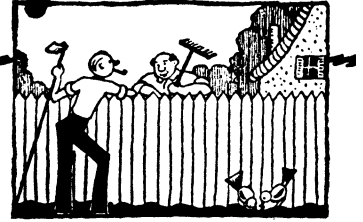




The Garden Spray

BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS

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



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G "Vic" Lowrie, Editor

Associate Editors
Wm. H. Hull, Joe Witmer
Don Methven, Bob Adams

AUGUST GARDEN TOUR

OFFICERS

Date: Tuesday, August 12, 1958
Place: Hardware Mutual Insurance Co.
Offices on Excelsior Blvd.,
overlooking Lake Calhoun
Time: 5:30 P.M. on the dot

W. W. Brooks President
P. W. Young Vice Pres:
W. H. Hull Treasurer
N. W. Christopherson Secretary

Office of the Secretary
N. W. Christopherson
6145 Clinton Avenue South

Office of the Exchange Edi:
G. Victor Lowrie
417 Essex Building

SOMETHING NEW HAS BEEN ADDED

Caterers will serve dinner in this elegant building where we plan to hold our Fall Flower Show.

So that we may all get from one member's garden to another without getting lost as well as keep better together, a bus is going to be provided to drive us around.

Therefore, park your automobile in the parking lot at the American Hardware building. The bus will pick us up and return us to that point after the tour.

All are cordially invited to take advantage of the bus and are urged to do so on this occasion so that a fair test can be made of its practicabili

OVER THE GARDEN GATE

by Bill Hull

We are certainly sorry to hear that Bob Savory is in the hospital. Take it easy, Bob; take care of yourself and accept our best wishes for a complete recovery. Drop him a card at Glen Lake -- or better still, go to see him.

Wasn't that a wonderful idea to bring flowers to the June meeting? Let's do it more often without invitation.

Herb Kahlert and Leon Snyder have been designated as delegates to the national convention in Cleveland this August. I will also be there as a national director, so we still have two openings for alternate delegates. If you can make this convention, you won't be sorry.

Did you participate in the coleus planting at the park area Saturday, June 14? About a dozen fellows planted over 1200 coleus. They probably didn't need many more men. At least, you should drop by to see our area, where there are now coleus, crab apples, evergreens, clematis -- all planted by the club. Tony Koc was in charge of this planting.

The Board of Directors has decided to have slides again, either at the Christmas meeting or shortly thereafter. So plan on it. Take new photos of your garden areas and specimens. P. W. Young will be calling for them this fall.

George Titus recently sent along blossoms of some of his 14 kinds of pelargoniums, 6 primulas, several roses, such as Cecil Bruner which grows seven feet high in California, with about 300 blossoms. A big hello from George to you fellows.

Several of you know that I grafted 35 apple scions on understock early this spring. Twenty-nine have taken and are growing rapidly. The remaining scions, thrown into a pit to keep them a few days, promptly calloused and started to grow. What will I do with these 50 or so trees when they mature? Give them to children who want apple trees, supervise their planting and initial care.

Les Johnson, P. W. Young, president Bill Brooks and others have put a lot of advance work and planning into the fall flower show coming soon. This is intended as the biggest, most successful show ever held by the club. The whole question is: Will you personally let them down? If you are not among those same basic fellows who always assist the show by showing, this is the time to come forth. Let's not embarrass our club by a small show. Every garden has plenty of materials for arrangements and specimens. Who knows, you may even walk away with a Grand Champion. It frequently happens in shows that a sole entry will be the grand champion.

All it takes to improve the average neighborhood is one good garden. Not how others immediately take pride and try to compete and improve the whole area. As a member of our fine group, each of us should strive to make our garden the nicest in our block.

The SPRUCE UP MINNEAPOLIS campaign, conducted by the Downtown Council, wa a splendid idea. Only fault: it should have been originated by the MGC of Minneapolis.

Joe Witmer's fifty-nine varieties of daylilies have been very beautiful. Hope some of you had a chance to view them. Tony Koester's hybrid regals were also most attractive. Eight feet high, as many as twenty huge flowers to a stalk.

A very fine tour last July meeting. In spite of the rain and the change in meeting place, attendance was good, and we saw some beautiful gardens.

National dues will probably be increased at the August convention in Cleveland. The Men's Garden Clubs of America is one of the few organisations which have not increased its dues in the past 10 years. Present dues simply ridiculously incapable of covering work of all committees, maintaining a very small office and publishing MEGA and other aids. For several years, the natio board of directors have seugh alternatives to raising dues, but with little su Present dues are only \$1.00 per year.

At the next meeting, we plan to have a bus to convey members on the tour. Drive to the host's home, leave your car there. The bus will take you to the various gardens to be visited and quickly return you to the host's home and your own car. Many advantages. This idea almost unanimously accepted by vote the July meeting.

Would anyone be interested in reviving the Lyndale Lily planting group, p viding material is available? Tony Koester has been approached by a friend of the club who would make the lilies available if we are interested. Plans are a concentrated planting, probably in a different location than previously used Needed: a nucleus of interested people. See Tony.

See you across the garden gate, over the fence and around the compost pil

Nematodes in Minnesota

For many years it was believed that nematodes were not a problem in Minne seta. It was thought that these small animals could not survive the cold wint temperatures. However, research at the University of Minnesota, supported by findings in Wisconsin and New York, has demonstrated that nematodes are just a common in the North as they are in the South. Some species are found in both areas, while others are found in only one. The species we have in Minnesota a well adapted to our climate and can cause great damage to crops despite the lo winter temperature.

Over 400 soil samples have been collected from Minnesota fields during th last two years. When the results of this survey are compared with those of a similar nematode survey in Maryland, it is discovered that many of the most im tant genera of plant parasitic nematodes are more abundant in Minnesota. Since many of these are known to cause heavy losses, it must mean that nematodes are causing considerable damage to Minnesota crops. Therefore, nematodes must not be considered a southern problem. We must also consider them here.

Report from Minn. Nurserymen's Newsletter

HOT WEATHER HINTS

Plants will withstand the heat pretty well if mulched. Since August is likely to be a hot month, those of you who have not mulched might want to do so. At least, it would be worth testing in a bed or two. You can use any one of many popular mulching materials including lawn clippings, light compost, well rotted manure, crushed buckwheat hulls, ground corn cobs, sawdust or peat moss.

Remember that a good soaking of your lawn is to be preferred over light spraying daily. One should soak deeply, to a depth of six inches if possible. Of course light sandy soils may need more frequent attention. In your beds use a soil soaker or water wand, keeping the water away from foliage, particularly of roses, phlox and zinnias.

Keep feeding and watering your tuberous begonias for continuous bloom. Don't water the foliage when exposed to the hot sun.

They used to recommend keeping geraniums a little on the dry side. Actually, however, you get more blooms and larger blooms if kept fairly moist but well drained.

Better start buttering up those extra special plants from which you expect to cut some prize-winning specimens. Keep them clean by dusting healthy plants and vigorous through feeding and watering.

For a second crop of delphinium bloom, cut back the plant to within 18 inches. Fertilize and water well -- watch to see how quickly the new growth develops.

This is a good month to order peonies, lilies and spring-flowering bulbs. Daffodils should be planted as soon as they become available so that a good root system is established before the ground becomes frozen.

Keep the blades of your mower as high as possible during the hot weather and allow the grass to grow as high as practical before cutting. It's not too late to get after that crab grass providing it hasn't already gone to seed. If it has, try PAX later in the fall or before germination in the spring. Many of the boys have used it with pleasing results.

Gladioli, dahlias and roses are thirsty things, especially at budding time, so soak them really well once a week. When cutting glads for the house, take them when the first flower opens and with as little foliage as possible.

Perennial and biennial seeds should be sown now and the seedlings wintered in the cold frame. Prepare the seed beds well, good and deep and be sure to shade the young plants from the hot sun.

Fertilize your rose beds now for heavy fall bloom but do not fertilize after August 15th or you may have difficulty hardening off green canes before frost sets in.

Don't neglect your dusting or spraying. Keep it up until frost kills all the bugs and, of course, the heavy dew throughout the fall brings mildew unless you continue to ward against it.

Fall crocuses make a colorful show in the garden if massed. They take a few weeks from planting time to bloom.

You can transplant evergreens as soon as the tips of the branches have stopped growing and have become mature. It is best to water the ground thoroughly several days in advance, then dig them up with a large ball of soil around the roots. Be sure to provide a hole large enough to avoid crowding the roots. Transplant when the ground is good and moist -- keep well watered until the ground freezes.

Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis

Tour of Member's Gardens

August 12, 1958

Dinner at American Hardware
Mutual Insurance Company Cafeteria
3033 Excelsior Blvd.

5:30 P.M.

The tour will be by bus (or in your car, if you prefer). You may leave your car in the insurance company parking lot and the bus will bring us back here after the tour. Leo Stillman will be aboard to give us a preview of the highlights of each garden on the tour.

First Stop - at the home of "Chris" Christopherson
6145 Clinton Avenue S.
(Clinton is between 3rd and 4th Avenues)

Second Stop - at the home of Maurie Lifson
5115 Knox Avenue S.

Third Stop - at the home of Sherm Pinkham
5410 Abbott Place
(Abbott Place is an extension of Abbott Ave.)

Fourth Stop - at the home of Bill Ost
4705 Chowen Avenue S.
(Bill's begonia lath house is effectively floodlighted for viewing after dark)

Back to the insurance building to pick up your car.