



The Garden Spray

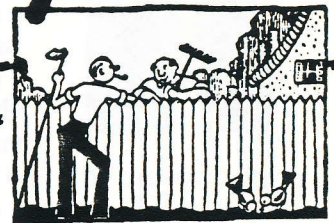
BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.

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

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**MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS
ANNUAL PLANT SALE AND AUCTION**

TUESDAY MAY 13th 1986



Farmer's Market 4:30 to 6:00 P.M.
Dinner at 6:00 P.M. — Price \$4.50

Auction Following Dinner
Wives and Guests Welcome

NEW LOCATION

**LYNHURST COMMUNITY CENTER
1345 West Minnehaha Parkway**

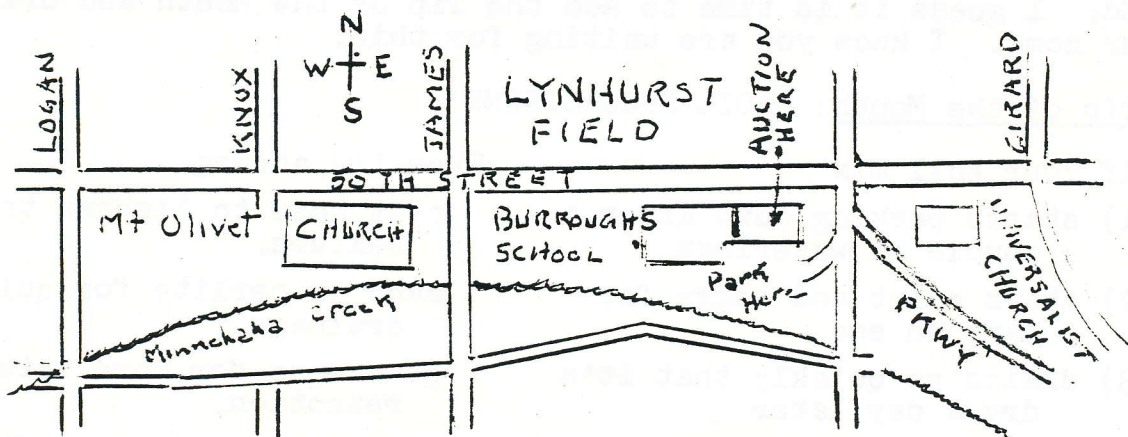
It's time for our plant auction--our one big fund-raiser for the year for the arboretum and other club functions. The best and latest of plant varieties will be available. If you would like any particular items by the flat or by the dozen give me a call. There will be lots of door prizes and raffle prizes. Chef Carleton Nelson promises dinner fit for a king--barbequed chicken hot off the grill. Bring your rich guests and wives who like beautiful flowers.

Thanks to all you volunteer workers.

--Dave Johnson

GET THAT RESERVATION CARD BACK TO DUANE REYNOLDS AT ONCE

HOW TO GET THERE



ANNUALS PERENNIALS VEGETABLES SHRUBS

HOUSE PLANTS

BULBS

FERTILIZER

FERTILIZER

BULBS

HOUSE PLANTS



BIG BOB'S CORNER

Your president, the board of directors and the M.G.C.M. committee chairmen and their committee members are working hard to make the month of May a banner month. Dave Johnson, chairman of the Plant Auction and plant sale on May 13th, has been working hard to make this a better and more enjoyable auction and sale. He has Carleton Nelson, our top notch caterer, preparing our dinner for us. The menu is baked chicken, done on an outdoor grill, with potato salad, baked beans, rolls and coffee or milk. Dessert? Well, come to the auction and find out what it is. Remember, make your reservation early. Bring your wife and all of her lady friends. The plants that Dave has ordered are out of sight. Their beauty in size and growth is fantastic. Be ready to bid for these outstanding plants.

The following weekend, May 17th and 18th, look for Duane Reynolds and his committee at Bandana Square. This outstanding shopping center is a must for all members and their friends to see. The Club will be selling "Plants and Things" to make money to help support the 1988 National Convention. Sunday the 18th would be an excellent day to go out for dinner, to visit your club's booth at Bandana Square, and to support it by buying a plant.

Our next event is the biggest event to come and will be held on May 23rd and 24th. Yes, this is the garage sale of the year. There will be electronic equipment, plants, tools, gardening tools, etc. Russ Smith and his committee have been working hard to find the ideal spot to hold this sale. Make sure you read thru the SPRAY and mark the time and place on your calender.

Our dinner meeting in March in conjunction with the Dayton's Bachman's flower show was fantastic. The design and the bright colors of the flowers made one want to get out into the garden. Thank you for supporting the event. Let's try to make it 100% participation for the events coming.

My thanks to Mike Michele, Chairman of MGCA Seed Trials. He was kind enough to send me the 160 packs of seeds which everyone received at the March meeting. Remember to grow them and to send in your report.

Well Ed! I guess it is time to add the Tip of the Month and drive off to your home. I know you are waiting for this.

Tip of the Month: SOIL SUGGESTIONS

If your soil mix

- 1) starts packing down after a couple of waterings
- 2) stays moist and soggy for days on end
- 3) drains so quickly that it's dry a day later
- 4) feels so spongy and flimsy that it can't support a plant

Then try adding

- peat moss to lighten the texture.
- sand or perlite for quicker drainage.
- peat moss for more water retention.
- potting soil for a heftier anchor.

ABOUT THE FLEA MARKET

When: May 23 1pm to 5pm
May 24 9am to 5pm

Where: 10700 Minnetonka Blvd. Hopkins, Mn. [home of Andy Marlow]

Why: To gain funds to add to the 1988 National Convention Members Subsidy fund.

Who: An all member participation.

What: A new fashioned garage sale--specializing in garden orientated materials-- all types of tools, plants, garden supplies chemicals or anything else which might sell (except clothing not good for gardening)

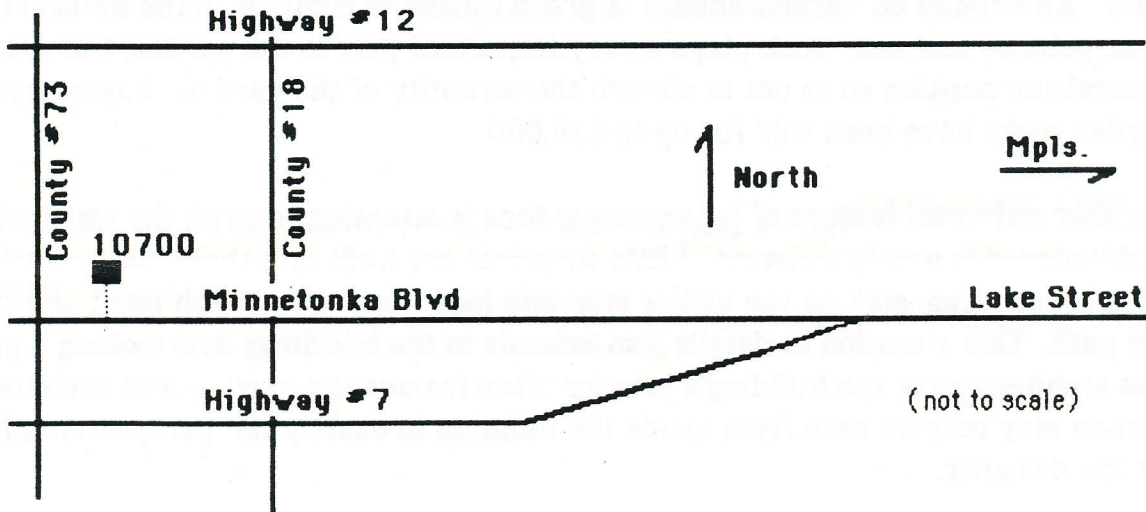
Suggestions: Bring your contributions to 10700 Minnetonka Boulevard, Hopkins, Thursday P.M. or Friday morning before noon so they can be priced. If you have no way of getting your contributions there call another club member in the neighborhood and carpool with him. If no other way works call Russ Smith at 545-4404.

Ask neighbors and friend for their contributions.

Sign up for work helping at the sale--you might find a gem to buy for your own garden.

If you don't come to work, at least come to the sale and bring a neighbor or friend.

Map to Andy Marlow's House for MGCM Flea Market 10700 Minnetonka Boulevard, Hopkins



IF YOU ARE DEVOTED TO ZUCCHINI and despise squash borers Richard Poffenbaugh of the Mansfield Ohio MGC has a suggestion for you. "Containerized zucchini seem to be less subject to squash borer damage. It is easy to see the large main stem and watch for the first sign of damage. My potted peppers and zucchini have been vitually free of insect damage. By mid-September, field-planted zucchini produce few fruits. Zucchini planted in a pot in late June or early July will provide fruit well through the month of September. Potted plants can be taken inside during freezing weather in fall."

Two Tours for the Price of One at March MGCM Meeting

reported by Andy Marlow

Members and their guests who attended the March Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis meeting at Dayton's Skyroom Restaurant got more than they bargained for; they not only had an opportunity to tour "The Gardens of Hiroshi Teshigahara" at the Dayton-Bachman Flower Show, they also had a photo tour of the gardens of Japan courtesy of speaker Susan Bagge. Susan is the wife of MGCM member Larry and has been interested in Japanese gardens since she had a photography course at Normandale Community College. One of the class assignments was to photograph the Japanese garden at the college. Obligation turned quickly to interest, and Susan spent part of last year on a cultural exchange to Japan touring gardens and studying the designs and techniques used there. She also put her photography skills to good use on her trip, as each of the over 100 slides she showed were stunning.

Japanese gardens, Susan explained, really got their start in the Buddhist traditions of China and came to Japan in the 7th or 8th century via Korea. Therefore, it's probably more correct to call them oriental, rather than specifically Japanese, gardens. Whatever their origin, the Japanese have elevated them to a high art form.

As Susan's pictures showed, no two Japanese gardens are exactly alike, but they can be broken down into four basic types; hill gardens, rock and pebble gardens, tea gardens, and strolling gardens. None of the four types has much in the way of flower color. All depend on various shades of green foliage in contrast to the natural tones of rock, pebbles and soil. Rock plays a very important part in the garden, but always in a naturalistic position so as not to disturb the serenity of the garden. Susan says some garden rocks have been sold for up to \$10,000.

Another universal feature of Japanese gardens is attention to even the smallest detail. Maintenance is nearly constant. Little surprises are built into them, particularly the strolling gardens, making the visitor stop and look carefully at each twist and turn of the path. This attention to details also extends to the buildings overlooking a garden. The architecture of the building's interior often frames the view -- and sometimes the garden may only be seen from inside the building in exactly the perspective planned by the designer.

Gardens in Japan are both public and private, as Susan's slides revealed. One of the most extensive and impressive of the gardens she visited was owned by a Japanese industrialist. He employed 17 gardeners year-round to maintain it. In addition to the in-ground plantings, it contained over 500 bonzai including the famous "Dragon," said to be over 600 years old.

LATE NEWS: DICK LEHMAN DIED SATURDAY APRIL 26th

Edgar Lehman, 83, owner of Lehman Gardens

Edgar C. (Dick) Lehman, 83, former owner of Lehman Gardens in Faribault, Minn., died Saturday at Rice County Hospital in Faribault from pulmonary and heart problems.

Lehman, once considered one of the country's leading experts on chrysanthemums, put on fall mum shows in the 1950s that drew thousands.

"Over the weekends, you couldn't get within a mile of his place," said Lehman's brother, Walter, Rochester, Minn. "People wanted to see something pretty and it was something you could do that didn't cost you anything . . . A field of two acres in full bloom was almost enough to make women cry.

"Busloads would come from all over. Maybe 50,000 to 60,000 would see each show, which started in late September and lasted until the first part of October."

"He once produced 150,000 mums a year in 2 1/4-inch pots," Walter Lehman said. "Then he spent most of his money on the big flower shows in the fall. When you are a true gardner at heart, that's what you do."

Lehman, who developed several hybrids of hardy mums especially suited to the Minnesota climate, started Lehman Gardens in his backyard in 1931.

His wife, Ruth, said, "We grew rock



Edgar C. (Dick) Lehman in 1953.

garden plants and gathered wild flowers, when you still could do that (before prohibitions on gathering wild flowers), and sold those."

The Lehmans sold their business (the new owners retained the same name) in 1972 but, even in retirement, Dick Lehman kept busy growing orchids and roses in a small hobby greenhouse. "He didn't sell those flowers," Ruth Lehman said, "but shared them with everyone. Friends, neighbors. That was how he got his pleasure."

Lehman was an early benefactor of the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum near Chanhassen, providing it with plants when it opened in 1958. He also was a member of the men's Garden Club of Minneapolis.

Other survivors are daughters Ruthann Burkhartzmeyer and Kathleen Koopmans, both of Faribault, and Patricia Drentlaw of St. Louis, Mo.; and 11 grandchildren.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Faribault's Trinity Lutheran Church, NW. 4th St. and 6th Av.

Tour to "Garden of Eden" at April MGCM Meeting

reported by Andy Marlow

Dr. Leon Snyder, one of MGCM's most distinguished members and Professor Emeritus of Horticulture at the University of Minnesota, took members on a photographic trip "down under" at the April 8 Club meeting. This winter Dr. Snyder and wife Vera led their third horticultural tour of Australia and New Zealand since 1980. Because winter here is summer in the Southern Hemisphere, it's the ideal time to visit there.

Using slides gathered on all three trips, Dr. Snyder lead us through this year's visit from start to finish. The tour began in Melbourne at a replica of what was called Captain Cook's "cabin." It was more like a country estate, with extensive gardens and a greenhouse. The grounds provided a spectacle of color, some of it supplied by both the blue and white versions of a plant called "Lily of the Nile," which Dr. Snyder reported was to be found in nearly every garden. Other favorite flowers appeared to be cannas (which do not have to be dug for the winter), gerbera, astilmaria and hybiscus.

Melbourne also provided pictures of two floral clocks. Australians and New Zealanders obviously are fascinated by planting clock faces with annuals, as nearly every city has one. The Queen Victoria Garden in Melbourne featured such a clock, as well as a spectacular rose garden. Dr. Snyder says roses grow quite well there, though it was comforting to hear that "down under" rosarians are plagued by mildew and black spot, too.

Most of the trees and shrubs found in gardens here reflect the roots of the gardeners. They are almost all imported from Europe, England and America. The dominant native tree is the Eucalyptus and its over 500 varieties.

The Melbourne Botanic Garden has one of the finest collections of plants in the world, thanks to the climate. The June-July winters are cool enough to give temperate-climate plants a rest, but warm enough that sub-tropical plants never freeze. Dr. Snyder had a slide of an unusual trumpet-type flower about 6" across. The flower grows on a shrub that's actually a member of the potato family.

On the road from Melbourne to Canberra, the group stopped at a rhododendron farm in the mountains. The climate along the coast is much like Oregon and Washington -- cool and damp. This 160 acre farm had over 300 different varieties of rhododendrons.

Canberra, like Washington, D.C., was planned carefully at the start to be the capitol of the country. The Botanic Garden there has a collection of native plant materials, including the straw flower, the monkey claw plant and the silver dollar plant, which is a variety of eucalyptus. Sydney, the last stop on the smallest continent, also has a Botanic Garden. It is right downtown, beginning at the famous opera house and stretching for about a mile along the river front.

Christchurch was described by Dr. Snyder as the garden city of New Zealand. One of the highlights here is a garden at, of all places, a breakfast food factory. The gardens are largely annuals and are cared for by an elderly couple with assistance from some younger gardeners. Each bed seemed to have a theme. The pink garden was outstanding, with begonias and dahlias in various shades of pink. The Botanic Garden here featured hibe, a native shrub that resembles our veronica. There are also specimens of Lombardy poplar in this garden that stand 100' tall and 6" in diameter, with none of the problems apparent that plague this tree in our climate.

On the road to their eventual destination of Auckland, the tour group passed through a tropical rain forest that receives over 300" inches of rainfall annually. Near Milford Sound, this forest was dominated by new beech, a species also native to South America. Fields along the road sported Russell Lupines. These have escaped from cultivation and multiplied rapidly, but New Zealanders have been reluctant to use chemical sprays to control them. Higher in the mountains the group viewed a forest of tree ferns, some of which reached 50-60' in height and 40' across. Over 400 species of fern are native to the two main islands of New Zealand. Norfolk Island pine, native to New Zealand, were also found on the mountainsides. They grow up to 100' tall and 18" in diameter.

(Continued)

The Snyders' tour concluded in Auckland where there is, of course, another floral clock. Dr. Snyder allowed that, despite three trips in six years, he was eager to go back. Even the nearly three week long tour doesn't allow time to see everything of horticultural interest in what he called "this Garden of Eden."

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

MEMBERS ----- It's that time again --
Time to think of working on the Fragrance Garden!!!!

The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Department has advised me that it will once again supply our club with flowers for the Fragrance Garden. Mary Lerman of the Park Board said she would have a variety of plants in her selection for us on May 30, 1986 (Friday). A number of cars are needed for the pickup at 1:00 P.M. on that day. The pickup of the plants has to be done on Friday, since the Park Board is closed the next day, Saturday May 31, 1986.

We will plant the flowers at the Fragrance Garden at 9:00 A.M. Saturday morning May 31, 1986. We have to plant about 1,500 flowers so we need plenty of help. We need at least 15 members for this job. So bring shovels, rakes and garden tools for this planting.

In the June 1986 issue of our GARDEN SPRAY, I will list a Weekly Maintenance Schedule. This will be for weeding, watering and clean up of debris at the garden. Any member on this list who is not able to work on his assigned week should contact one of the alternates listed at the end of the Maintenance Schedule.

"MEMBERS" -- We want to do our best to make our club proud of the Garden.

"Happy Gardening" -----Joseph L. Stenger, Committee Chairman

HELP WANTED

Minnesota--a garden photographer's paradise? Well hardly, according to the ample publicity we get as THE NATION'S REFRIGERATOR. To lure 1988 MGCA convention visitors, your photographic committee is assembling a slide show revealing Minnesota at its blossoming best. We will be selecting slides at a May meeting, so turn in your favorites to me or any other committee member. What do we need? -- scenes of member's gardens, the Arboretum show and other club events, close-up scenes of garden details.

And, many thanks to our members who have already contributed.

--Larry Catron

Over the years many of our members have contributed to the SPRAY. Because their contributions were articles or pictures they received by-lines. The contributions of Dwight Stone who long supplied "lick-em" address labels and of Glenn Bartsch who for the past several years has supplied self adhering labels have been evident each month but nowhere have their names appeared. We thank them. Addressing each SPRAY by hand would be an arduous time consuming task which would find few takers.

SAME THOSE EXTRA SEEDS. They may still be good next year or the year after that, or still longer despite what you may have read. Date your package. Within the next few months Larry Corbett will have an article on seed viability in the SPRAY.