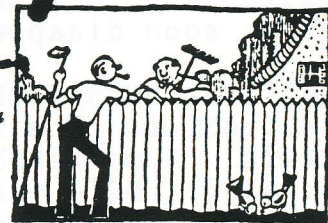




The Garden Spray

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

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



September 1987 Volume 45 Number 9

DID THE PARCHING HEAT of JUNE WILT OR DRY UP YOUR GARDEN?

DID JULY'S DELUGE DROWN OUT YOUR GARDEN? LEAVE IT UNDULY SOGGY?

HOW DID YOUR GARDEN, AND YOU, TAKE THE JUNE - JULY HUMIDITY?

EXCHANGE EXPERIENCES WITH YOUR FELLOW GARDENERS AT THE

MEN'S GARDEN CLUB MEETING TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 8, 1987 AT THE

PERSHING PARK CENTER, 48th ST. & BEARD AVE. S.

(One block north of Lake Harriet Church)

DINNER AT 6:00 P.M. (Come early to reminisce)

PRICE \$6.00

GET YOUR RESERVATION CARD BACK TO RICK BONLENDER AT ONCE!

PROGRAM

MGCM member JULIUS WADEKAMPER will talk on LILIES

At his Borboleta Gardens in Faribault Julius raises lilies, hemerocallis, daffodils and iris. Long time MGCM members will recall the series of articles on iris he wrote for the SPRAY beginning in 1973.

* * * * *

WANT AN OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUR COMPANY?

Do you own your company or perhaps have access to public relations funds? If so, you might want to consider sponsoring some event at our 1988 MGCA convention here in Minneapolis. It's deductible and we'll provide plenty of credit lines for the firm's support.

There are several places where your funds could enhance our guests good times.

We're speaking of optional events we simply can't afford when we're working so hard to keep registration at \$100 instead of the usual \$150 to \$180. We need sponsors for events from \$100 to \$200 to provide coffee at different meetings to as high as \$3,300 for someone to reprint Gardening Lessons We've Learned so we can give one to each delegate.

You will not be approached to put the bite on you and that is not intended herein. We're simply saying that here is an opportunity you may want to consider.

If this interests you, please let us know soon because we must get our budget finalized and our program released very quickly. Talk with convention treasurer Dave Johnson or general chairman Bill Hull.

NOTES FROM THE JULY BOARD MEETING

A RECOMMENDATION: was made to install an irrigation system using the balance of funds in the memorial fund account. A discussion followed about what type of irrigation system would be most appropriate (mechanical vs. fully automatic).

Editor's Note: One was installed free of charge in 1971. All the brass heads soon disappeared.

NATIONAL DUES INCREASE: It was reported that the MGCM delegates voted as instructed. The MGCA increase of \$5 will force MGCM to raise membership costs. A membership increase will be discussed at the September membership meeting. MGCA (officers) presented a need for hiring an executive director and raising the salary through membership increases and fund raising efforts. A suggestion was made by the delegates to reduce the scope, appearance and cost of the magazine to that of a photocopied newsletter. This would reduce the pressure to increase membership dues to cover the cost of the magazine which is less of a membership benefit than MGCA believes.

CALENDARS: Howard Berg is taking orders for the 1988 calendar. The cost will be \$2. If you haven't been contacted get in touch with Howard.

GARDEN SPRAY MAILINGS: Several July SPRAY s did not arrive or came late. (All copies are delivered to the branch post office at the same time. If yours doesn't arrive at least 7 days before the regular meeting date telephone Ed. Culbert 823-7853)

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP TO MGCM FOR NATE SIEGEL: Nate is currently an MGCA lifetime member. He will now become an MGCM honorary member.

BILL HULL REPORTS ON MEETING OF CONVENTION CHAIRMEN JULY 28

Yes, we had a group of about 25 people present at the Hennepin County Library building in Edina on that night. Among those present were: Gene Ackland, Rick Bonlender, Archie Caple, Stanley Crist, Chet Groger, Walt Gustafson, Bill Hull, Carol Hull, Dave Johnson, Dave Moehnke, Donal O'Donnell, Bob Olson, Charlie Proctor, Duane Reynolds, Jerry Shannon, Russ Smith, Ray Weisberg, and Frank Vixo.

We discussed each committee's basic responsibility to be sure each chairman had a good fix on his workload. We discussed many facets of the convention, such as how we'd register wives and what we should expect of you as members. As one fellow said, "I'm working my tail off for the convention, which is exactly what I think everybody else will do eventually--as the natural duty to support the club." It was a good meeting, running from 7 to 9:30, building closing time.

Bill Hull's July letter to all MGCA clubs is beginning to produce results. We exchange bulletins with a number of other clubs. Several of their August bulletins have referred to Bill's letter and the Minneapolis convention in 1988.

The deaths of O. C. Turnquist and Leon Snyder have taken two MGCM members who would have been standout speakers for 1988 convention seminars. Fortunately, though some may be less well known, we still have a reservoir of others to draw upon.

A color picture and write-up of the Carleton Nelsons and their garden appeared on the front page of the Star and Tribune's July 30 Community section. August 6 a color picture of Phyllis Gulde in their garden appeared in the same location. Both gardens should be musts for 1988 convention visitors.



"TELL THEM TO WAIT - I'M BUSY GARDENING"

Bob Olson
President
Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis

At Leon Snyder's Memorial Service they read a poem written by his young grandson. Part of it went, "....He was a smart man. He loved to garden and he loved to make puzzles. He was fun to be around." Over 400 people came to the service at the Arboretum, each probably reflecting on how Dr. Snyder had touched his life. None of them said it any better than his grandson who also noted that Leon Snyder didn't reminisce or talk about the past like so many older people. He was always acting now and planning for the future.

What a wonderful message to all of us. It was appropriate and necessary for us to pause and reflect on his passing; but I'm sure the lesson he would leave with us is the joy in life comes from doing and planning. Reflection is something to help you do these better.

The best times most of us have in the Garden Club involve working for a common cause with some other semi-rabid gardeners. There's almost always an opportunity to do this and this month is no exception.

Spurred on by Nate Siegel (who with Ed Culbert is compiling a history of the Fragrance Garden) an ad hoc group known as FIG (Fragrance Garden Inspection Group) has been formed. The purpose is to get the Fragrance Garden into shape for this Fall so it will be a show piece for the National Convention next July.

Although it is quite nice this year, those of you who have worked there or visited in the evening tour know there's a lot of room for improvement. Among other things a tree went down in the Great Rain Storm and a good part of the garden has subsequently been changed from "shady" to "sunny". The stump needs to be removed and the area prepared for planting next Spring.

There are numerous rotted timbers which need to be replaced and "volunteer" trees to be removed. The areas where brush is being cleared badly needs soil enrichment. We have tentatively scheduled two work days to help with the bigger projects and general clean up.

The first: September 12, 1987. We hope to clear out the "unsalvageable" junipers and replace the rotten timbers at the West end of the garden. Incidental volunteer trees and shrubs can be removed at this time, also.

The second: September 26, 1987. We have a tentative commitment from Craig Alexander for a truck and a Bob Cat to get leaf mold compost from the New Hope repository and spread it over key areas in the garden.

Mark these days on your calendar. Duane Johnson and Phil Peterson and the others will be calling for assistance. Think of ways you can help.

Kent Pettersson is compiling a list of fragrant perennials and working on a scheme for situating such plant material around the flower borders. He will appreciate any perennials you have which would fit in the "fragrant" category. He would welcome even more some people with skill, experience and knowledge in planting flower borders who would be willing to work with him.

DRIFT FROM THE SPRAYER
by Ed. Culbert

Appropriately, the memorial service for Dr. Leon Snyder was held in front of the Snyder building where facing us were flags at half mast, a bed of gorgeous pink petunias and the fountain playing in the pool below. A picture accompanying Jim Klobuchar's column of August 13 showed many of us among those gathered to eulogize Dr. Snyder. He meant much to MGCM. He served as President; supplied shrubs for auctions; wrote articles for the SPRAY; served on program committee and as speaker; made us proud at Fort Collins by filling in impromptu for a speaker who failed to arrive.

Several years ago much was printed about direct seeding of tomatoes. I knew it could work here because I had pulled up volunteer plants from my vegetable garden. So I tried it. No real problem. Still I went back to raising my own transplants in the basement more from force of habit than for any reason.

This year after I had set out my transplants (June 1) volunteer tomato plants again showed up in my beet and in my carrot beds. I let them grow. Actually, I was gone for a month and they were so big when I got back I couldn't bear to pull them up. The beets were ready to can, anyway, and I could eat the small carrots raw.

My forbearance was repaid. Those volunteer plants produced ripe red tomatoes a week ahead of the transplants. And I picked a ripe yellow tomato on August 3. Transplants have never given me yellow fruit before late August and probably won't this year, either, judging from appearances as I write (August 16).

Next year I shan't raise transplants. I'll direct seed. I won't have to worry about damping-off, lights, watering, transplanting to peat pots, hardening-off etc. etc. I'll go spend a week in Kentucky, instead.

WALTER E. FLUMERFELT 1900-1987

Walter Flumerfelt a member of MGCM since 1975 died Saturday August 7. He had been unable to attend meetings regularly for several years due to a heart condition and diabetes for which he was hospitalized for six weeks not long ago.

Walter was born on the family farm at Ararat in the Binghamton area of Pennsylvania on January 26, 1900. After high school he attended Cornell University where he obtained a degree in chemistry. He was one of the pioneers in the extraction of soya bean oil chemically instead of by crushing and pressing. He held several patents on chemical methods of extracting oil from soy beans.

He joined General Mills and was stationed in Belmond Iowa for several years. He came to Minneapolis as part of General Mills feed department. When General Mills got out of the animal feed business Walt left the company and went into the commodity trading field and then into stocks and bonds. His place, just off Highway 100 backs up to Minnehaha Creek and has been a show place for gardens and lawn. Mrs. Flumerfelt from her wheelchair says, "My husband loved working in his garden where he always wore his green MGCA jacket."

--Larry Corbett

Contentment - planting one tomato variety and not having an urge to read descriptions about others.

Gardening expert Leon Snyder dies at 79

Columnist was leader at arboretum, 'U'

By Roman Augustoviz
Staff Writer

Leon C. Snyder, 79, of Minnetonka, founding director of the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, died of a heart attack Saturday while mowing his daughter's lawn in Buffalo, Minn.

Snyder was head of the university's Department of Horticultural Science and Landscape Architecture from 1953 to 1970.

He had written a weekly gardening column for the Sunday Minneapolis Star and Tribune since 1966 and had a monthly call-in program on WCCO radio for many years.

Snyder was the author of four books on gardening: "How Does Your Garden Grow," "Trees and Shrubs of Northern Gardens," "Gardening in the Upper Midwest," and "Flowers for Northern Gardens." All were published in the last nine years. He also was co-author of "Minnesota Gardener's Companion" and recently had completed a sixth book.

"He was Mr. Horticulture for the state through his books and through his many appearances on WCCO and other radio stations," said James Bartz, head of the university's horticulture department.

Snyder joined the university staff in 1945. In his early years, he was an extension horticulturalist and traveled throughout the state promoting gardens.

As horticulture department head, Snyder "formed the basis for what is now one of the top seven or top five departments in the country," Bartz said. "Many of the people he hired are still here."

"But, without doubt, his major legacy was his single-minded objective and devotion to forming the arboretum. He had the vision, ambition and drive to make it happen."

About 6,000 elementary school students and 100,000 adults now visit the arboretum annually, Bartz said, adding, "(It's also) a research facility unique in this country in terms of developing and testing plant materials that are suitable to this climate."

The arboretum, located near Chanhassen, opened in 1958. Snyder was its part-time director until 1970 when he assumed the position full-time.

He retired in 1976 but remained busy. Most recently, he was working on gardens for downtown New Ulm, Minn., and Grandview Lodge in Brainerd, Minn. Snyder helped to develop a maple tree called the Northwoods that is noted for its brilliant fall colors and a hardy variety of azaleas.

Family and friends said he passed on his love of gardening to thousands of people.

"He was not a talker," said Edward Hance, a son-in-law, "but he would glow and verbalize if you got into the area of nature and plants."

Said naturalist Jim Gilbert, "The neat thing about him was he would never put anybody down for (asking) a question. . . . And he would hear the same questions again and again."

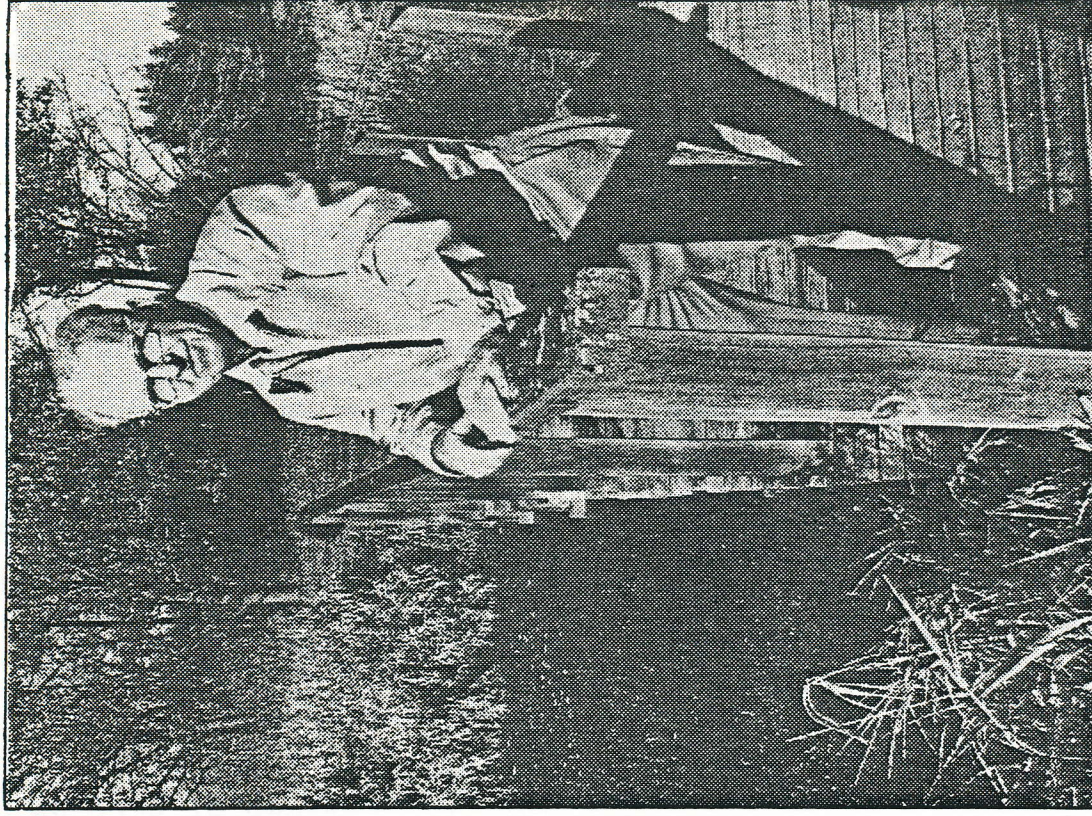
He and his wife, Vera, also guided about 18 garden tours to faraway spots like the Orient, South America and Europe.

"Anybody who knew Leon and Vera," Bartz said, "and stopped at their house could not get away without a tour of their garden and some kind of refreshment."

Snyder, born in Shepherd, Mich., was the son of a farm family. He received his bachelor's, master's and doctorate degrees in botany from the University of Washington.

He taught at the University of Wyoming and South Dakota State University before moving to Minnesota.

Besides his wife, Snyder is survived by daughters Ann Bursch of Minnetonka, Mary Beattie of St. Paul and Erva Hance of Buffalo; a son, Leon Jr. of Columbia, Mo.; a sister, Marguerite Jackson of Ferndale, Mich.; a brother, Cyril of Miami, and 12 grandchildren.



Leon Snyder passed on his love of gardening to thousands.

A visitation will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesday at the Landscape Arboretum or the Dr. Leon Snyder Scholarship Fund at the University of Minnesota.

The family suggests memorials to the arboretum or the Dr. Leon Snyder Scholarship Fund at the University of Minnesota.

THE (PLANT) DOCTOR'S ADVICE

By Chuck Levine

Fall Planting

Although we tend to think of spring as being the planting season, many plants are best established in the fall. September is the time to think about planting trees, shrubs, lawns, bulbs, many perennials, and even some vegetable seeds.

Trees and shrubs which are balled and burlaped or container grown can be planted any time of year. Evergreens are especially nice to "Spruce" up your garden as they add a nice green touch to our long winter landscape. Transplanted woody ornamentals should be watered thoroughly and mulched to help keep the soil warm longer. To protect them from rodents you may want to place cylinders of mesh screen around the base of each tree.

When it comes to lawn establishment, fall plantings (about the 12th or 15th of September) of seed are often much more

successful than spring plantings, since lawn grasses are primarily cool season crops. The cool fall weather helps to promote healthy foliage and sturdy root growth, both necessary for successful lawn establishment. Weed competition is reduced as few weeds germinate at this time of year.

If spring flowers are what you are after, you should consider September plantings of perennials. Some of those to consider for fall plantings include campanulas, perennial salvias, astilbes, iris, phlox, shasta daisies, veronicas and especially peonies. Peonies should always be planted in September as they need to establish themselves well before the onset of winter. When planting peonies, select those roots with from 3-5 "eyes" or buds. When planted, the crown or top of the plants should be planted no deeper than 1 1/2 to 2 inches or they may fail to bloom.

If you want to get a jump on your vegetable garden, there are several which can be planted in the fall. These include spinach, leaf lettuce, corn salad, dill, parsley and garlic. As a general rule any plants which can naturally reseed themselves or volunteer can be fall planted. It is a good idea to mulch over these seeded areas with straw or hay to protect any young seedlings that should emerge. Fall is for planting!

A company that supplies printed plant labels makes them for 165 varieties of tomatoes, 86 varieties of peppers, and 27 varieties of cabbage.

They also have printed tags for 327 different petunias, 175 marigolds, 207 impatiens and 69 coleus. Parks wholesale catalog lists 137 kinds of petunias, 95 varieties of marigolds and 37 kinds of tomatoes.

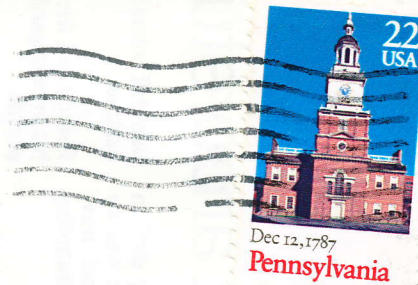
- 6 -

Return to
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