

# THE garden spray

DECEMBER 1966 VOL. 24, NO. 12



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MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS

## Annual Christmas Party

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1966

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## Thunderbird Motel

(24th Avenue South and Highway 494)  
Social hour anytime after 6:00 p. m.

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Dinner—6:45 p.m.

Wives and friends welcome

Dinner \$4.00 per person

## OVER THE GARDEN GATE

by Bill Hull

Our special congratulations to the new 1967 officers: President Frank Vixo, Vice President Grant Christenson, Secretary Phil Smith, and Treasurer Nate Siegel. More about these men later, but let us say now we have great faith in their ability to lead us through the difficult year of 1967 when we have a national convention here. Although we have a separate corporation set up for the convention, and separate officers, we will need strong club leadership to achieve all we hope for. We could not have chosen better men. The nominating committee consisted of Les Johnson, chairman, and Ev Haedecke, Bill Hull, Charles Proctor and Dwight Stone, by appointment.

This committee also proposed to elect two directors, this proposal having been unanimously accepted at the November meeting. It will appear twice in SPRAY and then be voted upon; here it is:

### Official Announcement:

"Resolved that the management of the club shall be vested in the Executive Board, consisting of the four officers of the club, the last living past president who retains active membership and two directors. The directors shall have the same voting rights as the officers. The president of the club shall act as Chairman of the Board and shall call its meetings at will. Three members at a board meeting shall constitute a quorum."

"There's an old story that says you can't kill a frog by dropping him into boiling water. He reacts so quickly to the sudden heat that he jumps out before he is hurt. But if you put him in cold water and then warm it up gradually, he never decides to jump till its too late. By then he's cooked! Men are just as foolish. Take away their freedom overnight and you've got a violent revolution. But steal it from them gradually under the guise of 'security', 'peace' or 'progress' and you can paralyze an entire generation." (Source unknown so we can't give credit.)

A wonderful visit recently with Rene Dufourd and his wife in Mt. Dora, Florida, where they live in an exceptionally lovely home, with considerable garden space. In October he had just planted his annuals. Rene lives adjoining a small lake and across the street from a sizeable one, in which he promises there are alligators. I took his word. A pic of his garden will be shown at the Christmas party.

Bill Cowcill tells of a potato grower in Barnsley, South Yorkshire, who grew 758½ pounds of potatoes from six potatoes! He backs it up with a clipping from the Barnsley Chronicle. Some spuds!

May we take this moment to pay tribute to those of you who have helped us so greatly by writing articles for SPRAY this year. We cannot begin to thank you so much for sharing with all of us the knowledge and experience you possess. I do thank each of you personally as does all the club and particularly we appreciate what Harold Kaufmann, Archie Flack and Phil Smith have done to assemble these pieces for our editing and inclusion in SPRAY. This is what makes SPRAY worthwhile.

### PRESIDENT BOB SAYS

An outstanding Christmas party is being planned by chairman, Jack Peterson. The program will include a barbershop quartet, presentation of awards and our annual slide showing. Don't miss the party! Get your reservations in early to help our treasurer.

The active membership of our club has dropped from the 75 maximum to about 65, the lowest number I can recall in recent years. This is understandable in view of the number of deaths, retirements, and transfers to inactive membership this year. This has noticeably affected the attendance at our meetings also. Many of these members have been loyal to the club and faithful in attendance at club functions. I am mentioning this because some thought should be given to how we can attract active new members who will replace those we have lost.

We have some very faithful members who come long distances quite regularly to attend the meetings. Dick Lehman and Roger Koopmans from Faribault and Andy Nyberg from Spicer. Andy is a charter member of the club and has maintained his active membership even though residing at this great distance. At the last meeting he also brought a guest from his old neighborhood on 55th and Wentworth Ave. Quite a number of members have come from this part of Minneapolis. This is the area in which I grew up. I was the newspaper boy for Andy, Bill Block and Herb Kahlert. As a boy I grew vegetables on the vacant lots in the area and sold them around the neighborhood, little dreaming that this would become my hobby and that I would be a part of the Mens Garden Club of Minneapolis.

We were saddened by the loss of Ed Beery whose death was the result of a brain tumor. We will all miss Ed, a good friend, a good gardener and a hard working member of our club. Ed did an outstanding job of planning and staging the flower and garden shows at our monthly meetings this year.

Ron Twite reported on the plans that he and Larry Bachman have been working on with the help of Northern States Power Co. and the National Electrical Contractors Association for lighting the Lyndale Gardens. This project is an off-shoot of a lighted tour that Ron, chairman of the convention tour committee, was working on for the 1967 MGCA convention. Ron and Larry have taken this project on and plan to see it through without detracting from the convention efforts but they do need the sponsorship of the club. The estimated cost of the project is \$35,00 to \$40,00, to be raised by donations. At the November meeting the club voted to sponsor this project on a contingency basis with no funds pledged at this time. The club also authorized the president to appoint a committee to work with Ron Twite. As soon as the park board has approved the project, the board of the club and convention will meet with Ron to review the plans and make further recommendations to the club.

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#### Financial Picture of Other MGCA Conventions .....

has been a big question in our mind until we wrote national treasurer, Nate Schwarting. From him, just today, we received complete financial reports from the Syracuse and the Rockford convention. More are on the way. This will particularly give convention treasurer, Frank Fixo, something to use as a guide, and all on the committee can thus work more quickly toward a budget.

THANK YOU.....

Caroline Bachman Haglof for such an interesting program in November. It was wonderful of her to pinch-hit on short notice and it is appreciated. But what else would we expect from Henry's daughter?

Dick Lehman for your one hundred pounds of banana squashes, which were auctioned and sold at the November meeting. Let's share our produce at times.

Merlin Krupp Studios have again prepared our lovely front cover of SPRAY for this Christmas issue. We do appreciate this courtesy.

Bob Sicora very kindly ran off the two pages of photographs in the September issue. We took the photos, laid them out, and tried three different processing machines, all unsatisfactory. We called on Bob and Rapid Copy, Inc., for help and they graciously donated the plates, work and paper. We would like to use photos perhaps three or four times a year but obviously can't impose on friends that much. Wouldn't someone be interested in making a special donation of a few dollars to cover actual costs for this occasional feature? See the editor.

Dottie Anderson of POSTGRADUATE MEDICINE for helping assemble Spray and for doing such an excellent job of typing the master stencils for us. For all she does, we thank her.

Lonnie Johnson of PURE OIL for running off Spray so beautifully each month.

And to each of you who have been so helpful, thanks and thanks again.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Did you like the idea of buying special shirts with the words MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS on the back, for use at our convention and at all other special functions? The sample we showed came from Amarillo, Texas, and another from a non-MGC group. Cost would be about six dollars depending on quantity. Let us know.

How can we grow quantities of flowers to be blooming July 12-14 for decorating the Nicollet lobby, VIPs rooms and for stringing around in generally at the convention? We don't want anyone going home saying "But where were the flowers?" Who has an idea to help solve this problem?

Shall we give each registrant at the convention a living souvenir? Ideas and suggestions needed. Speak up. Portland gave each of us a Mahonia--Oregon Grape. Many items like chrysanthemums would be suitable earlier in the year but not in July. Who can come up with an idea for this one?

Let any of us on the convention committee hear from you. Your assistance and suggestions are strongly requested.

## GARBAGE IN --- GARBAGE OUT

The above is the explanation for the word "GIGO" which is computer technician slang, meaning you get back from a computer, in effect, exactly what you put in it. This is just as true of life as a computer. It may be as true for editors, we people who edit everything from daily newspapers to club bulletins. The problem is we don't always know whether what we put in would be considered valuable material to you, or garbage. For that reason, we always particularly want to know what you like or dislike in your bulletin. In 1898, a man wrote the following letter from Princeton, New Jersey, to an acquaintance in Philadelphia: "A writer, of course, never sees his audience; he does not know how many he is reaching or in what way he is being regarded by his readers. He must keep heart amidst the embarrassing silence, and try to believe that what he writes is at any rate worth saying and deserving of an audience, for the sake of the truth or the cheer or the right moral impulse, or the mere human interest, that is in it. It's a lonely business at best." This writer had another lonely job during his life. He was Woodrow Wilson. - W. H. Hull

## AMERICA THE UGLY

Oh pitiful, for smoggy skies  
For jungles made of stone,  
For blazing mountain tragedies  
Where bubbling brooks did roam.

America, America

We shed our trash on thee  
And now regret the mess we made  
from Sea to shining Sea.

How terrible the picnic trash  
The beer cans by the road,  
The sewage pipes that feed the streams  
Their deadly, smelly load.

America, America

What lakes of glistening foam  
And airplanes spraying poisons on  
The dear land we call home.

(Brent Renfrow)

## DOCTOR ENLOE'S PRESCRIPTION .....

Complete rest is no cure for tension, according to Dr. Cortez F. Enloe, Jr., a former air force flight surgeon who now serves as consultant to the health industries. "What a man needs for relief from tensions....is diversion accompanied by physical exercise." Writing in Popular Gardening and Living Outdoors, Dr. Enloe says "There is little relief to be gained by the ordinary businessman in going home and lying down and doing nothing for a couple of days after a tough week at the office. This only gives him time to reflect upon his unmet obligations, the mistakes he has made, and the tough problems that lie ahead." The New York doctor then compares office fatigue with World War II combat fatigue, the treatment of which included vigorous physical exercise or manual labor." Of course, this is a perfect prescription for gardening.

## THE OUTSTANDING FLORIBUNDA ROSES

by Ron Twite

The floribunda rose has single or double blooms, with or without fragrance, large hybrid tea-like, or small sweetheart-like roses. You can buy tall or short bushes depending on the varieties wanted.

All floribundas can be depended upon for prolific bloom. If you want a mass of color along your driveway, walk or in the garden, the floribunda roses are for you. Here is a list of my favorite floribunda roses:

RED PINOCCHIO. This plant is approximately two feet tall, vigorous, very bushy and is a prolific bloomer. The velvety carmine-red fragrant flower has about 25 to 30 petals.

FASHIONETTE. A very bushy plant and a vigorous grower. You will receive much color from this plant because of its profuse bloom. The bush will reach a height of two feet. The bud is pointed to ovoid with a flower of 35 to 40 petals; the color is a pinkish coral and is fragrant.

CIRCUS. This rose does not bloom quite as frequently as some of the other floribundas; however, its magnificent flower form and color make up for this. This flower is fragrant, has an urn-shaped bud and has from 45 to 58 petals. The color is yellow, marked pink salmon and scarlet. This bush has semi-glossy and leathery foliage. Is an All-America rose selection winner for 1956.

IVORY FASHION. This plant reaches a height of 2½ feet, grows vigorously and upright. The foliage is leathery. The flower is large (4 to 4½ inches) and semi-double, having 15 to 18 petals and opens flat. It has a slight fragrance and ivory white in color. All-America rose selection winner for 1959.

FIRE KING. Plant is a tall, upright grower with dark green and leathery foliage. This plant gives outstanding color with its fiery scarlet flowers. The bloom is double, medium-size (2½ inches), 45 to 50 petals, and fragrant. All-America rose selection for 1960.

GINGER. This is one of the new orange-red floribundas. The bud is ovoid which opens into large four-inch, double, 25 to 30 petals, flowers. This is a very compact plant which reaches a height of two feet and has a leathery and glossy foliage.

SARATOGA. This All-America winner for 1964 has a flower that is gardenia-shaped and has a hue of creamy white. It has a large flower, (4 inches), 30 to 35 petals, and is very fragrant. The bush is upright and bushy with leathery and glossy foliage.

INDEPENDENCE. Not a new rose but an outstanding bloomer. The bud is urn-shaped which opens into a large flower (4½ inches) with 35 petals. This bloom is a double which is fragrant and pure scarlet in color. A cluster of bloom will have up to ten large hybrid tea flowers. The foliage on the plant is glossy and disease free with moderate and spreading growth.

LITTLE DARLING. This rose is a favorite of flower arrangers. It is a prolific bloomer with an ovoid bud and medium-size flower (2½ inches). The flower is double, 24 to 30 petals, cupped and fragrant. The color is a blend of yellow and soft salmon-pink. The contrasting dark green, glossy and leathery foliage makes this a must for your garden. Give it plenty of room as it is a vigorous plant.

## DAHLIAS - THE KING OF THE GARDEN

by Thor Solem

**SIZE:** In my opinion, dahlias are still the king of the garden, and no garden is complete without them. The blooms range in size from  $\frac{1}{2}$ " to as big as 14" in diameter. They were named for Prof. Andreas Dahl, a Swedish botanist who discovered them growing wild in Mexico, a single red flower. From this simple beginning, hybridizers have given us the beautiful flowers of today. They grow in height from 18" to 10 ft., and they are classed by bloom size as follows:

- (A) 8" and over
- (B) 6" to 8"
- (BB) 4" to 6"
- (Miniatures) 2" to 4"
- (Pompons) 2" and under

**COLORS:** You may have your choice of colors in dahlias, except for blue or black. They are grouped into 14 color classes, including flames, blends, bi-colors, and variegated, besides the single color classes.

**TYPES:** Blooms vary from dense, full and formal to loose, shaggy and informal. Some types are ball shaped, and some have only a single row of petals. Others take the form of other flowers such as peonies or orchids. Dahlias grown for specimen blooms to be judged in shows are of the formal or informal decorative, semi-cactus or straight cactus, including miniatures and pompons. Other types are anemone, collarettes, and singles.

**LOCATION:** Dahlias do well in any type of soil, and especially well here in Minnesota with our cool evenings. They should have at least six to seven hours of sunlight each day. Soil must have good drainage so that no water stands on the ground very long after a rain. Most important is the condition of the soil at planting time and during the growing season. There is nothing better for good dahlia culture than good barnyard manure with a generous amount of super phosphate spread and raked in before planting.

**PLANTING:** Dahlias may be planted by using tubers or green plants. Tubers should be planted about 5" deep; covered with 2 or 3" of soil, and filled in as plant grows. Be sure tuber has a good sprout started, and be careful that it is not broken off in planting. Tubers may be planted in Minnesota generally around the middle of May, but be sure to cover in case of frost. Green plants are plants propagated from tubers and are already growing when planted. Green plants should not be planted until the latter part of May, unless plants are capped for frost protection. They need plenty of room so do not crowd.

**STAKING:** All dahlia plants must be staked. Rather than have a lot of naked looking stakes marring the beauty of your yard, start by using shorter stakes. I use a 1 x 1 x 2 ft. Around the 4th of July, I place a longer stake directly behind the shorter one. By this time the plant has attained its full growing strength, and in a few weeks the longer stakes will be hidden. Dahlia growers often put in a small stake when planting so that they know where to put the large stake without damaging the tuber.

**TYPING:** As the plant grows, be sure to tie each lateral loosely to the stakes. If you do not, you may find all your dahlias blown over and broken off after a hard wind.

DAHLIAS  
(continued)

PINCHING: For a nice bushy plant, the top should be pinched out when it is about 18" high. This applies to pompons and miniatures. On the B or BB sizes the top should be pinched out when the plant has 3 pairs of leaves. This will give the plant 6 main laterals. On the large A size, the top should be pinched out when the plant has 2 pairs of leaves. This will allow 4 laterals, which is all this type should have to give the plant a larger size bloom.

SPRAYING: Aphids, corn borers, cutworms, hoppers, all leaf eating insects, red spider mites and tarnish bugs love the tender dahlia leaves and buds. Therefore a constant spraying program must be carried on from June first to September. DDT for the borers, beetles and hoppers. Malathion will control red spider mites, and may be mixed with DDT and used as a single spray. Other material, such as the systemics, are becoming available from time to time, some of which may do your job better, so it is well to keep informed of new products. ALWAYS FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS.

DISBRANCHING: You will soon observe that more laterals grow out on each side of the lateral stalks where the leaf on the main laterals joins the lateral stalks. These lateral branches on the main laterals should be removed from the top of each main lateral and about half way down to the main stem. This is done to have stronger laterals for your second blooms, which will come on more laterals from the leaf bracts on the lower half of each main lateral. This should be done at the time the lateral tips first appear on the main laterals.

DISBUDDING: As soon as a cluster of 3 flower buds forms at each lateral tip, two of the buds should be removed. In most cases the center bud is left, but in cases of short stem varieties one of the size buds is left to produce the bloom.

DIGGING AND STORING: Dahlia plants produce tubers which are carefully dug after a killing frost. Tubers are left in their original clumps, and after they are dry, they should be packed in boxes, tops down, and covered with sand or vermiculite. They should be stored in the coolest part of the basement but protected from frost.

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Floribunda Roses  
(continued)

VALENTINE. For a carpet of red almost all summer you should grow this small semi-spreading, bushy, compact plant. The flowers are bright red, with a large cluster and are semi-double - 17 to 20 petals, and medium size (2½ to 3 inches). The foliage is a dark olive green.





**MENS GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS**

**CHRISTMAS PARTY**

DECEMBER 13, 1966  
DINNER - 6:45 SHARP

THUNDERBIRD MOTEL  
2201 EAST 78TH STREET

PROGRAM  
ANNUAL AWARDS, AND SLIDES OF MEMBERS GARDENS

EXCELLENT DINNER  
\$4.00 PER PERSON • GUESTS WELCOME

Please make checks payable to Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis and mail to:  
F.P. Vixo, Treasurer  
6204 Ashcroft Lane  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55424

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**DUES STATEMENT**

Club dues for year 1967 are \$10.00. Please remit by December 15, 1966.

Please enter my name, address and telephone number on the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis roster for year 1967 as follows:

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LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	NICK NAME (IF DESIRED)	
STREET ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
BUSINESS TELEPHONE	HOME TELEPHONE		

Type of Membership:    Active ( )    Associate ( )    Professional ( )

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UPON RECEIPT OF PAYMENT YOUR TICKETS WILL BE RESERVED AND SHOULD BE PICKED UP THE NIGHT OF THE PARTY.

PLEASE RESERVE \_\_\_\_\_ TICKETS FOR CHRISTMAS PARTY AT \$4.00

EACH. AMOUNT ENCLOSED \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNED