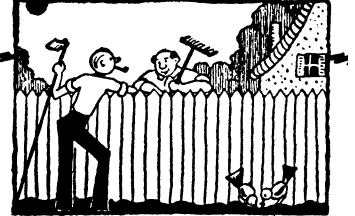




The Garden Spray

BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS

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



October, 1957
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G. "Vic" Lowrie, Editor

Associate Editors
Wm. Hull, Joe Witmer
Don Methven
N. W. Christopherson

F I R S T F A L L M E E T I N G

Date: Tuesday, October 8, 1957
Place: Mount Olivet Lutheran Church
Knox Ave. So & West 50th St.
Time: 5:45 P.M. Sharp
Price: \$1.50 Dinner

OFFICERS

A. W. Koester	President
R. C. Adams	Vice President
W. H. Hull	Treasurer
N. W. Christopherson	Secretary
G. S. Titus	Past President

PROGRAM

"The Art of Hybridizing"
by Dick Lehman
"Preparation and Storage of Dahlias"
by Tom Krumm
"Winter Protection of Roses"
by Carl Holst
"Winter Protection of Mums"
by Harold Kaufmann
"Winter Protection of Clematis"
by Tony Koester

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

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

Looks like our Program Committee have arranged a truly practical garden "know-how" for this our first Fall Meeting. Seems like a long long time since we have all sat around the same table together and compared notes or discussed our gardening problems. We are looking for a full house, we hope close to 100% attendance. So do try to clear Tuesday evening, October 8, and join with the gang for a few hours of fun, knowledge and camaraderie.

P.S. Tony Koester has just received word from the Garden Editor of Better Homes & Gardens that the photographs taken at Al Blackburn's Saturday

FALL FLOWER SHOW

It was a splendid show with 31 members exhibiting for a total of 429 specimens and 49 arrangements. This compared with only 27 member exhibitors last fall for a total of 371 specimens and 102 arrangements.

However, had the 14 members who exhibited last year participated in the Show this fall, we really would have had an outstanding Show. Badly missed were the usual large supporters of our Shows, including: Pinkham, Erickson, Reif, Stillman, Hoyme, Witmer, Benson, Carlson and Harold Nelson.

Adding much to the beautification of the Show were the extraordinary fine exhibits contributed by Tom Krumm, Bob Bryant, Louis Fischer, Dick Lehman, Bachman's and the Park Board. To all, we extend sincere thanks.

Our congratulations to the winners of ribbons and especially to the following receiving the top awards:

Grand Champion

Specimens	Bill Holmberg
Arrangements	Tony Koester

Sweepstakes Winners

Specimens	Glen Cerney
Arrangements	Tony Koester

Court of Honor

Specimens

Ev Haedecke	Bill Ost
Bill Holmberg	Herb Stevens
Tony Koester	Bill Thorne
Al Nelson	

Arrangements

Tony Koester	Al Blackbourn
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INTRODUCING!

Daniel C. Chabot (and Janet) live at 1426 Flag Avenue, resident phone LI 5-6348. Dan was sponsored by Lloyd Bachman and became a member in January. His principal garden interests are roses, shrubs and annuals while his other hobbies are photography and golf. He is a member of the Society of Florists and the New York State Flower Growers, and his business is marketing produce for Slocum Bergren Produce Company.

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N. W. Joubert and (Muriel) live at 4115 Xerxes Ave. So., resident phone WA 2-1226. Ned is an attorney with offices at 600 Minnesota Federal Building. He was sponsored by Harold Kaufmann and joined the Club in February, with a special interest in flowers and photography. A very active citizen is Ned, Past-president St. Louis Park High School P.T.A.; member St. Louis Park Planning Commission 3 years; Village attorney Medicine Lake 3 years; Justice of the Peace, St. Louis Park 2 years; Past-president of both

INTRODUCING (Con't)

Arthur J. Olson lives at 28th Avenue South, resident phone PA 4-3193. Carl Holst was Art's sponsor, joining the Club in August. His principal gardening interest is roses; other hobbies include bowling and hiking. As for business, it's railroading Art is currently Treasurer of the Minnesota Rose Society, a member of the American Rose Society, Richfield Garden Club and American Legion.

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Frank P. Vixo (and Lillian) live at 6204 Ashcroft Lane, resident phone WA 2-2321. Frank who is with N.S.P., was sponsored by Cortis Rice and became a member in July. In addition to flowers and gardening in general his hobbies include outdoor cooking photography, hunting and target practice. Also it must include dancing, since he is Vice president and Treasurer of Square Dance Clubs.

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News and Views

It was good to see Bill Holmberg back participating in our Flower Show with his outstanding display of dahlias. Welcome back, Bill, we'll be looking forward to seeing you often at our regular monthly meetings.

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The Board of Directors at their last meeting devoted considerable time to a discussion on ways and means of improving the staging of our flower shows as well as encouraging a larger percent of the membership to participate. If you have any ideas along those lines, send them into the SPRAY or to the President.

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Your Program Committee has already underway plans for our Christmas Party. Again, if you have any suggestions, shoot them along. In the meantime, Mr. Hrand Hampikta has been engaged as principal speaker for the occasion. More later.

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That tremendous tulip planting project in Vic Jaeger's garden the Club undertook last Fall is finally recognized by the Flower Grower in their October issue. The photograph selected hardly does the display justice and includes but three of our members. Anyway we are obliged to Vic for volunteering his garden, regretting that the winter and spring weather fell short of ideal for bulb growth and blooming.

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Your editor regrets exceedingly that business took him out of town, interfering with his participation in the Fall Flower Show. Unfortunately, making-a-living must on occasion come first and this was one of those unfortunate times.

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News and Views (Con't)

Incidentally, Les Johnson together with "P. W." Young, acting as co-chairmen of the Flower Show on short notice due to Sherm Pinkham's forced absence from the city, are deserving of full credit with their committee, of course, for managing the Show so successfully. Thank you, boys, and congratulations for a job exceedingly well done.

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Take a bow Helen and Louis Fischer for the honor bestowed upon you by the American Peony Society. Their seedling peony, Mary M. Fischer, won the American Home Achievement Medal. It is described in the October issue of Popular Gardening as a "flattish flower, double and a medium pink that shades deeper toward the center, opens in mid-season on strong upright stems."

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^{Lang} Harold Lang, editor of MEGA, paid Minneapolis a visit early in the month on his way home from the West Coast. A hurried-up call brought a few of the boys together, where at luncheon we had an opportunity to exchange a few ideas and over coffee an enjoyable visit. Next time, Harold, and make it soon, plan to arrange a longer stay when our whole membership will be privileged to meet with you.

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About This Floribunda Mess

THE TERM FLORIBUNDA was originated by the late sales manager for Jackson Perkins, Dr. J. H. Nicholas, during the slump in the thirties to stimulate sales. With the excuse that it was a new type of rose or to differentiate a new type -- that was pure baloney for Gruss an Aachen came out in 1909. There were a lot of large Flowered Hybrid Polyanthas by the time the Floribunda name was put out -- simply a new name for an old type -- sure the H. Poly was being improved, but so was the Hybrid Tea, each no more than the other. It was name changing using a name associated with roses for a hundred years which ignored all horticultural ethics, that a name should never be changed -- this edict of the amateurs was occasioned by the mess any form of horticulture gets in having several names in different parts of the world. This name changing is simply a dollar and cents proposition, no more or less, and had not the officials of the American Rose Society been getting free roses for testing -- which was a form of bribe or baksheesh it never could have happened. Whenever you bribe anyone with gifts you may change or slant his judgement. The place for testing roses is in a test garden and in beds under exactly the same conditions and against the contemporary outstanding varieties. Not as in some home garden where they possibly will be in the shade of some hugh shrub or the shade of a house -- or any number of either unfair or better condition than the check variety. A one man's judging under garden conditions is seldom the fair tribunal that it would be under identical conditions in a test garden with several judges -- this one-man judging ruins some very fine varieties.

From: Roy Hennessey's 1957-58 Rose Catalogue

Garden Tips

House plants that have been out of doors all summer need attention now. The majority will need to be cut back and all would do better if potted up in new soil. Be sure to take them up before frost (I hope this warning is not too late) and hold them in the shade out of doors a few days so that they may become accustomed to their new environment when taken into the house.

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A product called "Green Plasma" has recently been advertised as a sensational color-restorer for lawns, claiming it was discovered by a German scientist and tested by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The chemical is further claimed to be "the very same type wonder treatment" used on the Capital lawn in Washington D.C. (The writer having walked on that lawn only two weeks ago found it is not in too good shape). Nevertheless, the U.S.D.A. disclaim any knowledge of the product and still recommend adequate water, proper fertilizer when needed, as essential in maintaining a quality lawn. Incidentally these Green Plasma promoters claim that by sprinkling a small amount of the product on the lawn, you will never have to worry about a burnt-out lawn, nor have to "spend time, energy and good money on fast greening fertilizers and plant foods!" The rogues.

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Those of you who have not had experience in establishing an indoor garden in your basement or spare rooms with fluorescent lights and would like to do so, can get all the fine points from many of our members who have been experimenting with the growing of a wide range of plants under lights for a number of years. Those coming to mind include Fred Paul, Tony Koester, Harold Kaufmann, Cortis Rice, P. W. Young, Archie Flack and a number of others. Any one of them will be only too pleased to give you the benefit of their experiences and a hand in building your indoor garden. Intensity of light, length of application, temper-

the kind of plants you want to grow. It's fun though, especially when your windows are so heavily frosted you can't see out and the wind, howling like a blizzard, is piling snow waist high on the driveway -- It's coming boys!

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If your plants have not responded satisfactorily in certain parts of the garden, it may be the fault of the soil. Why not have it tested and make sure? Members of the Horticultural Department of the University will be glad to test it for you. They will also give you instructions on how to take and prepare soil samples that are to be submitted for testing. Soil tests made on samples this fall will be a big step to success next year. It is wise to take a sample that represents a good and one that represents the problem area. This will help you decide whether soil fertility is your trouble. Be sure to keep a record of the samples by number so you will know where they came from.

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Mark bulbs and roots dug up for winter storage and also the spot where spring bulbs and perennials are being planned.

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Give evergreens, the rhododendrons, and newly set perennials a thorough soaking with water. Do not water newly planted bulbs.

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Dahlias should be dug and not pulled by the stems. Tubers having their necks broken will not grow. It is best to store dahlia clumps in a dry cellar upside down. The ordinary vegetable cellar has a satisfactory temperature for storing dahlias. If kept stored in a furnace cellar, the tubers should be packed in boxes of peat moss or vermiculite with a moist newspaper over them. Varieties which usually keep poorly should be dusted with sulphur.

Garden Tips (Con't)

Gladiolus corms should be allowed to cure in shallow flats or boxes for two or three weeks. Then they can be put away for the winter, preferably in a cold place but above freezing. Many place them in paper bags, tie the bags at the top and hang them from the ceiling in the basement. They will be free from thrips if dusted with DDT after they are put into the bags.

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Armaryllis plants which have been growing outside in the summer should be allowed to dry off and then kept in a dark place until new growth starts. New bulbs should be potted-up with one to a pot and only half of the neck covered.

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Tulip planting may be started as soon as the bulbs arrive, although mid-October is early enough. Bulbs of tulips to be left in one spot several years should be planted 10 to 12 inches deep.

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Bulbs planted this month should be mulched lightly but not until after the ground freezes.

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The greatest danger in the fall planting of bulbs is poor drainage. Use raised beds if water does not drain away readily.

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Unpack lily bulbs as soon as they arrive, and waste no time in getting them into the ground. Drying in the open air is detrimental to the bulbs. Handle them carefully. Use sand under and over all kinds when planting them if the soil is heavy.

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Newly harvested onions should be stored for a few weeks under what approximates conditions outdoors, but should be given protection against rain and sun. All

Misshapen bulbs should be consumed first.

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All roots and bulbs requiring winter storage, such as gladioli, tuberose tuberous-rooted begonias, caladiums and cannas, need to be taken in when frost has cut down the tops.

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Some of the newer cannas are very difficult to winter, and many gardeners make no attempt to carry them over. However, some will go through the winter well if left with a clump of earth upon them. They should be packed in boxes of earth or close together on a cellar floor. If the floor is cement, put earth around them.

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Ismenes (Peruvian daffodils) often fail to bloom the second year because the bulbs have been wintered in a cold place. Store them at a temperature of 60 or over.

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Remove the leaves from iris plants the last thing in the fall. The eggs which produce iris borers are laid on the leaves.

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Clumps of chrysanthemums in flower may be dug and potted for house or porch decoration or they may be moved to some other part of the garden for fall color effects.

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Beets, carrots, and turnips should be lifted when danger of severe freezing is at hand and stored in a temperature of 33 to 40 degrees. They keep well in boxes with straw or sawdust.