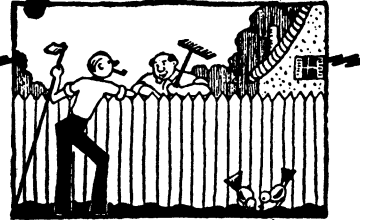




The Garden Spray

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

J U N E M E E T I N G

Date: Tuesday, June 12, 1956

Place: George Germain
209 Natchez Ave. So.
(Directions below)

Time: 5:30 P.M. Sharp

Dinner: By Grill & Grub Committee

Program: Tour of Members Gardens

OFFICERS

George Titus	President
A. R. Blackbourn	Vice-president
N. W. Christopherson	Secretary
Wm. H. Hull	Treasurer

Office of the Secretary
N. W. Christopherson
6145 Clinton Ave. So.

Office of the Exchange Editor
G. Victor Lowrie
417 Essex Building

SECOND MEETING THIS MONTH — SPECIAL FLOWER SHOW

June 16 & 17, Woodlake School
66th St. & Dupont Ave. So.
(See enclosed sheets)

Directions to reach George Germain's residence in Golden Valley:

From the Loop: Drive out Glenwood Avenue to Natchez, Turn south. Brick house.

From the Belt Line: North on Belt line to Glenwood Avenue, which is the first semaphore north of Wayzata Blvd. Turn east on Glenwood Avenue to Natchez. Turn south on Natchez. Brick house.

Note: Bring a card table and some chairs if possible.

HOE, BROTHER, HOE FOR THE FLOWER SHOW

Give your plants a big juicy feeding now so your blooms will be big for the Flower Show on June 16.

If buds seem to want to open too soon, cut them and bring them in. Put them in the lower part of the refrigerator. Wrap them in saran or polyethelene to keep the moisture, cut long stems, as long as possible.

If buds are slow in opening you may cut them the day before the Show and hold them over boiling water. Sometimes that causes them to open.

Cut your blooms the night before the Show. Have a pail of cold water with you, use a sharp knife, make a long slanting cut on a long stem, and place the stems in the water up to the bloom, but don't put the flower in the water. Keep the pail in a cool place while cutting. After cutting put it in the coolest place you have. A dark vegetable room is good.

Oriental poppies, peonies and others with heavy gummy stems will profit by having the stem seared with a match or candle. Woody stems are crushed with a hammer. All stems are cut clean before the Show.

Prepare your arrangements early in the morning and bring them to the Show. Now is the time to look up these arrangements in books and magazines for ideas.

Follow the exhibition rules exactly. Have the exact numbers of blooms or stems required by the rules. Be careful of buds which might open during the Show.

Many specimens are spoiled in the transportation from the home to the Show. No drafts no quick turns, no sudden stops on your way.

Plant now for the Fall Flower Show. Time to put out the annuals. If you want to make a good showing at the September Show you will need many types of flowers. Now is the time to set them out. Use every inch of your space and — Hoe, for the Flower Show.

WHAT IS YOUR FILING SYSTEM

I wish I knew a good filing system for all those newspapers and magazines clippings I try to save. Here are some of the many ways of saving them I've tried:

1. I've marked the outside covers of the magazine indicating the page of the article wanted. That's no good because you have too many magazines to look through.
2. Rewrite the main point on 3 x 5 cards and filed them in index boxes. Fair results.
3. Pasted articles in a scrap book. Have to look through too many pages for what you want. You spend additional time by reading other articles encountered in the book.
4. I've also cut out the articles and put them in folders. First, by large categories, and later by subdividing into smaller sections. Seems better than other systems but you need a filing cabinet.

What's your system?

IMPORTANT FACTS REGARDING THE FLOWER SHOW

This is it.... the month of our SPRING FLOWER SHOW! Can we "outpoint" the men from Richfield? Not without effort, which means bringing everything we can...everything. It also means everyone. Don't say, "I have so little in my garden it's hardly worth bringing." It may take your point to out-point. We need every specimen and every arrangement we can get. If you have a specimen and can't find it on the schedule, bring it anyway and place it in miscellaneous. If there are enough entries of one type flower to warrant it, we will make a new class. Here is another thing to remember. If you know the name of the flower you can bring more than one in each class. As an example, we have one class only for Geraniums. If you have 5 name varieties of Geraniums, and know the name of each, bring all 5. Each variety must be named to be eligible for more than one entry in a class. If you don't know the name variety, bring only one in that class. This goes for all classes. Read the rules carefully and note there are some changes from previous shows. Note in particular the closing time for entries as well as the visiting hours.

We are going to try something new this year for our Spring Show. At our regular meeting the week of our show we will have the bottles for specimens available. It will simplify the job of setting up and end considerable confusion at the show if you will take the bottles home and bring your entries to the show all set up.

Our Flower Show Committee has been working with the Richfield Committee on our Joint Spring Show for several weeks. We hope more of you can get to know these Richfield men. You will find they are a fine group with an accelerated spirit of competition, readily cooperating with our committee to make a good show.

Eng Hoyme, Chairman

WELCOME BACK, VIC

As most of you know, Spray Editor and Past President, Vic Lowrie has been out of circulation for a month undergoing surgery and having quite a session in the hospital. We're happy to report that Vic's up and around now, looking and feeling better every day. We probably didn't remember to tell Vic about the many inquiries we've had but you have lots of friends, Vic, and we're all glad you are feeling fine now.

Your Assistant Editors

MANY THANKS

May I, through this issue of the Spray, express my sincere thanks for the wonderful co-operation afforded me in staging our May Auction. The spirit of willingness and teamwork that came in response to every call, made an easy job out of one which, I at first, thought looked very tough.

To all those who so generously supplied our needs, to all whose willing hands dug in, and for all support given me, I say thanks and am truly grateful.

Bennie Benson, Chairman
Auction Committee

OVER THE GARDEN FENCE

By Bill Hull

The Kahlerts, the Youngs and the Hulls have all returned from the National Convention of MGCA at St. Louis and report a fine convention with many activities. The St. Louis regional hosts certainly showed us a good time with many tours and lots of bloom.

Lots of beautiful gardens here in Minneapolis too. Not to be ignored are our own Club Members' yards. This is a good time to go visiting.

A neighbor's wife was almost hospitalized. She returned home from a leisurely bridge luncheon to find him still slaving over the dandelions, and she remarked, "There's one you missed, dear."

Three trees can be placed in one hole, leaning outwards slightly and being placed twelve inches apart. Prune the inside branches when planting.

Eng Hoyme's new Holland dahlias promise lots of bloom. Let us know when they're ready for viewing, Eng.

Picked and labelled leaves from 25 different trees at the Missouri Botanical Gardens (Shaws Gardens) in St. Louis.

Our National Secretary, Woodson Jones, suffered a heart attack while at the Convention and at this writing is still on the critical list.

One expert says Mildex is fine for rose mildew but warns that its effects wear off rapidly.

The important factor about spraying for rose black spot is to protect the rose before it gets wet. Black spot spores cannot be easily killed once they are imbedded in the rose leaf. Black spot is a fungus and is carried over only in rose tissue, not in the soil.

350 delegates met in St. Louis, representing 179 clubs and 8,500 members. The next meeting is June 10 - 16, 1957 in Portland during the Rose Festival.

Ink companies discard ink cans in three to five gallon capacities. These cans make ideal storage containers for garden chemicals and supplies.

You need to know the analyses of your garden soil to enable you to purchase fertilizer according to your needs. Ninety-six different concerns market 528 different fertilizers in Minnesota.

Human hair is 14% nitrogen.

HULL NEW NATIONAL BOARD MEMBER

Bill Hull was elected to the Board of Directors of Mens Garden Clubs of America, at the St. Louis Convention of MGCA in mid-May, upon the nomination of retiring National President, Herb Kahlert, also of our Club.

Bill's duties will be with MEGA, the National Publication, since he has been appointed Director of Publications.

Congratulations, Bill.

THE GRASS PLANT

The grass plant grows several feet high and can cover two square feet of soil when it is grown under field conditions for seed. This is the same plant we crowd into a quarter inch of space and never permit to grow over a couple of inches in height. What we are growing, actually is a dwarfed plant which we further hinder by cutting off its food manufacturing leaves and yet expect the plant to be a perfect lush green all summer long.

Obviously we must supply water and easily accessible food to ease the problems of this plant. Grass prefers a neutral soil (Ph about 7), high in loam, with lots of nitrogen for green top growth, phosphorus for sturdy roots and potash for general vigor and disease resistance.

Water is basically a matter of replenishing employed or evaporated supply and of preventing leaf wilt due to hot sunshine. Feeding is done to help maintain the balance of soil constituents which is unbalanced by the plants demands. Someone has said that everytime we cut grass or pick a flower blossom we remove chemicals from the soil, mainly nitrogen.

In order to help you purchase fertilizers and plant foods to fit your needs, we have prepared a list of some of the fertilizers sold in this area, showing their nitrogen, phosphorus, and potash analyses:

Armour's Vertagreen Plant Food	5-10-5
Folium	20-20-20
Golden Vigoro	6-10-4
Howe Fertilizer and Lawn & Garden	8-8-6
Land O'Lakes Lawn & Garden Fertilizer	6-12-6
Loma	5-10-5
Milwaukee Milorganite Fertilizer	6-4-0
Northrup King's Golf Brand Fertilizer	10-6-4
Ortho-Gro Liquid Fertilizer	10-5-5
Rose Hill Fertilizer	6-10-4
Scotts Weed and Feed	7-11-5
Scotts Turf Builder	9-7-4
Manure (analyses vary widely)	6-2-6

In addition to these fertilizers there are hundreds prepared for commercial use, most of which could be used safely by very experienced gardeners. Don't overlook farmers' elevators in small towns as further sources.

SPRING AUCTION A BIG SUCCESS

The annual Spring Garden Auction was a big event, and a successful one, thanks to much work by Benny Benson and his Committee. Several members attended the country store but were unable to stay for the dinner and auction, although the Grill and Grub Committee fed seventy-four members and guests.

The auction itself was the focal point of the evening with auctioneers Doc Stillm Ev Haedecke, Frank Janes, and Bill Swain, keeping a constant movement of bargains before the bidders. Cashiers Cortis Rice, Chet Harkins, Bob Adams, and Bill Hull were taking in the money.

The Auction was definitely a financial success and the Club Treasury benefited.

YOU SHOULD KNOW.....

PAUL M. KROEGER, a new member last year who resides at 4378 Browndale Ave. Paul has a garden of perennials and annuals in back yard borders plus a front door garden about which we've heard compliments. He's particularly interested in iris, peonies, lilies and gladioli, which he photographs in color. Paul is in the industrial maintenance machinery business and was sponsored in MGCM by P. W. Young.

C. W. (CHUCK) CREWE, a member of several years, who is having a huge elm tree removed from his back yard so he can have more sunshine on the garden. Chuck is active in Kiwanis, the Walter Judd permanent committee, the Better Business Bureau Advertising Committee and, for recreation, golfs and fishes. His garden specialty is "fighting bugs". Chuck is district manager for Sonotone Hearing Aids. Archie Flack sponsored Chuck in MGCM. His residence: 3009 James Ave. South.

FRED RODDA, a 1955 introduction to the Club, lives at 42 Summit Place and, like a lot of us, says he is "just an amateur gardener, with roses being the specialty if anything is." Fred is also very interested in Great Dane Dogs, which he somehow manages to keep out of the flower beds. He is a retired physician and was sponsored in MGCM by Burt Clark.

STANLEY (STAN) LUND, a past president (1948) of MGCM was sponsored in our Club by Allen Erickson in about 1943. Stan lives at 4328 Brookview Avenue where you can easily see his specialty is roses. He is a structural engineer with Paper Calmenson Company in St. Paul.

P. W. YOUNG, was sponsored in MGCM by Bill Block several years ago and was Secretary of the Club in 1954-1955. At 4544 Beard Avenue South, where he lives, P.W. grows many flowers on a smaller lot, with the help of much fluorescent growing in the basement. He also gets good results by practicing crop rotation scientifically. P.W. has two outstanding hobbies. He is well known to us for his work in color photography but not everyone knows that he also collects old glass and has some beautiful pieces to show. He is self-employed as a manufacturer's representative in advertising and display signs.

WALTER P. QUIST, 1200 W. Broadway, is a charter member of MGCM when it was organized at The Athletic Club many years ago. Walt does his gardening at Quistacres Farm near Mound, where he has two acres of lawn and a 350 foot border, fruits and vegetables, and two small greenhouses. A problem is water, Walt says, because it's too big to water adequately. Very active civically, Walt is on the Metropolitan Air Port Commission, Minneapolis Park Board, Big Brothers, Inc., and works in Kiwanis and Shrine Groups. He is president of Welander-Quist Funeral Directors.

THURBER DAY lives at 4511 Arden Avenue and has been a member of MGCM since about 1943 when he was sponsored by Herb Kahlert. Thurber gardens mainly in the back yard like most of us and recently has been specializing in Burpee Big Boy tomatoes with excellent success so others tell us. He also has lots of flowers. Thurber is retired from General Electric

SPRING FLOWER SHOW

Remember the Spring Flower Show to be held jointly with the Men's Garden Club of Richfield at the Woodlake School on June 16-17. All of our members should enter either specimens or arrangements or both. Lets put on a Show we can all be proud of.

INSECTS AND DISEASES

By Rene Dufourd

An understanding of the kinds of garden foes with which we are to deal will make the selection of weapons.

All insects go thru a change of form in their life cycle, called a metamorphosis. There are of two types; complete and incomplete. In incomplete metamorphosis there are three stages; egg, nymph, and adult. The nymph is similar to the adult except in size and lack of wings. As it feeds, it grows and molts, and changes slightly, but each change brings it closer to the adult stage. Examples, the grasshopper—aphids.

In the complete metamorphosis the egg hatches into a "larvae" or "grub" which is entirely different from the adult. The larvae of flies is called "maggot", those of the beetle, called "grubs", those of butterflies and moths, "caterpillars". A larva feeds, grows, and molts much as a nymph, but does not change its appearance until fully grown. Then it transforms into a "pupa". This is only a transition stage during which the larva changes from a worm to a moth, butterfly, bee, beetle, etc. Sometimes the pupa stage is passed within a protecting covering called a "cocoon". It does not feed during this period.

For our purpose insects can be divided into two groups according to the way they eat. Chewing insects obtain their food by biting and chewing the leaves. Stomach poisons are used against insects which chew their foods. Some beetles, caterpillars, and grubs are of that type. We use two types of poisons for them. The protectants such as arsenate of lead and rotenone. These are dusted or sprayed on the plants. The other type is the poison baits in which poison such as arsenic is mixed with bran and syrup. Something attractive to the insects, such as poison bait is used for grasshoppers, cutworms, ants, and snails. In the last few years several more potent chemicals have been put on the market. D.D.T. is well known. Methoxychlor is being used more extensively. For vegetable gardens we recommend the use of Rotenone because it is not toxic to man. It is extracted from the roots of tropical plants and is both a stomach and a contact poison. Pyrethrum is another poison not toxic to man and can be used for these chewing insects. D.D.T. is still useful on many plants but should not be used on items to be used for food. Methoxychlor is a good replacement for D.D.T. where there is hazard to animals. This new poison is not as toxic as D.D.T. but I would hesitate to use it on something to be eaten.

Paris green was one of our first insecticides. It is a quick killer but likely to burn the foliage and has been superseded by arsenate of lead. It can be used for poison bait.

These arsenical poisons can be combined with fungicides such as Bordeaux Mixture, and with nicotine but do not use soap with these as they would burn the foliage. They should not be applied to fruit and vegetables for at least 3 weeks before the fruits are to be used and all fruits and vegetables treated should be washed thoroughly. Do not leave poisons where children can reach them. Mixing vessels must be carefully washed.

For those insects which suck the juices instead of chewing the leaves we use a contact poison. As the word implies the poison must make contact with the insect. The poison either enters through the breathing pores and acts chemically on the body center or kills by clogging the breathing tubes and smothering the insects. Nicotine is the most widely used contact insecticide. Black Leaf 40 is a trade name well known. Add one ounce of soap per a gallon of the solution as a spreader, and mix according to the directions on the package. Pyrethrum and rotenone can be used as contact poisons, so can sulphur. Oils in various forms are used for winter sprays mostly on scale insects.

INSECTS AND DISEASES (CONT)

Whether to spray or dust will be up to you. You can use both. Dusting has the advantage of being readily available for use. A loaded duster can be kept on hand to be used as soon as insects are noticed. Spraying makes a better job and is cheaper. Insecticides come in powder, paste, and liquid forms. Powders which are to be used for mixing with water are wetttable powders.

Ground insects, like the white grub, (which is the larva of the June bug), earthworms, and wireworms can be controlled by the use of chlordane 5% or 6% dust. Cutworms and slugs are controlled by the use of poison baits. Using a metal or paper collar around the young plants when setting them out is still the best protection against cutworms. For slugs there are several preparations on the market such as Snare All, Slug Shot, etc. For lawn insects like grubs one pound of 40% wetttable Chlordane dusted over 1000 square feet, and watered well, can be used.

More and more powerful chemicals are being used to control insects and yet the insects are still with us, more voracious, it seems than the previous generation. Some of these powerful insecticides like parathion are so potent that a person has to use a gas mask to apply it and there has been a number of deaths from the use of it. Being that these chemicals are so new and therefore not tested over a period of years, I would be very careful in their use. Many of them not only kill injurious insects but also the beneficial ones, thereby causing an off balance condition in the insect population. The use of D.D.T. has killed many bees and lady bugs. Off setting that the aphids and red mites or red spider have increased. Red mites are minute spider like insects attacking all sorts of plant life. They are particularly bad on the conifers and junipers. Malathion in dust or spray form is the most effective insecticide found for them at this time.

Thrips attack flowers and vegetables. They are a sucking type of insect and are controlled with malathion 5% or D.D.T.

Maggots attack onions cabbage and many flowers. Use Chlordane 5 tablespoons full per gallon of water and water the base of the plant; or dissolve one tablet of bichloride of mercury in one pint of warm water. Use a glass container to do this.

Following is some information about the insecticides.....

D.D.T. concentrates and accumulates in fatty tissues of animals and humans. It is not advisable to use it where food stuff is grown.

Chlordane too should not be used on foods, and should not be applied as a vapor, mist or fog. It should not be applied to sensitive foliage such as cucumbers, melons, tomato or delicate flowers.

Methoxychlor is a good replacement for D.D.T. on many insects. It is safer to use on vine crops and tomatoes and other vegetables.

Lindane and Benzene Hexachchloride are poisonous to warm blooded animals. Leave them alone.

Parathion Don't touch it.

Malathion is not as dangerous as Parathion. It should be used instead. It is still a poison.

TO BE CONTINUED