



The Garden Spray

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

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

JULY 1989, Volume 47, Number 7



-FIRST GARDEN TOUR FOR 1989-

Wives, Sweethearts & Other Guests Invited

-PROGRAM-

Catered Dinner at Pershing Field Park Building
4801 Chowen Avenue South

Bus tour of MEMBERS gardens

-SPECIFICS-

Date: Tuesday July 11, 1989

Location: Meet at Pershing Park Building

Time: Dinner 5:30 P.M.--Return to parking
lot 9:00-9:30 P.M.

Price: \$8.50 per person

-BY RESERVATION ONLY-

Reservations must be received by July, 8, 1989

Automatic reservation list NOT in effect!!!

For reservation(s) for MGCM tour-meeting July 11, 1989
return this completed form to JOE STENGER at 5421 Girard
Avenue South, Minneapolis, Mn. 55419.

I plan to attend. Please reserve _____ place(s) for me
(\$8.50 each including Bus AND Dinner).

My Check for \$ _____ is enclosed.

Your Signature _____.

My Guests Will Be _____

Eighty-Eight Men Have Led Our Club from 1942 to Date.

	<u>President</u>	<u>Vice Pres</u>	<u>Secretary</u>	<u>Treasurer</u>
1942	T. Hughes	U. Smith	W. Addy	W. Addy
1943	U. Smith	E. White	W. Addy	W. Addy
1944	E. White	H. Kahlert	W. Menzel	A. Nyberg
1945	H. Kahlert	G. Cerney	H. Kaufmann	W. Menzel
1946	G. Cerney	W. Menzel	J. Christman	A. Nelson
1947	H. Kaufmann	H. Bishop	R. Dufourd	A. Flack
1948	S. Lund	W. Swain	R. Dufourd	C. Rice Jr.
1949	W. Swain	C. Rice Jr.	R. Dufourd	R. Sherman
1950	C. Rice Jr.	G. Germain	R. Dufourd	C. LaCrosse
1951	F. Paul	V. Lowrie	R. Dufourd	W. Brooks
1952	V. Lowrie	W. Brooks	R. Dufourd	C. Harkins
1953	R. Dufourd	A. Flack	C. Harkins	T. Hughes
1954	A. Flack	A. Koester	P. Young	O. Erickson
1955	J. Witmer	F. Heschmeyer	N. Christopherson	R. Adams
1956	G. Titus	A. Blackburn	N. Christopherson	W. Hull
1957	A. Koester	R. Adams	N. Christopherson	W. Hull
1958	W. Brooks	P. Young	N. Christopherson	W. Hull
1959	F. Young	W. Hull	D. Stone	E. Haedecke
1960	W. Hull	L. Johnson	D. Stone	E. Haedecke
1961	L. Johnson	N. Christopherson	D. Stone	E. Haedecke
1962	N. Christopherson	E. Haedecke	D. Stone	C. Proctor
1963	E. Haedecke	D. Stone	G. Christenson	C. Proctor
1964	D. Stone	P. Kroeger	G. Christenson	R. Smith
1965	C. Proctor	R. Smith	G. Christenson	S. Pinkham
1966	R. Smith	G. Christenson	S. Pinkham	F. Vixo
1967	F. Vixo	G. Christenson	P. Smith	N. Siegel
1968	G. Christenson	N. Siegel	E. Culbert	E. Johnson
1969	N. Siegel	P. Smith	E. Culbert	D. Johnson
1970	P. Smith	D. Johnson	R. Anderson	V. Roufs
1971	D. Johnson	R. Anderson	J. Lillibridge	C. Brisco
1972	R. Anderson	C. Holst	J. Lillibridge	C. Brisco
1973	C. Holst	H. Halvorson	R. Livingston	J. Perrin
1974	J. Perrin	R. Livingston	D. Wilson	C. Groger
1975	R. Livingston	D. Wilson	F. Glasoe	D. Schneider
1976	L. Snyder	F. Glasoe	J. Mielke	D. Schneider
1977	F. Glasoe	R. Hulbert	J. Mielke	R. Gage
1978	R. Hulbert	R. Gage	R. Victor	C. Robbins
1979	R. Gage	A. Caple	R. Victor	C. Robbins
1980	A. Caple	C. King	J. Shannon	G. McCollough
1981	R. Marshall	D. O'Donnell	J. Shannon	G. McCollough
1982	J. Shannon	C. Groger	K. Canine	G. McCollough
1983	C. Groger	K. Canine	A. Marlow	G. McCollough
1984	R. Smith	A. Marlow	M. Denesuk	G. McCollough
1985	A. Marlow	R. Churilla	D. Reynolds	G. McCollough
1986	R. Churilla	R. Olson	D. Reynolds	G. McCollough
1987	R. Olson	D. Reynolds	R. Bonlender	J. Stenger
1988	D. Reynolds	D. Johnson	R. Bonlender	J. Stenger
1989	D. Johnson	K. Petterson	G. Ackland	J. Stenger

Bill Hull, Historian
Revised February 1989

Notes from the President . . .

The musical note for the month of July is--Brilliante--
Bright sparkling--This is a bright month in gardening.
--Enjoy.

BE A DELEGATE TO THE NATIONAL CONVENTION IN PORTLAND.

At the June meeting Ed Culbert and Merle Pulley were elected delegates to the National Convention. Also representing our Club by virtue of the offices they hold will be Bill Hull and Russ Smith. There are openings for eight more delegates. There is \$600.00 in the budget for those attending⁴⁵ delegates. The money will be evenly divided between those going. If you plan to go, call Duane Johnson by July 6th. 824-0295.



MAY AUCTION A HUGE SUCCESS.

Joe Stenger reported at the June meeting that the profit from the auction was \$2,050.00. The success of this event is made possible by you the members. It's our biggest fund raiser. This event is just another example of how active our club is. Dave Johnson and his crew really helped us have fun getting our plants and raising money for projects for our Club. Thanks all.

MGCM JULY PERSON OF THE MONTH.

Year after year this active member contributes--making things happen for the Club. Do you realize that he has been running the plant auction for 20 years? Besides being co-chairman of the Membership Committee, he is also co-chairman of the Christmas Party. Recognizing DWIGHT STONE as MGCM July Person of the Month gives me much pleasure. Thanks Dwight for all your service to the Club.

THOUGHTS ON MY GARDEN.--Maybe your garden thoughts, too.

At this point in the year most of my garden is in place--or is it?

How did all that ground ivy get into my perwinkle? I can't have this all summer. I'll dig up the whole bed, and plant annuals. Now look at those Chinese Lanterns. I now understand the word invasive. Those plants pop up before I can get the bed cleaned up.

There's a snapdragon bed--all the same type--no mixed variety for me.--What's this--a bare space?--Have you ever tried to find Snapdragon Princess White with Purple Eye at the local nursery in the middle of June? Well I guess I'll just have to move a few plants around.--I hope there's not too much soil showing when they reach maturity.

The vinca bed needs two more packs because a few plants have expired. Having the packs home I realized that one pack had two tags, white and rose vinca. Well I have a 50-50 chance that it's the rose colored vinca I need. --I'll go for it.

Finding that I had a surplus of Lobelia with white eyes, I gave away what I thought was surplus. Well, one side of my planter box didn't have enough plants. What should I do? Again I didn't want to mix my white eye with just a blue.--I have an idea. I'll contact a member that grows lots of it. With his help my planter box is full and ready for presentation.

What are your frustrations at this time of the year? Share them with

(over)

other club members. You might find that you're not alone.

--Duane

THE JUNE MEETING

MGCM member Sid Nystrom led off with an informational talk on Swamps, Bogs and Fens. Interesting distinctions:

- Swamps though wet, always have some trees.
- Marshes, wetter, are low in nutrients.
- bogs are poor in nutrients and have a pH 3 or lower.

Carniverous plants such as sundew and pitcher plant will be found here.

• Fens are alkaline wetlands and are not commonly found in Minnesota though there is a 5 acre sized patch in the Minnesota river bottoms near NSP's Black Dog power plant. Sid constructed his tiny fen by lining a hole in the ground with first a layer of old carpeting and atop that a piece of butyl rubber sheeting of the type used on roofing jobs.

Reading reference:

Wetland Plants and Plant Communities in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

--Steve D. Eggers and Donald M. Reed.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul, Minnesota.

Plant source: (Catalog 35¢)

Orchid Gardens.

2232 - 139th Avenue N.W.

Andover, MN. 55304.

Jim Mattson, our main speaker, is manager of the Oliver Kelly Farm. He reviewed^{ed} of Oliver Kelly it's original owner. Kelly's farm now of 190 acres of which only 40 acres is farmed is maintained by the Minnesota Historical Society to reconstruct the life of Kelly's day and to provide a teaching situation. Mattson operates the farm by the methods and with the machinery of Kelly's day. For us he recaptured the past with slides made from pictures in the Historical Society's collections. He, likewise, showed some of his current operations and described a program he is developing with students at the Kenwood elementary school in Minneapolis.

Publications of interest cited were:

Field and Garden Vegetables of America.

Fearing Bury (2nd ed. 1865)

American Botanist (Reprint)

A History of Horticulture in America to 1860

U. P. Hedrick

Tudor Press (Reprint)

Garden Seed Inventory (A current publication)

Kent Whenley

Seed Saver Publications

MORE ON WOOD ASHES. To make daffodils shine with a giant blossom mix 1/2 cup Epsom Salts to 1/2 bushel wood ashes, sprinkle on top of ground where they are coming thru the soil.

Weather means more when you have a garden. There's nothing like listening to a shower and thinking how it is soaking in and around your lettuce and green beans.

A VISIT TO CHELSEA

Phil Smith

Wanda and I had a recent experience which we will always cherish--a visit to the CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW in London.

We were able to visit on the so-called Queen's Day, and therefore saw the show when few people were present and could photograph and view the numerous exhibits at our leisure.

CHELSEA is called the best flower show in the world, and we were certainly impressed. It is set up on the grounds of the Chelsea Royal Hospital, which is located on the Thames in central London, not far from Westminster. The Chelsea area of London is an expensive and desirable residential section for wealthier people. The hospital is a residence and nursing home for old soldiers, who wear very colorful uniforms. The show is a benefit for the Royal Horticultural Society and the Chelsea Royal Hospital.

The main portion of the show, where the floral exhibits are staged, is within a large tent area (called the Marquis), which covers several acres. Outside, numerous garden and patio exhibits are constructed, and there is another area for booths of the numerous seed companies, garden societies, and displays for all kinds of hort supplies, equipment, statuary, greenhouses, etc.

Exhibiting within the marquis and the outside gardens is by invitation only and only the best nurseries in Britain and some from the continent are invited to set up exhibits. Sale of product is prohibited, but the nurseries have their catalogs available. Invitations to exhibit are very prestigious and awards are presented for the best exhibits.

The show is held the last full week in May. Construction of the exhibits starts on the Friday before the show opens on Tuesday. Many of the exhibits include extensive construction, with large rock waterfalls, stone and brick walls, garden structures, gazebos, large evergreens and trees, paving materials, rock gardens, etc., all of which is completely removed when the show is over. I would estimate that many of the exhibitors spend well in excess of \$100,000.00 in constructing the displays.

Most of the exhibits are by private nurseries, although a few city or county park entities are invited. In England, many municipalities have extension garden budgets because of the popularity of horticulture and also perhaps to attract tourists

My friends in The Delphinium Society arranged passes to visit CHELSEA on Saturday while construction of the displays was in full progress. It was quite interesting to see this aspect and then the completed show.

We were also provided passes to the show for Monday, the last preparation day when the final touches are made in the morning for the Queen's visit at 4:00 p.m. This is also the day

when the displays are judged for awards, and the press and television people are there for filming, interviews and press coverage. The only other people present are the exhibitors who have a limited number of passes for their workers.

We were therefore able to move about freely on Monday and take time to view and photograph the displays as we wished. At 4:00 p.m. everyone must leave for the visit of the Queen, royal family and their guests.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, the show is open only to members of the Royal Horticultural Society, who must purchase special (and expensive) tickets far in advance. 45,000 tickets are sold for each R.H.S. day, so the show is very crowded. The public is permitted to buy tickets and see the show on Thursday and Friday, when there are hoards of people present. We were told that on all the visitor days, Tuesday through Friday, people are lined up many deep in front of all exhibits and it is very difficult to see the displays close up and almost impossible to photograph. The show ends on Friday and everything must be removed in three days, when the grounds are restored to the park-like setting.

The exhibits included every type of floral and garden subject one could imagine. Besides all of the usual floral specialties, there were various displays on bonsai, tropical flowers and shrubs, water plants, floral arranging, garden pools, and even two or three exhibits limited to carnivorous plants of many types. There were numerous exhibits on perennials, herbaceous plants and wild flowers.

The outside garden displays, many of which were constructed to represent picture-perfect home gardens of various types, were exquisite. We took numerous photographs, which have been very enjoyable as memories of this unique experience.

My trip to England was for professional reasons, which just happened to coincide with the CHELSEA show, which for us was quite fortunate. It was a very worthwhile professional and personal visit to England.

FRAGRANCE GARDEN

We had wonderful weather, plants donated by the park board and enough help to complete all our spring planting by 11:30 AM on May 20th. The following members were present--Reed Sonstegard, Chet Groger, Howard Berg, Bob Bacheller, Dale Durst, Phil Peterson, Merle Pulley, Jer Rothen, Bob Redmond, Joe Stenger, Tom C. Hanson, Duane Johnson, Eldon Hugelen, John Mondati, and Bob Livingston.

As of this writing, three weeks of summer maintenance have passed. Be sure to watch the calendar for your turn at maintenance if you signed up. Pass the garden on to the next week's gardeners in at least as good a shape as you received it.

--Kent Petterson, for the FIGS

There are approximately 25,000 species of orchids. Orchids are to be found on all continents except Antarctica.

TRILLIUM LAKE WILDFLOWER FARM
by Bob Smith

Trillium Lake Wildflower Farm near Hackensack, Minnesota is owned and operated by club member Doug Smith and his wife Dolores. We were close friends and associates at NSP for many years. I sponsored Doug when he joined our club in 1982. In 1986 he retired from NSP and moved up to Hackensack to pursue his gardening interests on a full time basis.

Last September I took a 1300 mile bike trip around Lake Superior that was filled with surprises and adventure. One of the surprises took place on the third day of the trip along the North Shore. As I stopped to see the falls at Gooseberry State Park and was checking the air pressure in my bike tires I happened to look up and there behind me were Doug and Dolores Smith. We had quite a reunion. It was the first time we had seen each other since his retirement in 1986.

His first remarks were, "How come you haven't been up to see me in Hackensack? I've invited you up to ski, deer hunt, fish and see my gardens and you haven't come yet. In fact no one from the garden club has been up to see our place." Right then the thought came to my mind that an article on Trillium Lake Wildflower Farm should be written for the SPRAY. It came again when the 1989 roster was published and Doug's name did not appear because of a mix-up in his membership renewal.

I have corresponded with Doug and received information about his wildflower farm and I plan to visit him this fall. The Smiths would welcome visits by all of the club members. Jerry and Lee Shannon were up to visit in early spring and plan to return and do some fishing this summer.

Doug and Dolores have 40 acres of land of which 36 acres is wooded with aspen, birch, oak, maple, ash, tamarack, balsam and 1500 pine seedlings recently planted. The other 4 acres is homestead with 500 feet of shoreline on Trillium Lake. The original owners started the farm in 1973 but with the death of the owner it had become neglected.

There are a number of gardens and Doug is developing more including a rock garden. The main garden 50' x 100' contains lady slippers, bluebells, primroses, Jacobs ladder, etc. The main attraction is the Showy Lady Slippers which are divided into about 80 plants each year and sold down to 35 plants. Other gardens contain roses, annuals, perennials, hostas, ferns, ornamental grasses and ground covers. Dolores has become the wildflower lady and Doug is Jack of all trades branching out into fruit trees, grapes, berries and vegetables. Deer brounsing has necessitated the installation of an electric fence which Doug hopes will do the job.

A one acre pond supplies water for the gardens. Because of the heavy clay soil Doug has a large compost operation going utilizing leaves, pine needles and meadow grass. As with all of us retired people Doug is having a great time enjoying his gardens and many other activities which include skiing, running, biking, hiking and loafing. Doug and Dolores are both active in the local United Congregational church and in other community activities.

Stop in to see them when you are up that way or, better still, make a special trip up there. It is a beautiful area of the state with much to see and do.

Doug and Dolores Smith
RR #1. Box 109

They live 6 miles east of
Hackensack on County Rd. 46.

PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE PROGRAM, MN DNR
(From Friends of Minnesota Valley newsletter)

The Minnesota Valley is one of many aquatic sites throughout Minnesota and North America that have been invaded by the exotic plant purple loosestrife. This European import, also known as *Lythrum salicaria*, can be found in several locations in the Minnesota River floodplain.

Once established, the insidious loosestrife plants displace native plants, disrupting the entire ecological balance of the habitat it invades. Cattails, sedges, waterfowl, and muskrats are among the species that can be replaced or reduced in areas invaded by loosestrife....

Three elements are necessary to combat the spread of purple loosestrife in the Minnesota Valley. First, information about new and existing populations along the river are necessary before any control work can be arranged. Second, financial resources must be available to both the state and federal managers in order to contract for the expensive loosestrife control work. And third, the technology to control the loosestrife must be available.

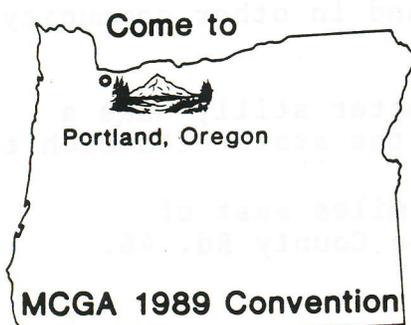
Minnesota is currently the national leader in developing control technology. The Legislative Commission on Minnesota's Resources (LCMR) voted during the summer of 1988 to fund \$200,000 for purple loosestrife research over the next 2 years. This is an important development that will enable the Purple Loosestrife Program to develop longterm control strategies and look into use of European insects as a biological control agent in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Return to
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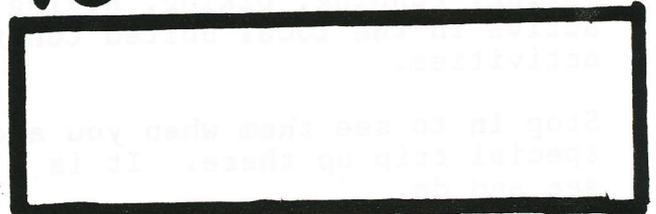
MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.
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August 16-19 1989

To



Attention Postmaster:
Dated Material. Please do not delay.