

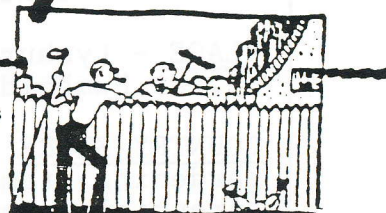


# The Garden Spray

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

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

MAY 1988, Volume 46, Number 5



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MGCM PLANT SALE AND AUCTION

TUESDAY, MAY 10, 1988

- MEMBERS, SPOUSES, GUESTS INVITED -

COME ONE! COME ALL!

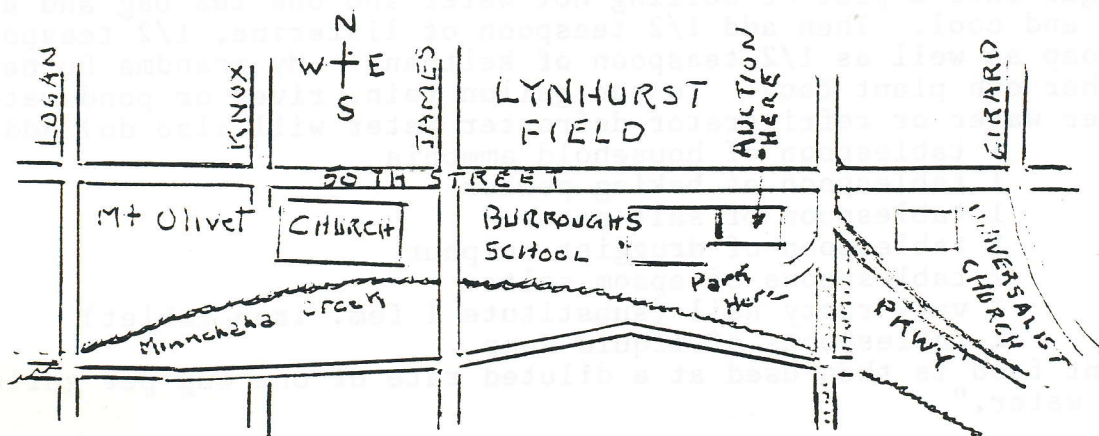
ANNUALS PERENNIALS VEGETABLES SHRUBS

HANGING BASKETS PATIO PLANTS FRUIT TREES AND VINES

ALL ARE AVAILABLE FOR YOU JUST IN TIME

TRY US YOU'LL BE GLAD YOU DID!

HOW TO GET THERE



We Look Forward to Seeing You

We Look Forward to Seeing You

We Look Forward to Seeing You



## YE OLDE COUNTRY STORE & AUCTION

EVENT - 1988 Annual Plant Auction - Tuesday, May 10, 1988  
Auction committee members are hard at work to make the 1988 auction a success. They are busy scouting around for the best selection of annuals, perennials, hanging baskets, patio plants, etc.

PLACE - Lynhurst Community Center, 1345 W. Minnehaha Pkwy. (50th St. at Humboldt Ave. S.)

COUNTRY STORE - Opens at 5:00 - Donations of plant materials and gardening items to sell are needed for the Country Store. Do your perennials need dividing? Did you grow more seedlings than you can use? Please share by donating to the plant sale.

MENU - A real surprise. Come and see.

GUESTS - Bring your friends. Bring guests for good fellowship and a great evening. Your guests will meet some great gardeners and find real bargains in choice plant materials. As a side benefit, we may gain some new members.

GET YOUR RESERVATIONS IN EARLY.

AUCTION - Starts at 6:45 sharp. Great plant material - "All Americans" and other good varieties. Your favorite "professional" auctioneers will be taking your bids, but beware! - he who hesitates is lost - and you will be watching the plants go home with someone else.

PLANTS - Remember the club needs any plants you can bring. If you can't get them there, please call me or any committee member listed in our new directory.

Dave Johnson, chairman  
544-0111

QUARANTINE NEW PURCHASES - Jerry Baker says, "All new plants should get a bath of tobacco, listerine, kelthane, tea and soap. Place a quarter of a new cigar into a pint of boiling hot water and one tea bag and allow to marinate and cool. Then add 1/2 teaspoon of listerine, 1/2 teaspoon of liquid soap as well as 1/2 teaspoon of kelthane. My grandma Putnam used to make her own plant food. To one gallon rain, river or pond water (dehumidifier water or refrigerator defroster water will also do) Add:

- 1 tablespoon of household ammonia
- 1 tablespoon of baking powder
- 1 tablespoon pf salt peter
- 1 tablespoon of druggist sulphur
- 2 tablespoons of epsom salts
- 1 very rusty nail (substitute 1 fem. iron tablet)
- 2 tablespoons of liquid soap

This plant food is then used at a diluted rate of one cup per gallon of watering water."

And remember fellows:

"The best way to raise a successful garden is by trowel and error."

--Tired Gardener



## MGCM'S COMMUNITY FRAGRANCE GARDEN

Your Fragrance Garden Committee (FIG) has been at work planning and preparing for spring planting and summer maintenance. We wish to thank for their help the committee, numerous volunteers, and especially Phil Peterson and Duane Johnson for their continued support, Norm Ter Steeg for his design and planning input, and Ger Rothen for his work on the maintenance schedule.

We have had excellent support and cooperation from the membership. Now the important stuff starts. During the months of May and June the Fragrance Garden will become the club's tour garden. Please mark your calendars if you have signed up for a week of maintenance. If you have not been contacted and wish to help, especially during June, call Kent Petterson or one of those scheduled during the week you are available.

We also have scheduled two work days during May. We need good turn-outs for both days. Saturday the 7th of May at 8:00 AM for cleanup and perennial planting and Saturday the 21st of May at 8:00 AM for final prep and planting of annuals. Once again the annuals have been donated by the City Park Board through Mary Lerman (see her article on Daffodil naturalizing in the April issue of the Minnesota Horticulturist.) Those from the club who are donating plant material or seedlings from their gardens, should bring plants the Saturday in May appropriate for planting the donation. Please call Kent Petterson at 332-1821 if you wish to join us. Bring your rakes, shovels, hoes, etc. We need you to make the Fragrance Garden your tour garden.

Use the following as a check list for maintenance.

- 1) Watering - bring a spray nozzle and sprinkler.
- 2) Water the plants, grass and don't forget the trees if it is very dry.
- 3) Cut spent blossoms.
- 4) Weed and trim as necessary.
- 5) Bring a plastic bag and leave debris by the gate. The Society for the Blind will remove the bag. They also mow the grass. NO MOWING NEEDED.

The summer maintenance assignments will be found on page 4. If you are not able to work during your scheduled maintenance week, contact one of the alternates listed, or trade with someone on the schedule.

FOR THE FIGS,

KENT PETTERSON 332-1821

They say Rock Dust Fertilizer is the best you can get. Rocks can be ground down and the dust spread on the ground. Many soils around the world are poor because they lack essential minerals. All soils have originated from rock or the parent of the soil we say. Minerals provide food for micro-organisms making it possible to get bread from stones. One drawback, however, rock dust contains toxic elements such as cadmium. They say a rock grinder is now being built in Australia. We already have several rock crushers in Minnesota but the rock they are crushing is taconite.

Another fertilizer available in the U.S. is guano. Some facts on it are:

U.S. Bat	(Insect diet) guano	2- 8-0.1	plus trace elements
Mexican Bat	(Insect diet) guano	10- 4-1	plus trace elements
Jamican Bat	(Fruit diet) guano	1- 1-1	plus trace elements
Chilean Seabird	(Fish diet) guano	13- 8-2	plus trace elements
Peruvian Seabird	(Fish diet) guano	1-15-0.5	plus trace elements



FRAGRANCE GARDEN SUMMER MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE  
(Find your name below. Put the date on your calendar.)

May 22-27	Glen Bartsch 927-5966	Ger Rothen 333-5839
May 28-June 3	Dale Durst 922-6658	Duane Reynolds 588-5692
June 4-10	V. Bouslough 861-4065	Kent Petterson 332-1821
June 11-17	John Groos 823-8620	John Moon 861-5745
	James Tuff 881-0830	
June 18-24	Bill Hanson 827-6741	Duane Johnson 824-0295
	Lloyd Nerburn 935-4642	
June 25-July 1	Greg Smith 545-6027	Merle Pulley 822-0172
	Larry Bagge 445-2438	Guy Andres 920-1227
July 2-8	Leo Grebner 881-8187	Jeff Pearson 699-9647
July 9-15	Al Miller 729-2482	Carleton Nelson 831-8764
July 16-22	Phil Peterson 869-3730	Ed Culbert 823-7853
July 23-29	Russ Smith 475-1878	Stan Crist 545-4767
July 30-Aug 5	Joe Stenger 822-5305	Chet Groger 922-6411
Aug 6-12	Charlie Proctor 893-1878	Archie Caple 869-3437
Aug 13-19	Dwight Stone 588-5692	Henry Halvorson 588-4369
Aug 20-26	Lloyd Wittstock 623-7735	Walter Gustafson 926-3124
Aug 27-Sept 2	Richard Tepley 926-6944	need volunteer call
		Kent Petterson 332-1821
Sept 3-9	Howard Berg 545-7290	Ray Weisberg 377-2780
Sept 10-16	Herb Neby 537-7437	Rick Bonlender 729-5353
Sept 17-23	Bob Olson 920-8327	John Weeks 881-5145
Sept 24-30	Jerry Shannon 690-1214	Glenn Olson 474-6838

ALTERNATES

Phil Smith 377-6635, Greg Smith 645-6027, Charles Jonas 533-9806 (July only), Andy Marlow 933-5759, Russ Backes 545-7703, Norm Ter Steeg 822-0371, Dennis Johnson 927-5371

DAYLILIES (Condensed from a 1987 article by Walter Masson)

Daylilies are sun loving. They need at least a half day of full sun for good blooming. You can plant them anytime the soil is workable, even when in full flower but the best time is early spring or right after blooming.

Spade up the planting area and mix in a balanced fertilizer such as 10-10-10. Daylilies do best in soil with a neutral pH range 6.0 to 7.0. Most day-lilies make big clumps, so need fairly wide spacing - 18 inches to 3 feet apart. Plant the roots so that the crown is about an inch below soil surface. If you cannot plant roots for a few days after receiving them, soak them in tepid water containing a quarter teaspoon of liquid fertilizer per gallon.

After flowering, cut off bare scapes to the ground. Leave foliage intact. In our area foliage will die down each fall, serving as a natural winter mulch for the crowns. In spring when shoots begin to grow, remove the dead foliage. In late April or early May, work in some fertilizer around the plants, a tablespoon scratched into a ten-inch circle about each crown. Then water well. About the only insects bothering daylilies are thrips. For thrips use a malathion spray, one teaspoon per gallon of water two weeks before blooming and again in ten days.

You will need to divide the clumps every few years. Do this soon after the bloom season, on a dry day. Cut foliage back halfway as you would irises. Lift the root clumps with a garden fork and shake them free of soil. Divide clumps with a second fork pried against the back of the first, or with a sharp ax or spade. Cut a clump in half and then in quarters. Or, if it's a big one, into sixths.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I've been walking around the yard, trying to determine the amount of winter kill.

Each year a few things fail to make it through the winter, either from the elements or animals.

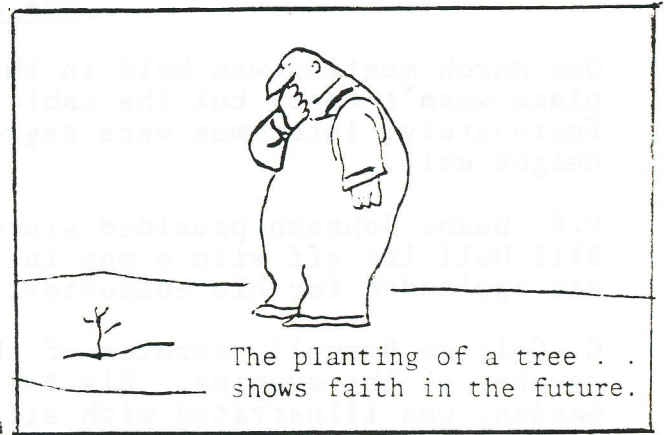
I'm predicting a good year for rabbits- all the evidence points to a

high percentage having made it through the winter. This is the first year in the last eleven years, I've had such significant damage to my grapes. They looked as if something spent the winter eating grapevine bark. Actually the yard looks good, a few of my blueberries suffered from a disease called Northern States Blight, but everything else looks good. The greatest danger now is to move things outside or to miss the nightly weather forecast. We could still get a light frost during May, and some of the plants that winter in Mn. are extremely tender after they have broken dormancy. Also, many of the greenhouse plants would never withstand a frost.

I went to Robbinsdale Farm and Garden, and bought a Mandevilla vine, same family as Dipladenia-this should make an interesting companion to my Stephonotis. It seems the Garden Centers are starting to have a few of the more unusual tender plants for sale, which adds to the indoor gardening scene. So check out the corners and backrooms of the gardening center near your house.

### ATTENTION!

If you are attending the convention and want to be a delegate, please let the board know as soon as possible. A delegate needs to attend the delegate meetings and represent the views of the Mpls. Men's Club. We can have ten delegates and would like to have the board certify them, during the June meeting.



Happy Gardening,

- Duane

**Every Member Sponsors A New Member**  
**Every Member Sponsors A New Member**

## THE MARCH MEETING

Our March meeting was held in the employee cafeteria at Dayton's. The place wasn't fancy but the table settings with fresh flowers were. Unfortunately, latecomers were segregated from the rest of us by a wide half height wall.

V.P. Duane Johnson presided since President Duane Reynolds was out of town. Bill Hull led off with a pep talk about our MGCA convention in July. He was applauded for his enthusiastic delivery and the information he brought.

C. Colston Burrell, curator of the Cowles Conservatory now abuilding was speaker of the evening. His talk, centered on the Minnesota Sculpture Garden, was illustrated with slides showing the development of the garden from a vacant plot of land to the present. Sketches showed work remaining to do before the September 1988 opening date.

At the Basilica end of the garden will be a lindenseed shaped pool. Among the sculptures will be a spectacular spoon (handle 25 feet long, bowl 18 feet long) holding a red cherry. Unmortared stone walls will be used in the garden because the ground is unstable.

The Cowles Conservatory itself will consist of a cube 65 feet on a side with a superimposed pyramidal top. Lower wings will flank it on the north and south. The giant glass fish from the Walker rotunda will be suspended above a central pool in the conservatory.

The important word in describing it all, said Burrell, is "interactive."

The Dayton-Bachman flower show, A. Sculpture Garden, which we visited after the talk was spectacular. A sweet fragrance assailed our nostrils as we rode the escalator to the 8th floor. A heavy hyacinth odor permeated the entire 8th floor. In the auditorium a 2500 bulb bed of red tulips in a 4000 square foot sunken bed containing statuary from the Walker Art Galleries greeted us. On two sides of the bed were corridors of mountain ash trees; on one side a jasmine arbor. There was a long narrow pool bordered with Dutch iris. There was an L-shaped bed of Delft blue hyacinths.

The lay-out was designed by Barbara Stauffacher and Michael Van Valkenberg who will also design a garden for the Cowles Conservatory.

## MINNETONKA MGC TO HELP AT JULY CONVENTION

"Stanley Crist will be in charge of the Information Desk and Message Center which will be located in the Hyatt Regency Hotel. This desk is to be in operation from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., beginning Sunday morning through Wednesday afternoon. The plan is to have people at this desk in three hour shifts--that is, from 9 to noon, noon to 3 and 3 to 6. This will require a total of only 12 people and a 3 hour shift for each should not be burdensome for anyone. This is where you fit in....

"The work will not be difficult. It will consist mostly of answering a variety of questions from those out of the city about such things as a nice place for dinner, what stores to shop in, what's on the convention program etc. The desk is also intended as a place where people can leave messages for others at the convention. It should be fun meeting other gardeners from various parts of the country."

--Minnetonka MGC bulletin



IDENTIFICATION OF EARLY SEASON TURFGRASS DISEASES  
by Jack Kolb

The following steps or "Keys" should help you identify diseases that occur from late spring to late summer.

A. ROUND PATTERNS IN TURF

1. Sunken patches usually 1 to 6 inches across; straw colored. Patches may occur in streaked pattern (spread by mower). A cottony mold grows over wet grass. High temperatures both day and night-time with high humidity and excessive wet conditions.....Pythium blight.  
Treatment -- Subdue, Banol, Teremec SP or Koban applied as spray.
2. Small, white colored patches. White areas on individual leaves, then leaf drops and folds at that point. White cottony mold appears usually in early morning while dew is on grass. Occurs when daytime temperatures are above 75° and nights rather cool 40° to 50°. Usually moist conditions.....Dollar Spot.  
Treatment -- Daconil 2787, Rubigan, Tersan 1991, Bayleton and Cadmium Compounds.
3. Patches from 1 to 2 feet in diameter. Straw colored, various irregular shapes. Sometimes center will remain green. Often occurs on slopes where watering may be a problem. Sometimes results after moisture stress. Experts are still in slight disagreement on causes and complete identification. Referred to as Fusarium blight. Now more appropriately called Summer Patch, since Necrotic Ringspot and other diseases are involved (Ophiobolus).

Treatment -- Many and varied. Complex nature of problem suggests:

- a. Water daily applying 0.1 inch of water per day.
- b. Control or use reasonable nitrogen applications.
- c. Control thatch accumulation (a. and b. apply here).
- d. Applications of materials that activate biological decomposition of thatch.
- e. Fungicides work only when all other controls are being deployed. Turn to chemicals as last effort.

B. WEAK, THIN OR DISCOLORED GRASS

1. Turf yellowish or reddish brown. Will look and act like water and fertilizer is lacking. (These are disease descriptions and we must assume that soil moisture and fertility is adequate.) Poor growth such that mowing is not needed as frequently as normal. Disease can cause loss of grass but more often is nuisance causing discoloration. Most prominently occurring during late May to Mid June.....Helminthosporium Leaf Spot.  
Treatment -- Avoid excessive nitrogen in early spring. Fungicides such as Daconil 2787 and Tersan LSR are recommended.
2. Turf whitish silvery looking with felted mats. Infection is most common during periods of low light intensity in areas of shade, or when cool humid cloudy conditions persist for long, long periods of time. Causes considerable thinning of plant population.....Powdery Mildew.  
Treatment -- Tersan 1991



## MGCM DIRECTORS' APRIL MEETING IN BRIEF

### REPORTS RECEIVED, CONVENTION

- Choosing delegates will be up to the board,
- Horticultural Society members will be invited to participate in the Tuesday activities including workshops and tour,
- 14 MGCM members and 9 MGCM wives are currently (April 5th) registered. Total registration is 87 people,
- Raffle money will go to the registration subsidy fund until the convention then to the Fragrance Garden and to subsidize memorials and Christmas dinners for MGCM widows whose husbands died during the calendar year.

### REPORTS RECEIVED, AUCTION

- Jeannette McIntyre will donate Hal McIntyre's gardening tools etc. for the country fair.
- Carlton Nelson will not be available to cater the meal. We will find a caterer or have Kentucky Fried Chicken.
- We will need a new location. Lynhurst Park now requires a registration fee.

### REPORTS, OTHER

- Augsburg College will be the site for the Christmas Party. Only 14 people responded to Duane Reynolds' poll with votes evenly split.
- Rick Bonlender represented MGCM at a project called by the Horticultural Society on the creation of a project called Minnesota Green. The MGCM Fragrance Garden will be used by the Minnesota Green project as a model community garden. Viewing the Fragrance Garden will give other organizations living proof of the great results when people, plants and vacant land are combined to create pleasure for many area residents.
- The June meeting will be at Pershing Field without Agnes Oslund's great cooking.
- The Horticultural Society sent Duane Reynolds information on a potential fund raiser. (The Board decided not to be involved in the fund raiser in 1988 but to request that we be kept in mind for 1989.)

\* \* \* \* \*

Edinborough Park (Edina's indoor park) is looking for volunteers in two areas which might be of interest to MGCM members. It is an interesting place to work in the winter as well as in air conditioned comfort in the summer.

### VOLUNTEER PARK TOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDE

To assist groups and individuals with information both written and verbal as it relates to the Park's history, development and programming as well as guided tours and orientations.

### PLANT LIFE VOLUNTEERS

Plant life at Edinborough Park necessitates consistency, alertness, dependability, a willingness to learn and above all a love for plants and trees. This volunteer position will assist, independently and along side, the City of Edina's Plant Life Specialist with needed care and maintenance for plant life at the Park. (This is basically the maintenance of plants and shrubs, much as we would do in our own yards.)

If you would like to know more, contact Chet Groger or Charlie Proctor.