



THE DAYTON-BACHMAN SHOW

Come! Join us at MGCM's March meeting, Tuesday
March 22nd at 6:00 P.M. on Dayton's 12th Floor.
Dinner \$12.00. Bring your wife and friends.

SPEAKER: C. COLSTON BURRELL
TOPIC: THE COWLES CONSERVATORY and
THE MINNEAPOLIS SCULPTURE GARDEN

Mr. Burrell is curator of the plant collection at
the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. He is a former
curator of the native plant collection at the
National Arboretum in Washington, D.C.

The Minneapolis Sculpture Garden is a cooperative
project involving the Park Board, the
Walker Art Center and the Arboretum. Mr
Burrell's major involvement is with the
Cowles Conservatory. He will tell us
about recent plans for the conservatory.

The Dayton-Bachman Flower Show's theme
will be The Minneapolis Sculpture Garden
We will tour the show after Colston
Burrell's talk.

RESERVATION(S) FOR MGCM MEETING 6:00 PM TUESDAY EVENING MARCH 22.
Return this form by March 18th with your check payable to MGCM to
Joseph Stenger, 5421 Girard Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN. 55419

I plan to attend. Reserve _____ places for me (\$12.00 each)

My check for \$ _____ is enclosed.

Signature _____

My guest(s) will be _____

1911

HAROLD "HAL" S. McINTYRE

1988

Hal McIntyre, a member of the Men's Garden Club since 1986, died January 30. Burial was at Lakewood Cemetery on February 2.

A versatile man, Hal had a dance band during his years at the University of Minnesota. After graduation the group continued and for years played at the Minneapolis Athletic Club, the St. Paul Athletic Club, the Lowry and Nicollet Hotels.

Hal became an agent for the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company in 1939. He earned a C. L. U. and became a Life Member of its Million Dollar Round Table (an industry achievement).

A man of many hobbies, Hal became a gardener after retirement planting hundreds of tulips and experimenting with almost anything the seed catalogs had to offer. He was a willing helper at the Community Fragrance Garden and at the auction. His membership in MGCM was important and rewarding to him in exchanging ideas and making new friends.

A NOTEWORTHY GARDENER

Occasionally, each of us has a chance to meet someone who makes a lasting impression on us. Some famous and some not so famous people become special to us through brief, even chance meetings.

My wife, Abby, and I had a chance to meet Max Paulson this summer. Max is a gardener. Max is also 94 years old, the oldest resident of Brooklin, a small coastal town in Maine.

We had been assured that Max loved visitors. Since we were traveling and had only sketchy directions to his home, we dropped in unannounced and found Max working in his garden--of course. Max doesn't have any grass in his yard. Just flowers. Lots and lots of flowers. Growing in his yard are 6000 tulip bulbs, 2000 gladiola bulbs, uncounted irises, peonies, amaryllises, dahlias, feverfew, zinnias, daisies and lilies.

Max waved and greeted warmly his drop-in visitors. We were treated to an impromptu tour with a bit of personal philosophy. Max believes in work. In doing it himself. In giving of himself through his flowers. "My belief", he says, "is that flowers are for the living to look at. The dead people can't see them, so I don't put them in the cemetery." He does put them in churches, post offices and wherever he can for people to enjoy.

Max is somewhat of a folk character among local residents, appearing on radio shows and dispensing gardening wisdom to all who care to listen. Max presented us with his "business card" indicating he was a "master advisor to anyone", "no money, no prospects, no business and no worries."

Well, in short Max Paulson is a special person. Special for his vigor, special for his generous sharing, and special for his garden.

--Kent Petterson

WE WELCOME NEW MEMBER

William A. Kanduth
5510 Regent Ave. N., Crystal, MN. 55429

533-6510

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It has been a policy for many years, that if a meal reservation is made and not cancelled, the member would be expected to pay for the missed meal. One way around this policy is to come to the meeting and inquire if additional meals are available, or call Tuesday and cancel, which I imagine is within the guideline.



Here's why it's important to give ample notice.

The last time meal charges were increased, the board was sensitive to the amount. The club needed to spend enough for a decent meal, plus the church's charge of 50\$ per night, but not overprice the meal.

Thank God Agnes is back, because the "decent meal" problem is solved. Agnes likes to shop for food Sunday morning, so she likes the meal count Saturday night. The number we give her is the minimum we pay for. If we tell her 60 meals and 50 men show up, the club pays Agnes for 60, because that is what we agreed to. If we make arrangements for 50 meals, we can only accomodate 10% more.

Our club has over 100 members, 60-70 regularly attend and the more that attend the better for our club. We can meet new members and share ideas. I look forward to seeing the men at the meetings, so the last thing I want is to discourage attendance.

In the future please remember 3 things:

1. Call the secretary by Saturday. to make a reservation or cancellation.
2. If you miss, pay for the missed meal.
3. If you want to take a chance, and just show up, don't be suprised if we cannot accomodate.

I need your input on the Christmas party. Where does the membership want the party? This year we can return to the church basement or continue at Augsburg.

(Continued on page 4)

**MGCA CONVENTIONS AHEAD--PLAN TO WORK ON--ATTEND,
Minneapolis, Minnesota July 3, 4, 5, 6, 1988**

SPECIFIC PLACES YOU AND YOUR WIFE CAN WORK AT CONVENTION TIME:

PLEASE CALL THE CHAIRPERSONS INDICATED IF YOU ARE WILLING TO HELP
IN THESE AREAS:

Turkey carver at banquet. (Dwight Stone)
Registration desk shift. (Charlie Proctor)
Sign maker/letterer. (Russ Smith)
Grow cut flowers for use at hotel. (Donal O'Donnell)
Arranging, distributing floral arrangements. (Donal O'Donnell)
Ushers/Greeters at Church Memorial Service (Bill Hull)
Greeters at airport, hotel, etc. (Walt Gustafson)
Sell MGCA jackets, shirts, caps. (Bill Hull)
Bus hosts on tour buses (Bob Olson)
Room chairpersons for seminars. (Lloyd Bachman)
Gopher/go-getter/fetcher. (Call anybody) Cookie bakers and coffee
makers. (Walt Gustafson)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (continued)

AUGSBURG

- seating capacity for over 200
- Augsburg does all the catering and set up - decorations, trees, clean up, etc.
- They cannot accomodate the Parade of Turkeys.

CHURCH

- We need a minimum of 10 volunteers for $\frac{1}{2}$ to a full day. The club does all the set up and decorations.
- limited to 200 people.
- Because of the 1987 flood the tables are smaller, they seat 6-8. Which means we have 25-30 tables, and need 25-30 carvers for the Parade of Turkeys, or double up the tables, 2 tables for 1 carver.

Let me know your choice. Mail the form to me or Joe Stenger in your Dayton-Bachman reservation.

I vote for the church _____

I vote for Augsburg _____

I want the Parade of Turkeys _____

MARY KEEPERS TO ENTERTAIN LADIES AT CONVENTION

In addition to an airconditioned bus tour of the Twin Cities - just for ladies - on the first day of the convention - the Ladies Activities committee has just confirmed scheduling entertainer Mary Keepers for Tuesday morning, July 5, while the men are attending different seminars.

This is a highlight event. Ms. Keepers will present "Broadway Lady" which is a humorous, yet thoughtful account of women's place in musical theatre history. Starting with "No, No, Nanette" in 1904 to the present, this charming journey features music by George Gershwin, Rogers & Hammerstein, Andrew Lloyd Webber, Jerry Herman, Kander & Ebb, Stephen Sandheim, and many more. You'll hear the familiar and the not-so-familiar.

Another description might be "the evolution of women as seen by musical comedy" by Ms. Keepers and her accompanist, Beth Anderson, an accomplished pianist in classical as well as popular music. Both ladies are Twin Cities residents.

Some of the ladies on the committee have seen and heard Mary Keepers perform and were so excited that they arranged for her to entertain our lady guests at convention time. Of course a few men might slip in too, just as a few ladies might slip into the seminars.

Keepers has performed professionally in all areas of entertainment, from legitimate theatre to TV and radio commercials; from concert to cabaret. Her credits include nightclubs, theatres, and numerous private parties in several states. Some of her favorite roles are: Fanny Brice in "Funny Girl", Eve/Barbara/Passionella in "The Apple Tree", Molly in "Oh, Lady Lady", Meg in "Brigadoon", Hodel in "Fiddler on the Roof", The Fly in "Happy End", and Maria in "The Sound of Music". We know you will enjoy seeing and hearing Mary Keepers.

Actually, ladies may go to any of the meeting of the men; there are no "men only" activities but there are special events as options for the ladies.

On the last day, ladies have many options. They can participate in seminars with the men, can shop in adjacent downtown, or go by private cars to places they went by on Monday's tour...such as Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Bachman's, Byerly's, Hill mansion and nearby capitol bldg., Lyndale rose gardens. Also being considered are optional seminars on glassware or porcelain. That afternoon we all tour members gardens and attend the Presidents Reception and Banquet in the evening. Another good day.

Carol Hull, Committee Chairperson

**Every Member Sponsors A New Member
Every Member Sponsors A New Member
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DRIFT FROM THE SPRAYER
by Ed. Culbert

Richard Poffenbaugh expresses my feelings when he says in an editorial in THE GREENHORN, the Mansfield, Ohio MGC bulletin,

"How important is a MGC newsletter? Lest we forget, the newsletter is:
--the only regular contact we have with each club member.
--the only regular contact our club has with other clubs & the nat. office.
--the only regular contact our club has with the local community.
In addition, the editor's job is special in that it is the only club position with continuity. It functions 11 months of the year--year after year--regardless of the changes in officers and directors.

"No one has ever asked if I get paid for writing the GH. But if the thought ever crossed your mind, here is the answer: 'No, I do not get paid, but I am becoming wealthy! Friends are the greatest wealth one can possess, and my wealth has increased twentyfold since my GH writing began 11 years ago!'

"Your support during the past 11 years has been welcomed and deeply appreciated. Without a love for the club and the world of gardening--I wouldn't be donating 100+ hours per year to get the job done."

So far I'm one up on Poffenbaugh. I've edited the GARDEN SPRAY for 19 years and I spend 400 hours or more working on its 12 issues per year. I could cut the hours considerably if I was less finicky about appearance and didn't spend so much time on those fancy front pages or on getting and arranging pictures just so. But then I wouldn't be satisfied.

When it comes to longevity as editor Poffenbaugh still has a chance to beat me. He started midway in his teaching career. I started at age 70, two years after retiring. He can never enjoy the job more than I do nor have better support than I have had over the years though.

MGCM member Bob Savory and former member Julius Wadekamper were publicized in the January issue of FLOWER and GARDEN magazine again this year. Of Savory the magazine has this to say--

Robert P. Savory's colorful hosta 'Yellow Emperor' (introduced by Savory's Greenhouses) is the one we chose to picture. Showy with bright yellow large leaves, ruffled at edges and with lime midribs, it becomes a big plant, blooming in July with light lavender flowers.

At the opposite end of the size scale is Savory's 'Bitsy Green' hosta, a miniature making a 4-inch mound of long tapering lance-shaped green leaves. In July it produces lavender flowers. Savory's third hosta introduction this year is 'Irish Spring', intermediate in size, with wide green and yellow mottled leaves and attractive white flowers in July.

Wadekamper and his Borbiolleta Gardens was cited for introducing the lilies Wine and Roses, Henry P., Toyland, and Aletta. The latter was pictured.

New member Melvin C. Anderson joined in time to get his name in our 1988 Directory (page 6) but missed the deadline for the February SPRAY.

Refer to your 1988 MGCM directory page 2 for dates of our 1988 MGCA meetings.

Have you advance news of an event of gardening interest coming up that should/could be included in the SPRAY? Get it to Ed Culbert by the 15th of the month.

February MGCM Meeting Report

by Andy Marlow

Container Gardening

MGCM member Chuck Jonas spoke about growing plants outdoors in containers, which he said is a "kooky" way to garden. He was forced into it, he said, because of root competition from elm trees. But he liked the results so well that after his elms died of Dutch elm disease, he has kept gardening this way. Many of you probably have seen Chuck's garden on a summer tour and don't have an accurate picture of how much of what he grows is in containers. Many of his plants, even tree roses, are grown in pots that are sunk two inches into the ground during the growing season. They look just like they are growing in the soil.

Most of Chuck's rose trees are 10-12 years old and have been in pots all their lives. In the fall he digs them up from the garden and buries them, pot and all, on their sides in a trench behind the garage. Miniature roses and rose bushes get the same treatment. Covered with bags of leaves, they come through in fine shape.

The key to successful container gardening, according to Chuck, is drainage. In larger containers he recommends putting clay pots in the bottom wrong-side-up and drilling drainage holes in the large container so they come up inside the clay pots. Fill with soil and plants and you're ready to go. He uses this technique with half whiskey barrels and with ceramic containers, too. In smaller pots, add an inch of white marble for drainage before putting in soil and plants. And, says Chuck, put greenhouse-grown plants that are pot bound in a 1" larger pot. That will give it plenty of room to grow.

Back to the Basics

MGCM members Jerry Shannon and Fred Glasoe, two of the club's most distinguished gardeners, covered some real basics of starting plants from seed and transplanting them. Their talk/demonstration was geared to helping members get their gardens ready for the 1988 MGCA Convention that we will be hosting in July.

Starting from seed really is important if you are to have annuals in full bloom by July 4th, a relatively early date. Greenhouse grown plants are treated with a growth retardant so they will bloom in the container, but not get too leggy to sell. It takes about 3-4 weeks for the retardant to go out of the plant and you will lose that valuable time. Other good reasons for starting from seed are better selection of varieties, seeds are less expensive than plants.

you will know exactly what you have, and you can time starting the seeds based on when you want to put them out in the garden. Plus, it's fun!

There are lots of variables in starting plants from seed. The length of time it takes them to get big enough to survive outside varies. So does the optimum temperature for germination, and whether they need light or darkness to germinate. Jerry suggested Park's "Success with Seed" and the Stoke's catalogue (which has the added advantage of being free) as good references. Both Fred and Jerry use soil-less mixtures for starting their seeds. This prevents damping off, a fungus disease that kills young seedlings.

Jerry re-uses garden store "packs" for starting his seeds, after washing and sterilizing them in chlorine bleach. He makes shallow rows with a row marker, which he says allows better air circulation after the plants are up. He waters from the bottom and puts the packs in a plastic baggie until the seedlings have sprouted. Fred prefers to seed in a large pot, like a bulb pot. He puts soil on the bottom and the soil-less mix on the top. After seeding, he puts saran wrap over the top and as the seedlings sprout and grow, he punches holes in the saran until eventually there's nothing left of it. It's a less labor intensive approach -- and with the soil in the bottom, if he doesn't get around to transplanting the seedlings, they still do quite well.

Fred and Jerry differ a bit on the right mix into which transplants should go. Jerry prefers 3 parts of sterilized garden soil, 3 parts milled peat moss, 1 part perlite and 1 part vermiculite. Fred prefers 1 part sterile potting soil to 1 part Readi-Earth soil-less mix -- or just straight Readi-Earth. He says the lighter mix promotes stronger root systems. Both emphasized to use what seems to work for you.

Both men feed the transplants with liquid fertilizer. Jerry uses Peter's Starter Fertilizer or Rapid-Gro. Fred says he likes to save money and mix his own from large bags of urea (for nitrogen), potash and superphosphate. Again, they agreed to use what seems to work for you.

Transplanting should be done when the seedlings have two sets of true leaves. Jerry uses a wooden pencil as his main tool, digging out individual seedlings and preparing holes for them with the eraser end. Handle the seedling by the leaves, drop the roots in the hole and firm the soil around the stem. Put the transplants in a dark place for 24 hours or so to let them get settled, then they can go back under the lights or on the bright window sill.

Both men had a great deal more to say than will fit in this report. If you want more information, check out Jerry's reference books, talk to them or ask one of the MGCM members who was there. We all got an earful!