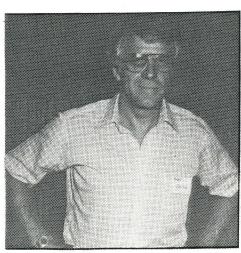
Jack is survived by his wife Jean, son Donald J., Dallas, Texas, four grandchildren, nieces and nephews. May the memory of Jack continue to be with us.

-- Evald Johnson

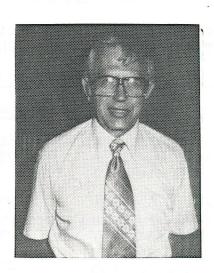
HAVE YOU MET THESE MEN WHO HAVE JOINED MGCM WITHIN THE PAST 12 MONTHS?



Carleton E. Nelson



Robert L. Smith



Daniel P. Jach

Sticking Cuttings

Placing prepared cuttings in the rooting medium is called sticking. factors will affect their chances of successful rooting. abrasion of the cuttings. This will assure that any root promoting hormones which may have been applied will not be rubbed off. It will also assure that Punching holes in the medium no mechanical damage is done to soft cuttings. with a pencil or a series of large nails driven through a piece of wood provides holes into which cuttings may be stuck. Commercially, a heavy knife is often used to make a slit which serves the same purpose. A second requirement is to firm the rooting medium around newly stuck cuttings. If they are stuck in straight rows cuttings can be tamped by hammering a strip of wood next to them. Use of hardwood lx2s works well for this purpose since they allow spacing of rows and guidance for making slits. These are best used in pairs, one each side of a freshly stuck row of cuttings. They should both be well hammered to assure thorough tamping. While the reason for this is not fully understood there seems to be better rooting when medium particles are tamped into intimate contact with cuttings. Following sticking and tamping a heavy watering will also help settle the medium around freshly stuck cuttings as well as providing available free water for them.

Air, water and light have great effect on the rooting of cuttings. Another element, perhaps the most important, temperature, will be discussed with management practices.

Along with providing oxygen and removal of waste gases, air provides the medium for transpirational water loss. Good air circulation around cuttings tends to minimize above medium fungus problems. Since transpirational water losses depend on the dampness of the air humidity of air around cuttings greatly effects their survival, vigor and rooting.

Water, pure water, is uniform and usable almost everywhere. Unfortunately the only pure water available to most of us is the distilled water purchased for use in steam irons. Rain water falls through thousands of feet of air which has the dust and waste produced by both nature and man. It picks up some but usually not objectionable amounts of contaminents. Surface water, that drains from lakes, streams, ponds, etc. may pick up agricultural and industrial chemicals, plant foods, naturally occurring minerals and soluble organic compounds. Even water from deep wells contains dissolved minerals. As a byproduct of our industrialized life style we are now having to worry about toxic chemical contamination of this ground water. City water is chlorinated to protect people from disease causing bacteria. Other processing often reduces its hardness and many states, including Minnesota, require its fluoridation to protect teeth. Fluorides (salts of fluorine) can be quite toxic to plants. On the plus side processing of public water supplies usually removes possibly harmful dissolved organic material in areas where they may be present.

Hardness of water is the presence of dissolved calcium, barium, magnesium and strontium salts. Since these materials form rather insoluble salts their contribution to total soluble salts is quite small. These salts are collectively called lime, in solid form limestone. Lime will tend to raise the pH of a medium over a period of time until it reaches about 7.5. Selection of a water source should be based on its purity and reliability. Commercial nurserymen often install multiple water sources with separate pumps to assure that no single failure will leave them without water pressure.

(continued)

Not much will be said about light except that moderate amounts permit softwood and evergreen hardwood cuttings to produce some food while they are rooting. Partial shade is sometimes provided to minimize solar heating. To confuse the issue we can note that etiolation (the growing of leafy shoots without light) seems to promote rooting in plants as diverse as clematis and willow. Note, however, that adequate supplies of stored food still promote rooting. It appears that root promoting chemical production or retardation of root inhibiting chemical production is favored by etiolation. Plants such as chrysanthemums which initiate flowering when the nights are long may be provided with artificial light periods in the night to break it into shorter dark periods. This prevents diversion of stored food to flowering and seems to control other life process which favor rooting by maintaining juvenility.

Rooting of cuttings under artificial lights is easy too. Those artificial light conditions which favor good plant growth are usually fine for rooting. Since it would be difficult to artifically produce harmful light intensities shading or light reduction is not needed. Artificial lighting fixtures can produce troublesome amounts of heat.

A California entomologist reports that insects have now developed resistance to 57 chemical compounds that once would have knocked them for a loop. A housefly, he finds, can absorb a dose of DDT that would have destroyed 50,000 of its kind a few years ago. These insects are a mutant of the pesticide age. Maybe the loss of DDT isn't so bad after all.

Return to
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To

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