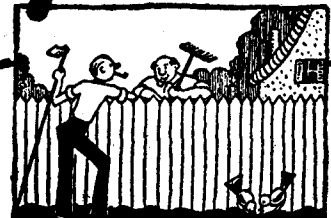




# The Garden Spray

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:  
Don Methven, Wm. Hull  
N. W. Christopherson  
Joe Witmer

## TWO BIG JUNE EVENTS!

1. Wild Flower Garden Tour -  
Tuesday, June 8
2. Spring Flower Show -  
Saturday, June 12

Our regular dinner meeting will be held on the second Tuesday in the month - June 8. Dinner will be served in the Theodore Wirth Social Building (on top of the hill above the site of the Aqua Follies) at 5:30 P.M. sharp.

From there we will proceed to the Wirth Wild Flower Gardens for a conducted tour. You will not want to miss this opportunity to see these wild gems growing in their natural habitat and learn more about their cultivation. Drive out Glenwood Avenue directly to the building and do try to be on time so as to have plenty of daylight for viewing the wild flowers later.

## Officers

A. H. Flack	President
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417 Essex Building

"Thank you, one and all!"

The success of our Plant Auction was made possible by members who were so generous in their donations of materials as well as those who contributed their services, and I deeply appreciated the fine support you gave me. At this writing it appears our net proceeds will be in excess of \$550 - a record. (except for the 1949 MGCA fund-raising auction).

Again we are grateful to the Park Board for its splendid support and for the use of the greenhouses. And a word of praise for the Program Committee for providing such good chow, so efficiently served. Thank you again.

TONY KOESTER

## OVER THE GARDEN FENCE

By Bill Hull

Sid Alwin is experimenting with growing roses, chrysanthemums and pansies under fluorescent lights, hoping he'll have enough sunny area in the new yard to grow his plants successfully when they're transplanted. Sid has moved to a larger lot in Morningside and has a lot of trees on the new property. He advises against planting many trees in the back yard since within a few years they eliminate the sun and need to be removed. Sid is a strong advocate of dwarf trees in the back yard, leaving the larger variety for the boulevard.

Speaking of dwarf trees, a commercial orchardist at Vincennes, Ind., has planted over 1,000 dwarf apples in the last four years. His results to date are favorable with a half-bushel of fruit each from his older trees.

Al "Blackie" Blackburn had a bed of 500 Red Emperor tulips that was a real eye-catcher. Located near the creek, this bed was visible from Wooddale Avenue and from the school rooms of the nearby church. Al had put in over 2,000 tulips and daffodils last fall; says he felt like a pocket gopher by the time he had them all planted. He has also added 75 to 100 more roses this spring, bringing his total to about 175. His new bed is west of the old rose garden.

J. R. Addy will take it easy on the gardening this year and enjoy his perennials. We sincerely hope this summer's rest will let him pursue this favorite hobby again next year.

Norm Christopherson is lamenting a heavy winter kill of chrysanthemums this year, the total loss being his heaviest in any previous year. His past experience leads him to believe this spring's alternate thawing and freezing caused his loss. This year Norm's adding tuberous begonias near his 30 ferns on the north side of the house. The question of too much shade may be a problem.

on a local tulip-buying jaunt. The grower picked his blooms by pulling both stalks and leaves from the bulbs, which he then discarded, stating that they wouldn't bloom again. Joe took some of these mangled discards home and has found the bloom this spring satisfactory but small this first year. Joe suggests that here might be a good source of tulip bulbs if one is willing to wait until the second year for extra large flowers. The doctor has also been well pleased with his attempts at raising delphinium, coleus, double hollyhocks and African violets under fluorescent lighting.

Chuck Crewe believes that the victory gardens provided much of the impetus for today's wide interest in home gardening. Chuck recalls the day a few years ago when he first met Archie Flack and Larry Corbett, when all three had a V-garden on the Park Board property. Now Chuck uses his plot on the same ground to experiment and also has a nursery for his home garden. Once again we heard of past-president Rene's beautiful garden there. This year we must see it.

Bill Holmberg has over 700 new dahlias available, including some from Australia, Holland, Belgium and England. Although Bill has sufficient space to start several thousand dahlias, he doesn't want to limit himself, so he also raises some fine begonias and annuals. Here is another spot we should drop by this summer.

If you haven't seen President Archie's beautiful front lawn, you've missed a good stand of blue grass. We noticed the black dirt going onto the turf some time ago. Now it has paid off in a well dressed turf.

Vic Lowrie will have his hands full this summer. He's moving into a new home and has to make some decisions about moving his fine garden. Don't leave that wild-flower garden, Vic!

Henry Bachman has had excellent results keeping potted plants in the east window

favorite spot for indoor plants. He says you're blessed if you have an east exposure.

Farmers' findings applicable to us "one-sixth-acre" farmers: Dinitro is eliminating weeds from corn; heavy applications of 2,4-D applied in the fall kill deep-rooted perennial weeds which are usually only stunted by weed killers; 2,4,5-T is still eradicating hardwood brush. Anyone bothered by mesquite? Corn forms temporary roots from the seed but permanent roots above the seed at the moisture level. For this reason, farmers are planting corn shallower, perhaps 1 1/2 inches. Three inches is said to be absolute maximum.

For two weeks we've had perennials stored in clay, tarpaper and paper pots. Paper pots hold the moisture better than the tarpaper ones, the latter allowing shrinkage of the soil. Clay pots are more permanent, of course, but the perennials have thrived in all three types of containers.

Our most sincere congratulations to Herb Kahlert who has received further gardening honors by being nominated First Vice-President of the Men's Garden Clubs of America. We all know this is a deserved recognition of Herb's abilities and services on a national level as well as within our own club. And thanks, Herb, for bringing this honor to our club.

Did you hear about P. W. Young's recent talk to the Early American Glass Club of Minneapolis? Apparently friend "P.W." is also an expert on "end of the day" glass, having an outstanding collection of these colorful pieces artisans formerly made after hours for their pleasure. Don't keep your light under a bushel, P.W.!

Harold Kaufman represented the M.G.C. in a talk at the opening session of the University of Minnesota horticultural short course. Harold discussed labor saving tools and gadgets for gardeners but did himself an injustice by saying "I don't have a green thumb and 84 of the 85 members of our club know more about gardening than I do, so I have to depend on gadgets." We hear by the grapevine that Harold gave an outstanding talk,

George Titus, Sherm Pinkham and Vic Lowrie have all been charming the ladies recently by giving talks at their garden club meetings.

Congratulations to Bill Addy who has been recognized by being awarded membership in the President's Club of the Great West Life Assurance Company. We were fortunate enough to obtain a notice of Bill's award which explains that the club is "composed of leading representatives of the company who have distinguished themselves through outstanding sales accomplishments and maintenance of high standards in the conduct of their business." Good going, Bill!

The club is still getting bouquets for the very successful 1949 M.G.C.A. convention held here in Minneapolis. Herb Kahlert recently received a long letter concerning a new product for the control of insects and fungus disease, on which has been written this postscript: "Still recall the grand time at the M.G.C.A. meeting there (Minneapolis)". That should make our 1949 committee justifiably proud.

Felix Dhainen has moved to 5733 Knox Ave S., telephone WH 0462. We know you'll want to make these changes on your roster and to wish the Dhainens happiness in their new home.

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The club's official delegates to the annual convention of the MGCA at Denver, voted on by the membership, will be Herb Kahlert and Rene Dufourd with Ernest Thompson as alternate.

Among the All-America rose winners which have compiled the most impressive record over a period of time are such perennial favorites as Peace, Charlotte Armstrong Rubaiyat, Mirandy, Nocturne, Tallyho and K. T. Marshall. Among the non-winning varieties: Crimson Glory, Eclipse, New Yorker, Rex Anderson and Show Girl.

DID YOU KNOW . . . the first Garden Club was organized at Sandy Springs, Md., in 1860. It was 68 years more before the first Men's Garden Club was formed and was 1932 before the Men's Garden Clubs of America, of which we are a member, was

## OUR SPRING FLOWER SHOW - JUNE 12 & 13

All entries are to be in place by judging time - 3:00 P.M. sharp SATURDAY. Like last year, this will be a "wide open" show, meaning you can show as many different entries in a class as you have varieties, but each variety must be specified. For example, you may enter three different varieties of pink peonies in the pink peony class, or as many yellow iris, providing each variety is different. Where varieties (unnamed) exist in color only, the color must be specified and only one entry may be made of each color. Judging will be strictly on the merit of the entry with no consideration given to the number of places awarded an exhibitor.

S. F. Pinkham, Sr., Chairman

### SHOW SUGGESTIONS

Remember the judging takes place the moment the judge sees your entry, therefore, it must be well hardened to withstand the heat of the room and be immersed in water.

When more than one bloom is required, be sure your entry has the exact number of blooms specified in the schedule. Select the best you have but strive for uniformity if possible.

Identify your stuff. Be sure to put your entry number on the entry tag, as well as your name folded in at the bottom. Also place your name on the bottom of each container used for arrangements, house plants and potted material.

Place your exhibit early. If your entries are well hardened, you've no need to worry about how many hours before judging time they are placed. They will keep for days.

The Park Board Greenhouses will be open early on Saturday morning, June 12, so bring your entries over and get them arranged before the crowd arrives about noon.

#### Bring the Whole Family

The Family Basket Picnic will be held at the Park Board Paint Shop, Saturday at 5:30 P.M. Plan to bring along the whole family and their friends.

### Flower Show Musts

1. Watch the garden for 10 days before the show.
2. Cut late the previous evening and harden off.
3. Cut long stems and extra flowers.
4. Use a sharp knife and cut on a slant.
5. Remove excess foliage.
6. Crush woody stems.
7. Sear, or dip in boiling water, the ends of milky stems.
8. Set in deep water; place in a cool spot out of drafts.

### Qualifications to Watch

1. Color: clear, not muddy.
2. Size: uniform, large.
3. Form: typical of the variety.
4. Substance: mature and fully developed but not past prime.
5. Individual blooms: side buds showing color count as additional blooms.
6. Stems: long, uniform in length, straight and strong without blemish.
7. Formation: flowers well set on stems; terminal flower looking at the sky.
8. Foliage: remove all below water line. Remove imperfect leaves.
9. Condition: all entries should be free of disease and pests.

### FLOWER SHOW COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

S. F. Pinkham, Sr.      General Chairman

Staging  
Schedule

Charles Lampright  
D. W. Young

Registration  
Photography

George Titus  
V. I. Boush

## JUNE GARDEN TIPS

Watch your newly-set-out plants and seedlings on very hot days. Keep them shaded until they have become well established.

Don't remove the leaves from your tulips and daffodils until they have ripened off completely. They may be moved if in the way and transplanted elsewhere, but do not disturb the tops. This is true of all bulbs.

Ever try thinning the flower buds on hollyhock? The remaining flowers will develop better and last longer.

Iris blooms should be cut as soon as they wither and not left to go to seed; your grape hyacinth will self-sow if you permit them to go to seed.

It is best to leave some foliage on the base of the stalk from which your peony bloom was cut, or cut only a few blooms from each plant.

Better mark those peonies and iris you wish to divide or remove in the fall.

Your house plants will do better next winter if set outdoors in a shaded spot, and, better still, if you place pots and all in the ground.

Remember sweet peas like their roots moist, so mulch with lawn clippings or peat moss

The iris borer cannot be reached with a spray, so cut and burn all leaves when found.

Since cutworms feed at night, apply poison bait at night; it will be fresher and more attractive to the worms.

Dusting sulphur is recommended for red spider and mildew, but apply it to both the upper and under surfaces.

Weed killers do their best if used during the heat of the day in temperatures over 75°

Sweet corn can be planted late in June for a later crop. Same for beans, beets, carrots, turnips.

During very hot weather, give lettuce an abundance of water and shade from the sun.

Asparagus should not be cut after late June. A liberal top dressing of well-rotted manure should be applied to the bed as soon as cutting season is over.

All newly planted trees and shrubs should be kept well watered until established.

Stake your plants as they grow.— don't wait until they get tall enough to tremble in the breeze. You'll have better tomatoes if you stake them too.

June is a good month to sow perennial seeds either in cold frames or open seed bed.

Tuberous begonias may be moved into a shaded place in the garden.

### CHECK FOR MITES

Tap a branch of your evergreens over a sheet of white paper to check for red spider mites and you'll see them as tiny dots moving on the paper.

### CATKINS IN WILLOWS

Timid gray kitten buds cling to the willow  
And snuggle in lazy repose;  
When older and bolder they'll leap from  
their pillows,

## CHRYSANTHEMUMS - GROW THEM BETTER IN '54

How much plant food do chrysanthemums require? If plants are to be grown in the same place for two or more years, feed them early in the spring with a complete plant food at the time growth starts. In August and September give them supplemental feedings.

Shall chrysanthemums be planted in sun or in shade? The best plants are grown in full sunlight or shaded by buildings for not more than half the day.

How much water do they require? The shallow root system is affected by short dry periods and the soil should never be allowed to dry at the surface. When watering, be certain to soak the ground to a depth of 8 inches rather than sprinkle lightly and often.

Why do chrysanthemums sometimes flower so late that freezes destroy the blooms? Seasonal variations are largely responsible for failure of plants to bloom early enough in some seasons. An especially warm, bright August and a cold, gray September may delay bud formation and retard development of the bud. If some of your varieties are habitually late, replace them with earlier ones.

When should chrysanthemums be pinched? Young plants should have the terminal growing point pinched out when they are about 5 to 6 inches high. If you desire to keep the plants short, two or more pinches may be given. Most varieties should not be pinched later than July 15.

What causes the lower leaves to dry? This may be due to crowding, plant food deficiency, dryness, leaf spot or mildew.

What insects affect chrysanthemums? Tarnished plant bugs, aphids, thrips and leaf roller worms are the chief pests. Dust regularly with an all-purpose insecticide to prevent their attacks.

### MALATHION

One very new insecticide is really outstanding - that is malathion. Malathion first became available in 1953, and will be featured in many garden sprays and dusts in the stores this year. Malathion has a very wide range of effectiveness, controlling mites, aphids, scales, mealybugs, lacebugs, leaf chewing caterpillars, Japanese beetle and leaf miners. Malathion has been found safe to use on plants at recommended dosages. Be a little cautious, though, as you would with all new materials, until it is proven safe on all plants you grow. Malathion is relatively low in toxicity to man and animals; actually, its toxicity is less than that of DDT. It does have a disagreeable odor, but the odor is not persistent.

Malathion should be used at 2 to 4 pounds of 25% malathion wettable powder per 100 gallons of water (2 to 4 tablespoons per gallon), or 1 to 2 pints of 50% malathion emulsifiable liquid per 100 gallons of water (1 to 2 teaspoons per gallon). Suggestion for trial: use as an all-purpose spray - 4 tablespoons 25% malathion plus 2 tablespoons 50% DDT wettable powder per gallon of water; or 1 1/2 teaspoons 50% malathion plus 2 teaspoons 25% DDT emulsifiable liquids per gallon of water.

P O Box 311,  
Maitland, Fla.  
May 9, 1954

Dear Vic:

Thanks for your nice letter of April 15. Of course we haven't gone all around the year here yet - we came down October 1 - but so far you are correct in saying that we must like it. We sure do - I like everything here so far.

The thing, of course, that is so different here is the timing of garden work. "Spring" garden work starts in February - for example, instead of April or May. Mrs. B had some lovely white petunias blooming then on which she took a prize at the local ladies garden club flower show. However, we must give credit to our yardman who brought them along with a little feeding every second week after setting plants out before Christmas. We wanted some quick blooms.

Our big water oak dropped its leaves about March 1 and almost immediately came out with new leaves. Citrus trees of course shed gradually, a few at a time. We fertilized them about March 1 - 25 lb. per tree. Will repeat soon. Our trees are old and large. They move camelias in full bloom in December (these are balled), but the most amazing thing I have seen is when they pull up the azalea you select, in full bloom at the nursery without even a shovel, and the poor things go right on blooming after transplanting. I did prune them very lightly. Couldn't resist that much help for them.

We are coming up to Minneapolis about July 1 and will try to make the tour which I suppose will be in mid-July? I'm sorry to leave Florida - even in summer - but we want to see our Peggy and her family and I'm helping out at the office during vacation season up there.

Our plants now are in full growth and will continue. The rainy season is supposed to start in June or July, which makes it easier to leave the garden then. But next year I want to be here in summer to see things grow then.

Howard Bishop

### COCORICO

Cocorico is a new Floribunda Rose for 1954 originated by Francis Meilland of France, the originator of Peace. Introduced in America by the Conrad-Pyle Company.

The word "Cocorico" (pronounced Cō-cō-ree-cō) is the French equivalent of our "cock-a-doodle-do," so Mr. Meilland evidently realized he had something to crow about in this new rose of his. It is a bright, rollicking Floribunda Rose of a gay and sassy color that will make you think of the wild poppies of Flanders fields. You may call it scarlet or orange-red, or spectrum-red, but you'll never call it dull! The good sized, 2 1/2- to 3-inch flowers are semi-double, with

velvety in texture. In fact, it is the most velvety of any Floribunda to date that we can think of.

Blooms come continuously in open, well formed clusters on strong stems. I fragrance is somewhat spicy. The bushy, upright plants are of medium height with good, leathery, disease-resistant foliage.

Cocorico is a seedling of Alain and Orange Triumph, and we consider it by far the best Floribunda yet in this flashing orange-scarlet color. The color fades less than most orange-toned varieties and it resists burning remarkably well. It makes a joyous cut flower and a constant

## SPACE GLADIOLUS PLANTINGS FOR SUCCESSION OF BLOOM

Gladiolus are among the easiest to grow of the tender, summer-blooming bulbs. They should be planted in full sun in a location where they do not have to compete for plant food or water with trees and shrubs. Good drainage is essential; they cannot stand "wet feet." Planting may begin as soon as the soil is dry in the spring. Large corms should be set in a trench at a depth of 6 inches in sandy soils, and from 4 to 5 inches in clay soil. Unless the soil is very poor, it is not necessary to work in any plant food at this time. The smaller corms are not set so deeply. A good rule is to set them at a depth roughly four times their diameter. Keep the soil loose and friable at all times around the plant in dry seasons. If there is a choice between using the hose and the hoe, use the latter.

After the plants reach a height of about 6 inches, apply plant food in a trench about 6 inches deep and 4 inches to the side of the row, at the rate of 2 pounds per 50 feet. After the flowers have been cut, another side dressing of plant food will help in developing a stronger corm for next year's planting.

Before cutting the blossoms, remember that next year's flowers will be determined by the growth made in the new corm after the flower spike has come and gone; therefore, retain all leaves possible to act as manufacturing organs for next year's bulbs.

The proper time to cut the spikes is when the first (lowest) floret shows color. Do the cutting in the early morning or late afternoon. Then in a cool location, allow additional flowers to open before using them in arrangements. Don't wait too long to begin harvesting the bulbs. Usually about 4 to 6 weeks is needed for new ones to form after the bloom is gone. Dig the plants before they turn brown and cut off the old top with a knife. Then let the corms dry in a fairly warm place for about 3 weeks, out of the direct sun. Then the old corms can be broken from the bottoms, and the new ones stored in a cool, dry place over winter.

### HOW OAK WILT TRAVELS

Oak wilt, a serious disease, has long been a problem, threatening all species of oak valued for shade and lumber. Now the U.S.D.A. has found how the disease reproduces and one clue to how it is spread. Forest pathologists find that the oak wilt fungus produces spores, formed in the bark of infected trees. Birds resting on the trees pick up the spores and spread them to other trees. The cycle then begins all over again. Other studies at West Virginia University have found another carrier of the fungus. It is a tiny black beetle, with no common name, which belongs to the Hititulidae family. The beetles feed on the sap of oaks. In doing so, they pick up the oak-wilt fungus and transmit it to healthy oaks.

### "RAWSBERRIES"

That's what some of the preceding generations called them. But of course that was not the proper pronunciation. A raspberry is a fruiting bramble and it gets its name from the sharp, rasplike spines that grow upon its canes. But just as a raspberry is not a rawsberry, neither is a strawberry a strawberrry. It is a strayberry and was originally so called because of the runners which strayed around and rooted down here and there. And then there is the gooseberry, which has no relation to a goose at all, but, instead, is a gorseberry - another bramble. As in the instance of the strawberrry, a name corrupted from strayberry, so the name gorseberry was corrupted to gooseberry.