

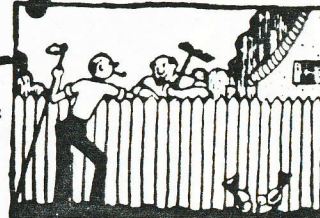


# The Garden Spray

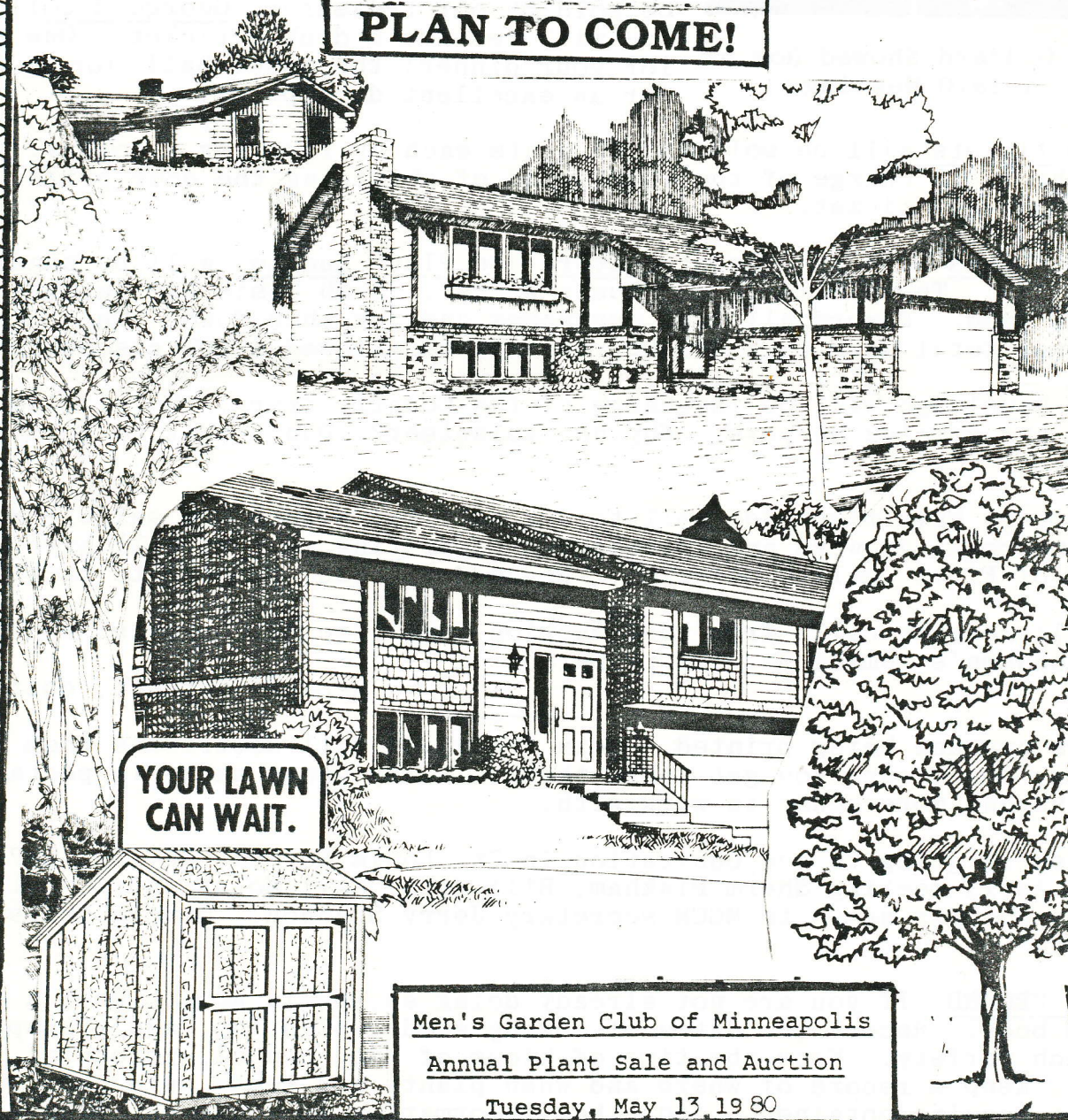
BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.

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

MAY 1980, Volume 38, Number 5



**IMPORTANT NOTICE  
AUCTION  
PLAN TO COME!**



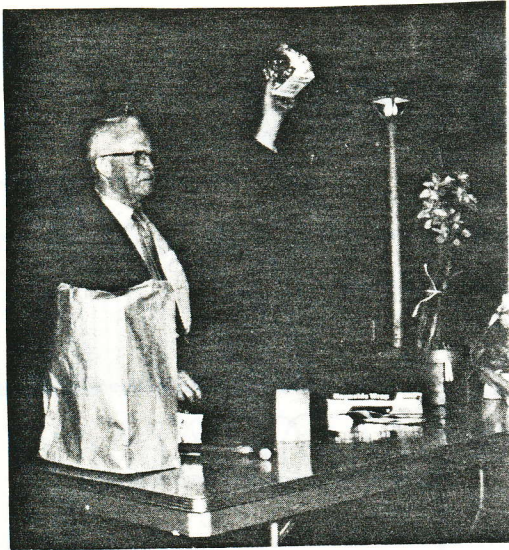
**YOUR LAWN  
CAN WAIT.**

Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis

Annual Plant Sale and Auction

Tuesday, May 13, 1980

**Tremendous savings stretch those dollars.**



Dave Goddard Showed How at  
a 1970 Meeting

## PLANT AUCTION NEWS

Come All. Bring plants. Bring Buying Friends.  
THE TIME is May 13th, 1980.

The PLACE is Linden Hills Neighborhood Center.  
(3100 West 43rd Street--43rd and Xerxes So.)

Country Store at 5 P.M. Dinner (\$4.50) at 6 P.M.  
Auction at 7 P.M.

### GET YOUR RESERVATION IN AT ONCE

The organizational pattern will be a little different this year. Attendance will be taken and dinner tickets for the DeLaria's meal will be sold by our treasurer, George McCollough. You will receive a double ticket. One half is for your dinner; the other half for a drawing for an excellent door prize.

Raffle tickets will be sold for 25 cents each or five for a dollar. Ev Haedecke is in charge of the raffle and of obtaining the door prize. Again, save your half ticket.

Auction funds both from Country Store and Plant Auction will be handled by Frank Vixo. There will be no "Lucky Bucks". Cash basis and purchase record will be used. Record all your purchases and pay when done. Then if your purchases total more than \$10.00 you will be allowed a 10% discount.

Vinton Bouslough will be in charge of the Country Store. He will need clerks and pricing helpers. Why not volunteer? Don't wait to be comman-deered.

Our members have responded well to our call for plants and salable material. Our commercial growers and friends are supporting us. We will have a good supply of First Quality material. We need all club members to participate.

You will receive calls from your Auction Committee for material and from Carl Johnson's committee. Be prepared!

--Larry Corbett, chairman

Rosters are now being printed. Dean Schneider will distribute them at the auction. Make sure you get yours there. Every penny saved in postage gives the club one more penny to work with.

Who else is going to the convention in St. Louis May 25, 26, 27, 28? As of the April meeting Sherm Pinkham, Bill Hull, Carl Holst and Ed Culbert had given their names to MGCM secretary Jerry Shannon. Surely there are others.

KEEP A RECORD If you are not already doing so, begin now to keep a garden record book. Record the dates of sowing seeds, planting, and transplanting for each variety. Note the time of bloom of each annual, perennial, and shrub. Keep a record of where and when plants and seeds were purchased and the results obtained. Add other information to round out your particular needs. Such a record book, kept over a period of years, is invaluable. Why try to remember?



FROM THE COMPOST HEAP

by  
Archie Caple

I'd like to talk to you this month about our Club finances--how we get them; how we get rid of them. In short, we'll talk money.

At the onset of each new year, your elected officers prepare (by speculation and guesswork) a budget; submit it to the membership where, without much debate or discussion, it is accepted. Part of the problem here is that few of you take a close look to determine how we come into the amount of monies indicated in the budget. The first thought in everyone's mind is--through our membership dues. Did you know that nearly two-thirds of the dues money received is paid out immediately for our Club affiliations --The Minnesota State Horticultural Society and The Men's Garden Club of America? Remembered, also, have to be our Club honorary members. Each of these individual's dues and other affiliations are paid out of the remaining Men's Garden Club dues.

The Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis has fund-raising activities or functions. We have one single big event--the Spring Auction. True, periodically at monthly meetings we have a gimmick now and then in the form of a raffle, plant sale, or auction which nets a few dollars, but the "biggie" is the Spring Plant Auction Sale. Thus, maybe we set our sights high--maybe too high--time will tell. The budget for 1980 anticipates \$1,200 of income from the plant auction, which with an expected \$300 expense, nets us \$900.00. The budget, also, has this proposed, hope-for, income spent; some going for contributions, sunshine expenses, directories, and other valid necessary expenditures; the remainder used for membership entertainment in the form of our annual Christmas Party or Sweethearts' night.

Your Plant Auction Committee has been working hard and sincerely in planning this event; trying new techniques and suggestions; attempting to hold down the expenditures and thereby raising the income end. (This will be through membership solicitation of not only bedding materials, but anything and everything in the form of donations and contributions of material things that might bring in revenue for the Club.) Maybe the ideas are not the best; maybe they won't work; maybe the auction won't be successful; but, on the other hand, maybe the ideas are sound and can be successful! A change is needed from the previous methods. Maybe this year every member, and I seriously and sincerely mean EVERY member, will be behind the effort. Not only make your donations and contributions toward the auction; but bring yourself and several guests to the auction, and most of all bring money! You will get value for money spent.

This is our single fund-raising function of the year. The money has been committed by the budget, and if we are behind it 100% plus, it can be accomplished and the established goals obtained. Should we, the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, be successful in this endeavor and exceed our goals, then, by unanimous concurrence of the Club's Board of Directors and membership, the excess will be used for the Christmas Party function.

Let's get behind this fund-raising activity and make it work! Like the nursery rhyme of "The Little Red Engine"--"I can do it! I can do it!" We can do it! We will do it!

Ponder this thought: "My chief want in life is someone who will make me do what I can!"  
Thanks--

## WHAT YOU MISSED

AT THE APRIL MEETING fellow MGCM member Ray Marshall with the aid of colored slides and a Bachman catalog in color told us, "Before you order your plant materials there are several steps you need to take:

First: Decide what you want your property to look like. Is it to be woody? Formal? Japanese? or what? A look at the property of others will help you make this decision if you are at all in doubt.

Second: Determine the sizes and shapes of the plant material you will use. Make sure you are aware of the rate of growth and the ultimate size of the material you choose.

Third: Determine the color and texture of the plant material you will use. Remember the color, size and general structure of your house has an important bearing on the effectiveness of your choice of plant materials.

Fourth: Plan for accent plants. A rule of thumb says one out of every nine plants should be an accent plant.

Fifth: Determine the environmental factors applying to the area(s) you plan to plant. Facing... wind exposure...soil type, etc.

Marshall then discussed 10 good shrubs for the Minneapolis area:

1. Arrowwood (viburnum dentatum)...Excellent for wet soils.
2. Wayfaring Shrub (Viburnum lantana)...Tolerates dry soil.
3. Dwarf Cranberry Bush (Viburnum opulus "Nana")...Non-flowering.
4. Winged Euonymous (Euonymus-alatus)...Sun or shade.
5. Smoketree (Cotinus)...Several varieties...all good.
6. Variegated Dogwood (Cornus elegantissima)...Has bright red twigs.
7. Variegated Wiegelia (Wiegelia florida "Variegata")...Tender.
8. Forsythia, especially ovata.
9. Fragrant Sumac (Rhus aromatica)...grows too tall and wild for use beside the house.
10. Potentilla. There is a variety on which the flower fades red to orange to yellow which is best cut back annually.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS. Snowberry (Synphoricarpos) needs full sun and a dry location. It is especially good on dry sandy hillsides. Black Chokeberry (arronia). The red one takes a lot of shade.

## YOU ALSO MISSED

- .Hearing Nate Siegel's progress report on our Community (Fragrance) Garden. We start tearing down and digging up on Saturday morning May 3rd, Dick Stehley in charge. We plant on Saturday morning May 17th. Committee members will be there both times but more help is needed. Call Nate at 926-3221. It is not too late for one of the dates, at least, when you read this.
- .Seeing another gorgeous display of orchids from Dick Lehman's greenhouse-- The one with the easy chair where Dick sits to watch over his plant treasures.
- .Getting a copy of MGCM's revised By-Laws which Bill Hull distributed. They will be discussed at the June meeting.
- .Hearing Phil Smith's report on summer garden tour plans. See page 7 of your April GARDEN SPRAY for his letter. Volunteer your garden for visitation.

NOTE: We didn't see the editorial referred to in the March-April 1980 GARDENER page 27 under the caption "FROM OUT THERE" but the quotes lead us to think somebody has gotten something all wrong. It so happens that we had on hand an article which we had previously asked Larry Corbett to prepare. It puts things straight, we think. --ED.

### PLANT VARIETY PROTECTION

- Corbett, L W "Larry" -

Patent laws and copyright laws to protect inventors and writers have been in effect for many years. Not until 1930 was a law passed to protect developers of plant material that is reproduced asexually. This law is most important to rose breeders and fruit developers whose varieties are reproduced by budding, by grafting, by cuttings or by other means of using part of the original development. We are all used to buying patented roses.

Still there was no protection for sexually produced plants, that is, plants grown from seed. The art of plant breeding has improved tremendously in the past 50 years. We have realized that we can increase yields and develop disease and insect resistance through plant breeding and selection. It is not unusual for a plant breeder to work 15 to 25 years, maybe even a lifetime, to develop a variety with certain needed qualities or disease resistance. This variety could be introduced to the trade and in one or two years control was lost and any grower could reproduce it for sale. This was an inhibiting factor, especially to private companies investing private funds.

Relief finally came in the form of the Plant Variety Protection Act, PVPA, put into effect December 24, 1970, which stimulated plant breeding by private firms. This act provides legal protection to developers of new varieties of plants reproduced sexually. A Certificate of Protection is issued by the U. S. Department of Agriculture after all tests and requirements have been met.

To be protected a variety must meet the following criteria:

1. Distinctness. It must differ from any known variety morphologically (shape,color, etc.), physiologically (e.g. disease resistance), or in other characteristics (e.g. milling character of wheat).
2. Uniformity. It must reproduce true to type. Any variations must be describable, predictable and commercially acceptable.
3. Stability. The variety when sexually reproduced must remain unchanged  
--What we used to call a "fixed" variety.

To be eligible for protection a variety must be new in the sense that it has not been described, sold, or used by the public previously. If someone else had previously released the material it would be ineligible. Foreign varieties have special rules and regulations applying to them.

It is fairly expensive to apply for protection. A full description of the variety and the breeding procedures must be sent as well as a sample for testing and a sample to be stored in the National Seed Storage Laboratory in Fort Collins, Colorado for future reference.

SMALL SEEDS Have trouble planting the seeds too thick in the row? Try making a row as wide as your garden hoe, and mixing the seed with fine, dry soil before you broadcast the seed. If you still have the plants too thick, pull your spring lawn rake diagonally through the bed.

F.A.F. McCulla contends that vegetables should be grown in the same location only once every three to five years. If this cannot be done, plan your garden to avoid growing vegetables of the same family group in the same area season after season. Family groups are:

- .1) watermelon, cucumber, squash, cantaloupe, honeydew melon, pumpkin;
- .2) cabbage, cauliflower, brussel sprouts, rutabagas, kale, turnip, mustard, radish, collard;
- .3) swiss chard, beets, spinach;
- .4) pepper, tomato, potato, eggplant;
- .5) carrot, parsley, parsnips;
- .6) onions, garlic, leek, shallots;
- .7) sweet corn;
- .8) beans, peas

Leon Snyder keeps on reminding us that Big Max is not a pumpkin but here's something he has never told us, a further bit of enlightenment from Houston's McCulla in the YARDNER;

"Did you know the pumpkin is not a vegetable, but a fruit - a berry. The pumpkin is a pepo - a berry with a hard rind. It is also the modern botanical name for the specialized type of berry found in most plants of the cucumber family. Common examples are the watermelon, melon, pumpkin and the gourds."

Farm Bureau recently called together 59 scientists from 20 states and eight nations in "dispute and resolve" the controversy surrounding the currently banned 2,4,5-T. Their conclusion:--The compound poses no cancer hazard to humans or animals. It does not cause abortions in women, as claimed. It poses no practical environmental harm. Those most vocal in calling for the 2,4,5-T ban declined to attend the gathering.

Return to  
THE GARDEN SPRAY of MGCM, INC.  
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To

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St. Louis 1980