

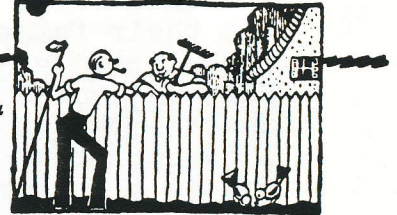


# The Garden Spray

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

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

October 1985, Volume 43, Number 10



## NEXT MGCM MEETING

TUESDAY EVENING OCTOBER 8th, 1985

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

DINNER 6:00 P.M. PRICE \$5.00

GET YOUR RESERVATIONS TO DUANE REYNOLDS AT ONCE

Our SPEAKER for the evening will be DONALD ENGLBERTSON of Trade Shows, Inc. who will discuss garden displays, how to set them up, etc.

\* \* \* \* \*

*Home & Garden Show*

HOLD IT! HALT! DON'T GO THERE YET!

The October 5 date for putting our Community Garden to bed for the winter has been cancelled. Joe Stenger, garden chairman, went down to the garden --together with Nate Siegel, Phil Peterson and Ed Culbert--on Friday September 13th to enable a STAR and TRIBUNE photographer to get color pictures of an MGCM group at work there. The trip was in response to a telephoned request from the reporter who attended our September meeting.

The group found the garden still so attractive that it seemed a shame to uproot it until after the first frost strikes it. Stenger will set a new date later and will telephone committee members. So be on the alert for a call when frost hits us.

## FROM THE ARCHIVES 1949 MGCA CONVENTION AT MINNEAPOLIS

December 16, 1947....Herb Kahlert suggested the possibility of our inviting the National Men's Garden Club convention for 1949 to the Twin Cities.....

March 9, 1948....Herb Kahlert was chairman of the special committee appointed to meet with the St. Paul club, and reported an enthusiastic reception of the idea of inviting the Men's Garden Clubs of America to hold their 1949 convention in the Twin Cities. He estimated the cost at about \$2,000 and stated that it would take the combined efforts of both clubs to put the convention over in a manner satisfactory to all concerned. After a long and sometimes heated debate, it was voted to instruct Herb Kahlert as our delegate to the Atlanta convention, to extend an official invitation in the names of both clubs to the National Board of Directors to hold the 1949 convention in the Twin Cities.....



LARRY BACHMAN TELLS THE BACHMAN STORY AT OUR SEPTEMBER MEETING  
by Chet Groger

MGCM member Larry Bachman, Director of Nursery Production at Bachman's, gave an excellent history and inside look at the Bachman empire at our September 10th meeting. Slide photos of the old days in the early 1900's showed Larry's father Albert Bachman, our MGCM charter member Henry Bachman and their father Henry Bachman, Sr. The early days concentrated on vegetable growing and direct marketing to the consumer. When Henry Bachman Sr. shipped squash and other vegetables to the East Coast, the train was loaded on the company's own railroad spur and he rode with the vegetables to keep stoves burning in each car. He still avoided a middleman and sold direct to the consumer when he arrived in the East.

When Larry's father, Albert Bachman, chose to grow carnations as his project in 1914 he caused the company to explore the growing of flowers as a cash crop. In time, Albert was able to prove that there was more profit in carnations than in vegetables. In 1924 a carnation house was built and vegetable growing was gradually phased out. From that point on Bachman's grew into a massive floral business which has become famous world wide.

Although flower and green plant culture is still the mainstay of the business, other divisions have been added over the years. A landscape division was started in the 1930's with Larry Bachman being named head of the division while he was still in high school. In 1947, the first Bachman retail store outside the main store on Lyndale Avenue was opened at 50th and France. And, having operated the flower shop in the downtown Dayton store since the late 1930's, plans were made to add other outlying florist shops. With the advent of the Dales shopping centers in the 1950's, Bachman's were on their way to a growing number of floral shops in Minnesota.

In 1968, Bachman's entered a new field that of supplying cut flowers in their new European Flower Markets. The first Market was opened in the new Byerly's Foods store in Golden Valley. That division has now grown to include 47 stores in Minnesota.

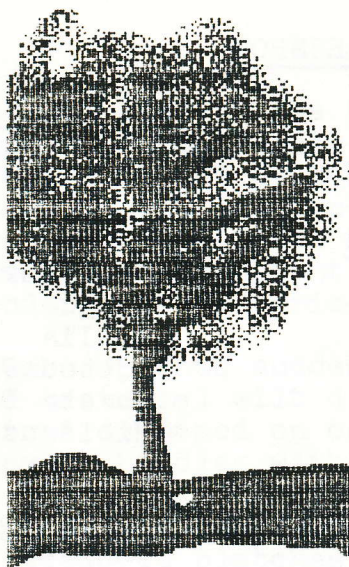
Another division was started in the 1960's, the Commercial Interior Landscaping Division. It has become a large part of the company and Bachman's green plants are seen in offices and stores throughout the area. Another division, Department 56, was started in the 1970's and specializes in the design and manufacture overseas of wood, ceramic, metal and porcelain gift items. They are sold at wholesale worldwide.

The latest new division is the Re-Wholesale Nursery Division alongside the growing range and greenhouse in Lakeville. Nursery operations were consolidated on 438 acres there in 1966 and 5 acres of greenhouses were completed in 1972. To provide better service and selection for nursery customers, new acreage is now stocked with all nursery items ready for immediate delivery.

An interesting note: Although Bachman's own 175 vehicles, including their own fleet of delivery vans, on Valentine Day they needed to hire 135 taxi cabs to help deliver flowers at the 8,080 stops on that one day. This is indicative of the size to which Bachman's has grown. We are grateful to Larry Bachman for sharing the Bachman story with us.

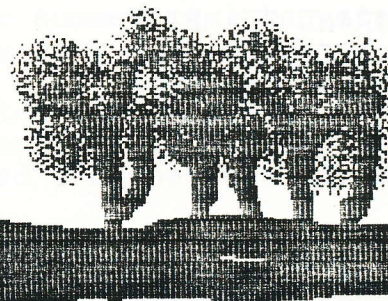
Give Ev. Haedecke a call. He's home after a siege in the hospital and is housebound.





## FROM THE WEED PATCH....

by Andy Marlow



As I write this, the first frost of the year is predicted overnight. The end of the growing season is upon us, even though a few flowers and some of the hardier vegetables will make it through this relatively mild freeze. In fact, the frost will undoubtedly make my carrots taste all the sweeter.

The end of the growing season doesn't mean the end of gardening, either. It's time to do those chores that pay off in being able to get an earlier start in the spring -- cleaning up dead plant material, adding organic matter to the soil and, where possible, turning the soil for next spring. Then there are leaves to rake, tender perennials to protect with a winter mulch and some mouse bait, and mowing the lawn one last time in November.

But the most important fall activity is reflecting on the successes and failures of the season just past and using that information to start planning for next year. I know that the annual cutting garden, which I started this year, will become a permanent fixture. I also realize that having a second vegetable garden, in the city's community plot way across town, is a sure way to have a very neglected garden. This year's variety of wax beans will not be grown again, but the signet-type marigold will be back. Besides, the latter won a blue ribbon at the August Flower and Vegetable Show.

I also learned things from other gardeners this year. A visit to Charlie Proctor's backyard this summer pushed me over the line toward having raised beds in my vegetable garden here at home. It suddenly became clear to me that better drainage and a neater, easier to reach arrangement weren't that difficult to achieve. And my friend Merle Pulley, who will become an MGCM member this month, convinced me to grow "Celebrity" tomatoes next year. Despite hearing all sorts of high praise for them from many of you, I hadn't yet tried them in my garden. Merle's donation of a few to my table quickly won me over.

These and other lessons really need to be written down now, so they aren't forgotten before they're put to use. If I can just get everything done outdoors, maybe I'll get to it....

Two quick reminders: 1) If you drove your car on the July tour after the bus broke down, the Club would like to help pay for some of your gas. Call George McCollough or talk to him at the next meeting. 2) New members joining MGCM now are considered members for 1986. They must pay the 1986 dues of \$25, rather than the \$24 that's listed on the application form. The rest of us will be paying \$25 for 1986 dues, too, due to an increase in the Minnesota Horticulture Society's group membership rate.



MGCM 1985 FLOWER and VEGETABLE SHOW  
Reported by Dale Durst

We had 27 members enter a total of 436 exhibits--316 in flowers and 120 in vegetables. DAVE JOHNSON TOOK SWEEPSTAKES IN BOTH FLOWER AND VEGETABLES

COURT OF HONOR -- FLOWERS

GRAND CHAMPION	Bob Churilla	Miniature Rose
NATIONAL AWARD	Dave Johnson	Zinnia
COURT OF HONOR	Harold Gulde	Dahlia
	Dave Johnson	Potted Plant
	Dave Johnson	Shasta Daisy
	Duane Reynolds	Hibiscus

COURT OF HONOR -- VEGETABLES & FRUITS

GRAND CHAMPION	Bob Gage	Swiss Chard
NATIONAL AWARD	Larry Bagge	Peppers
COURT OF HONOR	Dave Johnson	Potatoes
	Dave Johnson	Cabbage
	Dr. Leon Snyder	Raspberries
	Duane Reynolds	Apples

SWEEPSTAKES

FLOWERS		VEGETABLES	
Dave Johnson	76	Dave Johnson	38
Vern Carlson	47	Dr. Leon Snyder	28
Jerry Shannon	41	Duane Reynolds	21
Duane Reynolds	39	Vern Carlson	20
Bob Churilla	38	Larry Bagge	17
Bill Hull	33	Jerry Shannon	14
Chet Groger	32	Phil Peterson	12

We had more exposure than we have ever had before, and, many favorable comments about the show. I wish we could have had a count of the attendance. I want to thank everyone for his help.

DID YOU KNOW

That cereal rye (winter rye) seeded at the rate of 1/3 pound per 100 square feet of garden area makes a fine green manure crop to turn under in the spring even though it is not sown until early fall? If it is moist enough for the rye to germinate and send up a few shoots yet this fall the results next spring will be worth your efforts.

That Philodendron elegans looks rather like a fern?

That strawberry Tristar seen at the Chicago Botanical Garden bears a heavy crop of deep red berries every 6 weeks during the summer?

That pleaching and espaliering are the same thing? A row of Jonathan apple trees along a walkway at the Chicago Botanical Garden were planted 3 feet apart preparatory to pleaching.

That Sevin, malathion, bacillus thuriengensis and diazonon are called the Home Garden Insect Control Arsenal?

That you can tell how deeply you have watered by setting an open coffee can where the spray hits it? One inch of water in the can indicates 8 to 10 inches of moisture penetration in the soil.



## WE CAN LEARN FROM OTHER MGCA MEMBERS

Frank Spangler of the Mansfield Ohio MGC says he has not lost a cucumber plant due to bacterial wilt\* because he keeps his plants protected from the cucumber beetle. He recommends that you begin to dust with Sevin just as soon as the young plants emerge from the soil. He begins application the moment the leaves appear. If transplants are set out, he dusts them the same day. He continues to dust throughout the summer at intervals, depending on the periods of rain when the dust may be washed off.

\*Cucumber plants suddenly wilting and not recovering with watering likely have bacterial wilt disease. There is no cure for this condition, as control is based on control of spotted and striped cucumber beetles which Spangler handles with Sevin.

Erik Anderson and several other Spokane MGC members have had trouble with light colored blotches on spinach and beet leaves. The culprit is the spinach leaf miner, a whitish maggot which eats the green portion of the leaf. A tiny fly lays eggs on the under side of the leaves. They hatch in 3 to 4 days and eat their way into the leaf causing the white blotches. To control, remove infested leaves and dust with parathion.

Stan Crist reporting in GARDENING IN MINNETONKA has this to say. Every year the seed catalogs list new varieties, and the ones which particularly interest me are the "All America" winners. Usually I find they are well worth trying.

Among the All America winners this year was a new zinnia--Yellow Marvel. This turned out to be the biggest disappointment in my entire garden. This is the second year I have planted "Border Beauty Rose" zinnias and I am very pleased with this variety. It was an All America winner a year or two ago.

"Trinidad" verbenas were another All America winner. I found this plant did well if it was planted very close together. It grows upright, rather than spreading as other verbenas do. However, I think I will go back to growing the spreading type.

I continue to be very well pleased with the Nicki-hybrid nicotianas. I am planting these rather than petunias. I find petunias are outstanding early in the season, but later on, they become straggly and unsightly, while the nicotianas continue to bloom beautifully and don't have any problems.

The one flower I intend to use much more of next year are the fibrous begonias. Just about everything in my garden looks pretty sad right now, about ready for frost, except the begonias, and they're even more beautiful than they've been all summer. I have always thought that begonias were a plant for the shade only, but I see them growing in full sun, looking just great. There are many varieties listed in the seed catalogs but two that I know that are excellent are Derby and Linda.

I think it's a fine idea to take a trip to the Arboretum to see what new varieties they're growing. That to me seems more reliable than just following the seed catalog recommendations.

Richard Poffenbaugh gets rid of fruit flies in the kitchen with a vacuum cleaner. "They land on light surfaces and you can ease right up to them with the hose and eliminate them."



ARCHIVES from page 1

April 13, 1948....The main subject, of course, was the convention for 1949 which was injected into the meeting by the reading of a wire from Kahlert to the effect that the Board had voted unanimously to accept our invitation to come here in 1949.....

May 11, 1948....It was announced that at this time the general committee for both cities had chosen Herb Kahlert to act as chairman for the 1949 convention.....

October 12, 1948....Following the program Archie Flack and others presented various methods of raising money for the national convention next year. The plan finally agreed upon called for the sale of special subscriptions at \$35 each to our members, the money to be placed in a special fund in our treasury and to be used to underwrite the cost of the convention. It was estimated that we would need at least \$3,000 in this fund before the convention could start. Before the meeting closed we had \$1,250 in the fund!  
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January 11, 1949....For a change the annual business meeting was held in the Park Board greenhouse with a special \$1.35 dinner prepared and served by our own members as another method of raising money for the convention fund. The dinner consisted of Kahlert baked beans, Stan Lund cole slaw, gift Porkies, Nash coffee, brown bread, potato chips and apple pie. A \$308 profit was realized from the meal and was added to the fund.....

February 8, 1949....This was the second of our money-raising dinners prepared and served at the Park Board greenhouse by members of the club. Chief Chef Bill Swain bossed the job and acted as expert salad tosser and, for a nominal charge, everybody had a fine feed and at the same time we added a fair sum to our convention fund.....

March 8, 1949....This was the third of our popular home-cooked meals served at the greenhouse with Chef Bill Swain doling out roast ham and vegetables. After the meal, Bill turned the meeting over to Herb Kahlert to run and proceeded to concoct a mess of his famous salad dressing which, when done, was bottled and sold to the men present, the proceeds going to our fast-growing convention fund.....

April 12, 1949....Sixty members and guests met as usual at the Park Board greenhouse for another of those "home-cooked" dinners. With three chefs, four bull cooks and half of the club as waiters, everybody was well satisfied with the meal....Both of our speakers for the evening were imported from Faribault and both had a national reputation....(They were A. M. Brand and Edgar Lehman--Editor)

June 14, 1949....This normally would have been a flower show but due to the work being done in preparation for the convention the show was omitted and, instead, we enjoyed a picnic supper on the grounds near the Park Board maintenance building. The meal was supplied by Christman, Dufourd, Titus, Brooks and Nyberg and was much enjoyed by all.....

August 9, 1949....This was a joint pre-convention potluck picnic with the St. Paul Men's Garden Club and the ladies and was held at Minnehaha Park ....Joe Micko, President of the St. Paul club, spoke of the part his group expected to take in the planning of the coming convention. Herb Kahlert general chairman, outlined the program so far agreed upon and Mrs. Kahler discussed the type of entertainment usually provided for the ladies during the time the men would be busy in their business sessions.