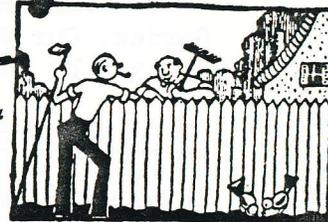




The Garden Spray

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

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



June 1986, Volume 44, Number 6

NEXT MGCM MEETING

TUESDAY EVENING JUNE 10th, 1986

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

DINNER 6:00 P.M. NEW PRICE \$6.00

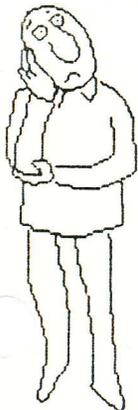
Topic: "THE MOSQUITO PROBLEM IN THE METROPOLITAN AREA

Ross Green
Public Information Officer
for Metropolitan Mosquito Control District

Ross Green is a 20 year veteran of the Metro Mosquito Control District's war on the mosquitoes. He started in the "trenches" as a field worker trying to control breeding sites and has worked in almost every position in the Agency's field crew at one time or another.

He will discuss the "Biology of the Mosquito", the methods used to control the mosquito population and the cost of control. He will give a slide presentation to graphically show the methods used in the 7 county area to fight the pest and the diseases carried by this insect.

Mr. Green will describe the innovative techniques developed by our local officials as well as the adaptation of computers for controlling mosquitoes.



This man did not enter last year's Flower and Vegetable Show. He's wondering how he might have done.

This man did enter for the first time last year. He won a ribbon or two and is looking forward to this year's show August 16 and 17 at the Landscape Arboretum. Don't wonder how you might have done. Plan now to enter.



COMMUNITY FRAGRANCE GARDEN
(19th & Aldrich Avenue, South)
(M-i-n-n-e-a-p-o-l-i-s, M-i-n-n.)

MEMBERS - Its that time for maintenance on the Fragrance Garden. Our Weekly Maintenance Schedule for the Summer and Fall of 1986 by members is as follows:

<u>MEMBERS</u>	<u>WEEK OF</u>
Joseph L. Stenger & Duane Reynolds	June 1 ----- June 7, 1986
Russell Smith & Stan Crist	June 8 ----- June 14, 1986
Vinton Bouslough & Archie Caple	June 15 ---- June 21, 1986
Carl Johnson & Henry Halvorson	June 22 ---- June 28, 1986
Nate Siegel & Charlie Proctor	June 29 ---- July 5, 1986
Duane Johnson & Dennis Johnson	July 6 ----- July 12, 1986
Reuben Magrum & Gary Magrum	July 13 ----- July 19, 1986
Glenn Bartsch & Albert Miller	July 20 ---- July 26, 1986
Phil Peterson & Ed Culbert	July 27 ---- August 2, 1986
Larry Bagge & Leo Grebner	August 3 --- August 9, 1986
Dave Moehnke & Lloyd Nerburn	August 10 -- August 16, 1986
Chet Groger & Lloyd Wittstock	August 17 -- August 23, 1986
Dwight Stone & Phil Smith	August 24 -- August 30, 1986
Carlton Nelson & Herbert Neby	August 31 -- September 6, 1986
Jerry Shannon & John Weeks	September 7 - September 13, 1986
Howard Berg & Russ Backes	September 14 - September 20, 1986
Glenn Olson & Charles Jonas	September 21 - September 27, 1986

ALTERNATES

Andy Marlow (933-5759).....Stan Van Vorst (690-4738).....
 Ray Weisberg (377-2780).....Neal F. Whitfield (935-2449).....
 James Tuff (881-0830).....Richard Tepley (926-6944).....
 (Alternates-Your help at any time would be appreciated)

1. Most important is watering.
2. Bring a Spray Nozzle and Sprinkler. A Hose is at the Garden.
3. Bring your own Tools, a Hoe, Rake, Shovel, etc.
4. Remove all weeds and Debris. Bring a Plastic Bag for such.
5. Check for over all Grooming.
6. Lawn mowing is handled by the Society of the Blind. However they do not water.

In October 1986 a complete clean-up will be made after heavy frost.
 A Date will be set for this later, for this clean-up.

MEMBERS -- If you are unable to work on your specified week, it is your responsibility to exchange with another member, or find a substitute.

WE WANT TO DO OUR BEST TO MAKE OUR CLUB PROUD OF THE GARDEN

HAPPY GARDENING----- Joseph L. Stenger (822-5305)
 Committee Chairman



BIG BOB'S CORNER

Oh! Look at those Geraniums, those hanging baskets of Begonias, Impatiens, those lovely Marigolds, the size of those Snap Dragons. Aren't they wonderful? Gosh, what wonderful plants. Let's get the auction going. These were some of the comments heard at the Plant Auction and Sales. Yes!

Dave Johnson and his committee did an outstanding job on gathering this fine material for the Auction. Their long hours of hard work paid off. The quality of plants made it a lot easier to auction and obtain a fair price. Our number one auctioneer, Dwight Stone, did not have to take a break; he made it thru the night. Thank you Mr. Stone for a job well done. Dave, what can I say to you and your crew of workers, but "Thank You" for a job well done.

I know that a lot of others helped out this day and night and I want to say "Thank You" to all that helped make this auction a big hit.

A lot of you may be wondering what happened to the plants that were left over. Duane Reynolds took some of them to Bandana Square for Horticultural Awareness Days. Boy! what a shopping center, a restored railroad shop. It was interesting just walking around and looking at all of the railroad pictures they had about the center. To walk into a small shop that greeted you with a friendly smile; to listen to the different pitches you received when you stopped to look at a plant or thing. Those of you who had to work there, I hope you brought the wife along to do some shopping. My wife was with me and I do believe that she visited each shop. Oh yes! we even met a relative of Ed Culbert there. She said to say "Hi" to Ed from Susan Vogel Johnson. So, "Hi Ed". Again I must say "Thank You" to Duane Reynolds and his committee for another job well done.

Before I forget I would like to say a few words about a man, his wife and his family. This man stands tall no matter where he is. On the night of our auction he stood tall while turning over the chicken or while washing dishes, or... Right along with him was his wife and his family. Yes, I would like to say "Thank You" to Carleton Nelson, his wife Beth, and his family, for putting on a wonderful dinner at the auction.

By now most of us have our gardens planted and are just waiting for everything to start to grow. Those of us that found time to get our cold crops in should be at the point of harvesting them. I know that the rhubarb is ripe, my wife made rhubarb cake and sauce yesterday. By now many of us are picking radishes, peas, lettuce etc. Lets hear how they turned out with all of this rain.

TIP OF THE MONTH:

If you add undecomposed mulch to your soil, it will cause a temporary shortage of nitrogen in the soil. The nitrogen is still in the soil, but the bacteria and fungi present that are busy rotting the mulch will be consuming the nitrogen. Once the mulch is decomposed, the soil organisms will die and the nitrogen held in their bodies will be released to the soil. In the meantime there won't be enough nitrogen in the soil for the plants to use. Therefore a supplement of nitrogen is needed in your garden when you turn the mulch under. One can use a tablespoon of ammonium nitrate to a gallon of water for every square yard that you mulch.

The bold among us are represented by pinks, while hydrangeas represent the boastful.

MGCA PLANTS THREE TREES ON ARBOR DAY

Two groups of men assembled at 10 AM on April 26 at Lyndale Park. Mary Lerman of the Parks Department riding a small pick-up dragging a cart brought a Showy mountain ash to the first group (Phil Peterson, Andy Marlow, Joe Stenger, Vinton Bouslough, Ed Culbert and Burton Deane) on the hillside near the lilacs.

The second group (Jerry Shannon, Bob Churilla, Dave Moehnke, George McCollough, and Duane Johnson) met on Roseway across from the rock garden. To them Mary delivered a Japanese tree lilac to plant in the hole they were digging.

After learning, belatedly, that one doesn't remove the metal basket from around a balled and burlapped tree Bouslough and Culbert defected from group one and set about digging a planting hole adjacent to a clump of evergreens. Moehnke finding not enough to do where he was, deserted and brought his long handled shovel to help Bouslough and Culbert who by now had received a Fraser fir to set out. When the hole finally got down to Moehnke's Burnsville soil level (clay) that tree, too, was rolled in.

The planting completed the three groups assembled and with Ed McCoy were led by Mary Lerman on a guided tour of the tree plantings in the area and of the rock garden. We were surprised to learn that several of the less common small trees had been secured from Wayside Gardens no closer source having been found.

The next time you visit the area look for one 67 dollar 5' Fraser fir, one 97 dollar 2" caliper Japanese tree lilac and one 88 dollar 2" caliper Showy mountain ash paid for by MGCM as George McCollough should be able to attest since Shannon presented him with the bill immediately following planting.

THE PLANT AUCTION

Again the auction was a success. Aisles at the Farmer's Market were congested as usual and a lot of plants were sold prior to the dinner put on by Carleton Nelson and aides (Bread 3 kinds, baked beans, potato salad, scalloped corn, barbequed chicken, chocolate frosted cake and coffee).

Plants to be auctioned made a beautiful floral carpet and background at one end of the room where we ate.

Following dinner after tables were removed and while auction items were being readied Bill Hull introduced his two mystery men--Roger Anderson and Claus Johnson.

Then auctioneer Dwight Stone with his cashier and record keepers took over. The first items sold (at from \$3 and \$20 each) came from the arboretum. Each was described by Dr. Snyder.

After them came annuals, perennials, hanging baskets, etc. Sample prices: Double flowered fibrous rooted begonia plants \$2.50 each. Flats of ageratum, \$18.00 each. Flats of alyssum \$22.00 each. Flats of impatiens, \$15.00 each. Tree geraniums \$27.00. Hanging baskets, \$20.00. Phil Smith was lucky he brought Wanda. She won two major raffle prizes in succession the second being a hanging basket.

YOUR FRIEND, MY FRIEND, OUR FRIEND, DICK LEHMAN



Edgar C. Lehman and
The Lehman Trophy

Nationally known chrysanthemum varieties which Dick Lehman hybridized come to mind when one remembers this very important citizen of the garden world. Dick also made significant introductions of new clematis. Thousands of midwest gardeners seeking the best of fall color possibilities made annual pilgrimages to Faribault, Minnesota, to visit Dick's outstanding chrysanthemum nursery. Each year he sent out thousands of catalogs with perfect descriptions and cultural information featuring, for the first time in our northern climate, chrysanthemum varieties that would actually withstand and survive hostile winters. If you made a personal trip to the nursery to pick up your plants, you received free and expert advice from a very caring man who wanted to be sure that his new spring rooted cuttings would be cared for in the very best style.

Dick worked at his nursery greenhouses, but he also loved to be up on the hill at his home greenhouse, where he grew exceptional orchids. He could get more bloom out of a hard-to-bloom cymbidium in one year than most people did in five. He freely gave these away or donated them to our Minneapolis Men's Garden Club auctions.

His interest in gardening and in fellow gardeners was so apparent in his monthly trips from Faribault to Minneapolis on the second Tuesday of each month to attend the monthly meetings of the Minneapolis Men's Garden Club. He loved being with his old garden club friends, and all of us enjoyed him as much or more than he enjoyed being with us. As Ed Culbert said, "He seemed like an old friend from the very day in 1950 when he joined us. He had that quality about him."

Winter storms did not keep him from attending meetings regularly, and all of us were delighted for his companionship and grateful for his predictable arrival at our meetings. We will remember Dick as a very effective, forthright club member. He did far more than his share, contributing materials, time and his vast knowledge of the plant world to members at every meeting. Dick was loaded with knowledge of the garden world and he freely dispensed his know-how to all of us.

Many attributes, many qualifications were cited when, in 1982, Dick was made an honorary member of our club. The final statement perhaps best of all expresses our feeling: "Yet, Dick's most outstanding quality is his friendliness and genuine interest in people, gardens in particular, and the fellowship imparted to our club over the years through his association with us". Indeed, he made us rich as gardeners. We will miss him greatly.

--Fred Glasoe

In an article to appear in the July SPRAY member Jack Kolb tells us lime is not needed for our soil and why. Remember Dick Lehman's warning not to use lime with clematis?

The tuberose, with its spikes of white flowers and heady scent, suggests dangerous pleasures.

SEED LONGEVITY
by L. W. Corbett

How do you tell? There is no way of knowing except by testing. There are a number of factors you have no control over. Seeds like wine have vintage years and years that are not so good. A rain or wet spell at harvest time can ruin germination. Insects and diseases can weaken the plants and the resulting seed harvest may be of weakened germination; so, a great deal depends on how strong your seed is in the beginning as to how long it will maintain its vigor.

Certain seeds are known to hold their germination much longer than other seeds. Tomato seeds are often good for ten to twelve years. Seeds with high oil content such as radish, mustard, cabbage and rutabaga should carry four to five years.

Beans are a problem item mainly because they dry out and become brittle. Look at the structure of a bean seed. Two large cotyledons attached with a small connection that is easily broken or cracked. If broken you get no germination and if cracked you get what is called a "ballhead" and a very weak plant will develop that will have a low yield. Beans must be handled carefully. Most seeds are Dicots like beans but the cotyledons are much smaller.

Sweet corn is different, it is a Monocot (one cotyledon) but the germ or growing point is not well protected and germination is reduced by rough handling. Under today's methods of handling sweet corn seed should carry three to four years while twenty years ago the germination would be gone in one year.

Some of the poorest vegetable seeds to try to carry over are, pepper, eggplant, parsnip and salsify. It appears that the thin papery seeds with little body or meat carry the poorest.

Flower seeds are usually much smaller than most vegetable seeds and they do not carry as well. Two of the worst examples are Larkspur and Delphinium. They are usually gone after one year. The general run of flower seed is good for two to three years. Many flower seeds are so close to the wild form that they do not germinate uniformly or all at one time. (Nature's way of protecting the species.) The new hybrids are overcoming this factor.

We have learned a lot about seeds in the past twenty five to thirty years. The greatest detriment is the moisture content of the seed. We have learned to dry seed to below five percent moisture as we do sweet corn and if we seal it in an airtight container it will germinate for many years. Temperature is not as important as moisture content. Most seeds are dried well enough to store. Put your extra seed in air tight containers and store in a cool dry place. If the moisture content is low enough light freezing will not hurt. If the moisture content is much above eight percent heat can be very damaging. The only way to be sure is to test carry over seed.

START GETTING READY

Make a note of what is growing well in your garden now. Plan to have it in your garden next year and at convention time July 3, 4, 5, 6, 1988 for cutting and for show.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE PROGRESS

To let you know some of the developments by the 1988 MGCA Minneapolis convention committee.

The committee has been working through its sub-committees and making progress. We are emphasizing growth in our Subsidy Fund through our Garden-Oriented Flea Market May 23-24 (credit R. Smith), our Horticulture Awareness Week booth in Bandana Square in May (credit Shannon), Chet Groger's showing of MGCA slide presentations, our May Auction, and our monthly auction activities. We are now over \$500 in this fund.

We have developed and approved our first formal program of events - a rather detailed schedule subject to many changes in the future. Necessary, though, to give us a starting place for cost accounting. Credit Culbert/Groger.

We have approved our first budget. Still in the very rough stage and subject to many future variations. Currently looks like a minimum registration fee of \$127 but it's an early and optimistic figure. Credit Proctor/Vixo. Many more details to work out.

We are working on a slide presentation, as you know, to be given at the Albany, NY MGCA convention this July. Credit Catron/Shannon and others.

Women's activities committee will now be able to start meeting, since we have a roughed-out program and budget. (Credit Carol Hull and others.)

In general, we feel we are making progress. We are aware that there are many decisions still to be made and much work to do - and are at the stage where we are making notes and investigating possibilities. I personally thank Messrs. Churilla, Culbert, Gage, Groger, Marlow, Proctor, Shannon, Smith, and Vixo for the great efforts they are expending in behalf of all of us.

Bill Hull, General Chairman

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

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"?
Do you ever go to visit
A member who is sick,

Or leave the work for just a few
And talk about the clique?
There is quite a program scheduled
That means success, if done,
And it can be accomplished
With the help of everyone.
So attend the meetings regular
And help with hand and heart,
Don't be just a member
But take an active part.
Think this over member,
Are we right or wrong?
Are you an active member?
Or--do you just belong?

--Author Unknown

OTHER MGC

The Watchung Hills, New Jersey club sells geraniums for its annual fundraiser. Their goal of 350 dozen averages out to 7 dozen pots per member.

In April 1986 the group sponsored an adult education class at the Watchung Hills High School on four consecutive Wednesday evenings. Members of the club did the teaching on various garden topics.

The Spokane, Washington club has a jackpot drawing each month. If your name is drawn and you are not present the money goes back into the jackpot. Apparently, only loose change goes into the jackpot for it was noted that one chap "won the \$12.28 jackpot and turned it in on his 1986 dues".

The Mansfield, Ohio MGC gives a garden book to Kingswood Garden Center in memory of a deceased club member.

HOW TRUE Serving as club President is no simple assignment. It requires much time, dozens of phone calls, much double checking to see if someone came through as promised and relying upon a few "old faithfuls" to help out in a pinch. Much of the success of our club is due to a good group of men on the board of directors who are not afraid to help out when asked.
--The GREENHORN, Mansfield Ohio MGC

There are men in our community who can benefit from being a member of Men's Garden Club. They are not going to come on their own; you must invite them. Bring one as your guest; introduce him to others who are excited about club activities. Excitement is what will keep these men coming back.

Every Member Sponsors A New Member



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: Robert G. Churilla
3725 Lincoln St. N.E., Columbia Hgts. 55421
Vice-President: Robert C. Olson
2840 Glenhurst Ave., St. Louis Park 55416
Secretary: Duane A. Reynolds
7116 - 39th Ave. N., New Hope 55427
Treasurer: George H. McCollough
8812 Tretbough Dr., Bloomington 55431
Past-President: Andrew Marlow
10700 Minnetonka Blvd., Minnetonka 55343

DIRECTORS:

Howard H. Berg
10107 Lakeview Dr., Minnetonka 55343
David O. Moehnke
2400E. 125 St., Burnsville 55337
Charles R. Proctor
5205 Grandview Lane, Edina 55436
Joseph L. Stenger
5421 Girard Ave. S., Minneapolis 55417

FIRST CLASS

To

Mr. Howard H. Berg
10107 Lakeview Drive
Minnetonka, MN 55343