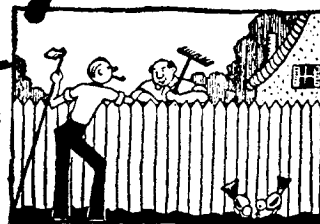




The Garden Spray

BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS

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



25TH

ANNIVERSARY NIGHT

honoring

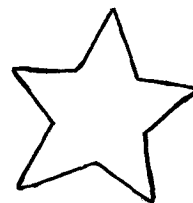
Charter Members:

Henry Bachman	Andy Nyberg
Felix Dhainin	Walter Quist
Walter Menzel	

and

"Old-Timers"

Bill Brooks	Archie Flack
Glen Cerney	Harold Kaufmann
Ed Culbert	Ed Montgomery
Thurber Day	



Where? When? and How Much?

Tuesday, February 14
Mount Olivet Lutheran Church, 50th St. and Knox Ave. S.
....at 5:45 P.M. for \$2.00

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William H. Hull, Editor, 7017 Dublin Road, Edina, Minnesota 55435

Associate Editors: G. Victor Lowrie, Charles R. Proctor, Harold Kaufmann, & Phillip H. Smith

Club Officers: President: Frank P. Vixo
 Secretary: Phillip H. Smith
 Director: J. Dale Durst

Vice President: G. R. Christenson
Treasurer: Nathan S. Siegel
Director: Albert I. Nelson

OVER THE GARDEN GATE

by Bill Hull

Thanks to THE GARDEN GATE, bulletin of MGC of Richfield, for several notices of encouragement of the coming MGCA national convention here next July. President (1967) Gardner Miller urged Richfield members to plan for some vacation time during the convention time and urged participation. As did the retiring president. Editor Marlin Gilhousen also speaks well of the event. He mentions that the Richfield club plans to hold its annual flower show during the convention at a downtown Minneapolis location. That is a superb idea and we congratulate--and thank the Richfield boys. "Gil" also mentions that eight of the Richfield gardens will be on the tours.

The fellow told his boss he needed a raise because of illness in the family. His wife was awfully sick of them being broke.

I recently attended the January meeting of the Board of Directors of MGCA at the Hotel Muehlbach in Kansas City. As chairman of the Ways and Means committee, my main responsibility was to head up the committee to establish a national headquarters building. We had over fifty official invitations and five cities have been after us hammer and tongs to settle in their areas. The committee did not recommend a single city because it felt it simply didn't have enough facts and figures supplied it by other committees, as to finances, etc. The Ways and Means committee did, however, recommend we continue negotiating with Amarillo, Rockford and Des Moines. This will be a major part of the business to be transacted by officers, directors and delegates at the Minneapolis national convention in July. Anyone wishing to see our Ways and Means committee eight-page report only has to ask for it.

In-laws are like seeds. You have to take them with the tomato.

Dale Durst recently discussed the twelve most colorful flowers in his garden, those that consistently give the most bloom and are the most reliable year after year. He lists nine in that category: petunias, gloriosa daisies, dahlberg daisies, chrysanthemums, coleus, delphiniums, dictamus, platycodon and dahlias. Most varieties of petunias will give color throughout the season, says Dale. They need water and thinning out by removing spent blooms, Gloriosa daisies, if allowed to reseed, will surprise you with abundant color the following season, as well as some interesting new flowers. Dahlberg daisies are miniatures he has grown from Park seed. They are less than eight inches tall with flowers one-half inch across and abundant bloom. He likes the Lehman chrysanthemums and the Bishop variety of delphinium, which is a good bloomer and winters well here. All varieties of coleus provide good fill-in with lots of color. This year he had some growing on the porch under a deep overhang where they got only morning sun and the colors were unusually brilliant. Dictamus (gas plant) winters well and the plant blooms better each year. Platycodon (balloon flower) is available in many colors. He has blues, whites, from seed. Dale knows of what he talks. He is a good gardener.

Our forefathers went out and built empires. Today you have to have a permit to add a wall in the basement.

YOUR PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

by Frank Vixo

Working as I have this past week with the board on the membership roster, my appreciation of the type of men who belong to the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis is renewed and I am humbled at the privilege of serving as your president. Your obvious willingness to do your share reminds me that "the impossible simply takes a little more time." Again thank you, gentlemen, and remember the board exists to serve you and invites your suggestions. Ideas are the stuff of which growth consists! Let's grow together with ideas - and sweat.

Mark your calendar for the February 14 meeting. We must guarantee 50 for the dinner and must tap our treasury for attendance at less than 50. Attendance is the surest sign of an active club. Let's prove it at the February meeting. Besides, it is Charter Members night. Come out, honor these members and learn some club history in the process.

As you know, we could use some new active members. The North Star region of which our own Nate Seigel is president and Otto Nelson is secretary, has provided us with the names of those who attended gardens on the tour last summer. Perhaps one of these lives near you and you would like to approach him concerning membership or bring him as a guest to one of our meetings. More about this later.

Ron Twite, Einar Johnson and Larry Bachman are busy working on the Lyndale Garden Lighting project. Dwight and I made a call with Ron and Einar on January 15. This committee is going to get results!

Those who missed the January meeting lost out not only on an interesting lecture and slide presentation of garden sculpture but also a demonstration of outstanding competence displayed in an unassuming manner that A. W. Hubbard knows what he's talking about. This was another clear showing that the best meetings can come from the talents of our own members. The problem seems to be one of discovering that talent. Take the bushel basket off your candle, fellows. Step forth and see Bud Christenson, our program chairman.

It seems to me that it is time to be planning for the plantings you will be making for sale at the plant auction. The more of this we do the bigger the profit for the club.

WHAT YOU CAN LOOK FORWARD TO READING IN "SPRAY"

Harold Kaufmann, Phil Smith, and Archie Flack have been working with us in an effort to obtain new articles for the Spray. They have requested members with special interests or skills on a particular subject to submit articles in keeping with subject-interests. They plan to contact additional members as soon as their present subject list is exhausted. So far, twenty articles have been submitted and all have been printed, or will be shortly.

However, there are still several members who have not prepared their agreed-upon subject despite urging by the committee. It would be appreciated if these could be written before the spring garden rush. The following persons have agreed to prepare articles:

Dick Lehman - Clematis
Eng Hoyme - Lilies
Leon Snyder - Shrubs
John Kolb - Lawns
Roger Koopmans - Mums

Phil Smith - Redesigning & Renovating
P. W. Young - Delphiniums
Bob Sicora - Photography
Lawrence Bachman - Home Trees
Frank Vixo - Iris & Peonies
Otto Nelson - Terrace Gardens

A REVIEW OF 1966

by Bob Smith

I hope that in year 1966 the activities of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis have helped to stimulate and enhance the gardening interests and enjoyment of each member. We have attempted to provide some new activities, a continuation of many of those that have been so satisfying over the years and a revitalizing of others. The success of this year's activities has been due largely to the fine work of many of the committee chairmen, committee members and those who have been faithful in attendance. I would like personally to thank each one who has had a part in helping to make this another successful year.

Several of the new activities initiated in 1966 were the Monthly Flower Shows and the Big Pumpkin Contest. Ed Beery did an excellent job of organizing and staging the flower shows at the monthly meetings from June through November which replaced the annual flower show. Les Johnson took top honors in the specimen competition for which he received the Blackbourne trophy and Al Nelson won the Queen of the Shows trophy for the outstanding specimen at the September show. The state-wide Big Pumpkin contest sponsored by our club was headed up by Dale Durst who received the Presidents trophy for his fine work. Four-thousand pounds of pumpkin were entered in the contest by sixty enthusiastic youngsters with the winning pumpkin weighing 140 pounds. Dale also got involved in a Giant Sunflower contest when he found out that there was no national contest in which to place the 20 entries he had received and the club took on this project also. The winning sunflower head measured slightly over 20 inches in diameter. Spray editors are to be congratulated for some new features this year which included pictures taken at the September tour and some very fine articles by our members throughout the year on their gardening specialties. An arboretum Night replaced the shrub auction at our April meeting with emphasis on supporting the Arboretum through individual memberships rather than the auctioning of excess plant materials from the Arboretum.

Some of the successful continuing activities included the May plant auction under the direction of Al Nelson and Bob Sicora which was very profitable, and several excellent and unusual tours in July and August under the leadership of Vern Carlson. The Christmas party, planned by Jack Peterson, was held at the Thunderbird Motel. In addition to the aforementioned trophies which were presented at the Christmas party, Nate Seigel received the Lehman award, Bill Brooks, the Bronze medal and the Minneapolis Clinic of Psychiatry and Neurology received the Industrial award.

Bill Brooks did a fine job of reviving the special interests program with the emphasis on having fun in sharing our special interests by getting together in small groups and visiting each others gardens and other places of interest. Many of the groups had a very interesting and successful year.

Thanks for the opportunity of serving as your president this past year.

CHET HARKINS - IN MEMORIAM

We were all made sad by the untimely death of C. G. Harkins, a valued member of long standing. Those of us who knew "Chet" found a real friend who practiced in his dealings with others the same kindly compassion that a true gardener takes toward a fresh young flower which he realizes will some day blow into its own commanding place in the garden. Our sympathies go to Mrs. Harkins, daughter Jane and relatives.

.....Frank Vixo

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE JANUARY BUSINESS MEETING

From the very excellent minutes provided by retiring Secretary Phil Smith, from the detailed and audited financial reports by Treasurer Frank Vixo and retiring Secretary Sherm Pinkham, we take the following information, with other facts being covered in Frank Vixo's report.

All official reports were accepted officially and the auditing committee consisting of Charlie Wasley and Cal Calendine reported all finances in order.

The amendment that two directors be added to the Board (see December and January Sprays) was passed and Dale Durst and Al Nelson elected as two new directors.

New officers (see cover hereof) were installed and took office.

Dwight Stone reported on the MGCA national convention in July and particularly stressed attendance at meetings the first Tuesday of the month at Becky's, at Miracle Mile.

The average attendance during 1966 was fifty-two.

The annual flower show was discontinued and in its place was substituted the monthly flower shows. This is a procedure other MGC's over the nation have previously followed and we are indebted to them for this thought.

New Active Members in 1966 were Arthur C. Johnson, Alfred O. Mohr and Robert L. Taylor and Dan S. Feidt as an Associate Member. During the year we lost by death three of our finest members: Ed Beery, Joe Witmer and Donald Young.

Official balance sheet at year's end showed assets of \$2,930.24, consisting mainly of \$2,512.06 in Twin City Federal account and \$312.63 in a Northwestern National Bank checking account.

Income and expenditures for 1966 totaled \$2,153.78. Of this, \$1,099 was from dues, \$330.25 from the plant auction, \$116.43 from interest on savings, and \$452 from Christmas party receipts. Other receipts were minor. The major expenses were \$639.50 for the Christmas party, \$311.15 for "Spray," \$300 to the Arboretum and \$210 to the Hort Society, \$282.50 to MGCA, and \$150.10 for programs and shows. "Cheer" for our ill and memorials for the deceased totaled \$73.35, with industrial awards costing \$34.92, Big Pumpkin contest \$34.20 and miscellaneous \$54.62.

The budget for 1967, drawn and approved upon the basis of the above is set at \$1,500, the main difference being that the Christmas party is not included therein since it is to be self-supporting except for \$100. Most of the income is from dues at \$1,100, with plant auction receipts of \$250 and interest of \$115, and miscellaneous of \$35. All expenditures, as budgeted, are in proportion to expected membership. Hort Society and MGCA dues being the same, Arboretum Fund and Spray being \$300 each. Programs and Shows and also Christmas party costs set at \$100 each. Thus it is obvious no great changes in expenditures are expected.

"Nothing ruins a neighborhood for the average husband like having an enthusiastic gardener move in. So, although we have some openings for members, don't bring your neighbor to the next meeting. He might develop a better lawn and garden than you."

PART I

ROSE TERMINOLOGY AND CLASSES

by Bill Hull

Recently we thought we would do a little reading to learn more about roses. We soon learned how little we knew of those roses other than the hybrid teas which are so familiar to all of us. We also discovered that a lot of our other rosarian friends also had sizeable blanks in their rose education.

All we had to do was to start running across the myriad of terms which include such puzzlers as Noisettes, Gallicas, Moss and Musk roses, ramblers, pillars and climbers, climbing polyanthas and climbing hybrid polyanthas, cabbage roses. At this point we looked for organization of roses into categories. This isn't simple because there are few pure blood lines in roses today after a big century of interbreeding and crossbreeding..

Today's classification is complicated and inconsistent for there is overlapping of characteristics. In some instances, a classification is made on the basis of origin from a wild species; in other cases - on the basis of habit of growth, manner of flower bearing, or some other characteristic. Furthermore, the classes merge. This was not true when they were first set apart. Now they (plant breeders) grade from one to another so closely that it is often impossible to classify a given variety without knowing its parentage and heredity. (Allen).

Despite complications, the existing classification remains a handy tool with which to organize the multitude of rose varieties. It is used in all catalogues and is fundamental to your knowledge of roses. Without an understanding of the meaning of terms, you will be bewildered and lost in a morass of names. (Allen).

Of course, the entire picture would be much simpler if the older varieties were all lost or abandoned but some of them are still listed in catalogues and available. Thus it is usually the numerous classes of the older roses which cause confusion to most beginning rosarians. Edland thus feels it is best simply to classify roses as "old" and "new."

Let us look for a moment at Edland's classifications: The old roses comprise the original species and their hybrids which, in order to distinguish them are given the prefix 'rosa.' Rosa is followed by a latinised name, in some cases derived botanically (*Rosa multiflora*, *Rosa canina*, *Rosa spinosissima*), in others the name of the finder (*Rosa banksia*, *Rosa wilmottiae*, *Rosa wilsonii*) and thirdly, the name of the country or area in which it originated (*Rosa chinensis*, *Rosa gallica*, *Rosa damascena*). One can learn to list the respective classifications of all the old roses, but it is neither necessary nor important, since if not classified in the modern manner, they can be considered to be species or hybrida of species. (Edland).

On the other hand, the new (modern) roses which have been evolved from crossbreeding all the old varieties and their subsequent progeny have by now such a mixed parentage that ... no attempt is made to define the relationship to their parents and they fall mainly into two groups ---the hybrid teas (HT) and the floribundas (Flor). (Edland).

Edland considers all of the following among the new or modern roses: hybrid teas, floribundas, grandifloras, polyantha pompons, hybrid polyanthas, polyantha compactas, miniatures, climbers, ramblers, hybrid musks, and hybrid perpetuals. They will be discussed in detail later in this article.

Now, Allen feels all roses should be classified into either "bush roses" or "climbing and trailing roses." Let's look at his reasoning.

.....continued

Bush roses vary in height from one to six feet. They require no support and are similar in growth to other woody shrubs. Sometimes the term 'bedding roses' is used for this major division, but this limits the group to varieties that are relatively low growing, one to four feet, and which are adapted to formal beds. Bush roses are sub-divided into many classes. While they all have a bush form, they vary in flowering habit and in many other traits. The following are today's eight most important types of bush roses. The names designating them are those in common use in rose literature: hybrid tea, floribunda or hybrid polyantha, grandiflora, polyantha, hybrid perpetual, shrub, old-fashioned, tree or standard, and miniature. (Allen).

By contrast, the climbing and trailing roses include those varieties that produce long canes requiring some form of support, if they are to be kept upright on fences, trellises, walls, arbors and pergolas. They include about one-tenth of the roses catalogues today. They are almost more important in landscape work (than hybrid teas). No other plant will give the same effect. In fact, some gardeners grow nothing but climbing roses because of their permanence, reliability, comparative ease of culture and great beauty. Hybridizers have advanced their quality in recent years. New colors have been added and a longer flowering span. The aim, of course, is to breed climbing roses that are both hardy and of continuous bloom. (Allen).

The climbers are divided into several classes but the system is inexact because it can be considered in different ways. Some classes represent types; others, groups of varieties adapted to particular uses, such as growing on pillars or posts. (Allen)

Allen puts the following roses in this category of climbing and trailing roses: ramblers, large flowered climbers, pillar roses, everblooming, climbers, climbing hybrid teas, climbing polyanthas, climbing hybrid polyanthas, climbing floribundas, and trailing roses.

Now let us look at some of these different categories of roses and see what we can learn about them.

Old-Fashioned Roses. "The multitude of old-fashioned roses, popular seventy-five or one-hundred years ago, includes the roses of great-grandmother's garden and the species and varieties of colonial times. They are a study in themselves and have a nostalgic charm, although the roses of today surpass them in quality. They are usually hardy and disease-resistant, require little care, and produce large quantities of blooms in June. While they cannot compete with modern varieties in refinement of flower, they surpass almost all of them in fragrance." (Allen). Examples are the cabbage rose, Cardinal de Richelieu, Common or Old Pink Moss Rose and Maiden's Blush.

The Alba Rose. (Rose Alba or The White Rose of England) These are erect shrubs which produce flat blooms of good fragrance. "A feature is their greyish-green foliage. Summer flowering." (Edland). They are one of the easiest of all the old roses to recognize and are really in a sense a flowering shrub. "Early growth is deep green with large curved thorns in most cases. Leaves are coarse to the touch. True early types have a delightful gray-greenness of foliage, quite unique in the genus. As the plant matures, the green wood becomes gray-brown...canes to 6 or 7 feet. Bloom is profuse in the spring...plants are as pest resistant as any roses grown. Coloring is basically white...the fragrances are superb. I consider them the most spectacular flowering shrubs of all the roses I grow. Prune them little." (Thomson). Four choice albas are: Rosa Alba Maxima (Great Double White); Maiden's Blush (Rosa Alba regalis of Redoute); Mme. Levas de Germain; and Konegin

The Gallicas. This is an old European rose. "Most of them have a plant habit hard to miss. Shoots and branches are erect and stiff, seldom rising above three feet. The thorns are weak, of unequal size, sparse and straight rather than hooked or curved. The leaves, five in number, are thick, oval, pointed at the tip, and quite rough and dry. Blooms are borne in a manner which is one of the indications of Gallica ancestry; erect on footstalks which are stiff and strong. Flowers are likely to appear in ones or threes along the canes, even quite low down, on strong, lateral branches. The calyx is round, making the ensuing seed hip a little cherry of quite spherical shape. The fragrance is sharp and sweet and a little spicy. The Gallica type is enormously old, although we are really hard put to identify any rose we know today." (Thomson). Examples as nearly as can be determined are: The Apothecary's Rose, Alain Blanchard, Cardinal de Richelieu, Versicolor.

The Moss Rose is another old European rose, and is considered sports of the Centifolias. "They differ in that the sepals of bud and bloom are covered with a green growth which resembles moss. Once a moss is fully expanded, you must examine it with some care to discover this peculiarity, but in the quarter-to-half-open stage, a moss rose is one of the real wonders of the genus... (they) may generally be divided into two groups: the true sports of Centifolia and obvious hybrids with other classes. The most exquisite Moss style is found in the first group. Bloom size runs from miniature to 'Peace' size." (Thomson). Examples are Centifolia muscosa (Old Pink Moss), Centifolia muscosa alba, the white sport of the unsurpassable previously-mentioned rose, and Blanche Moreau, a hybrid with Damascena.

The Damasks (*Rosa damascena*), named because it is believed to have come originally from Damascus. Noted for tall slender shrubs carrying nodding loose blooms of delicious fragrance, according to Edland. Thomson says that the damasks are a group of seedlings from the Gallicas and that they are outstanding for their color, fragrance, plant form, disease resistance and ability to form stolons easily. "The true Summer Damask makes a quite erect plant, although not so upright on the average as the Gallica. The wood is apt to be less in caliper, set with prickles mixed with quite strong hooked thorns...branches definitely more lax...foliage grayer. Blooms come in varying shades of pink to white, semi-white to very double, with intense sweetness of the true old Attar-of-rose quality. In the matter of fragrance, the Damasks are surely ancestors of the modern rose and the dominant ones genetically as well. It would not be far from the truth to call the Hybrid Tea of our present interest a vastly improved Damask." (Thomson). Examples are the following: Celsiana, Mme. Hardy, Marie Louise and the Autumn Damask which has been called the darling of the Roman florists, but is hard to locate today.

The Cabbage Roses (The Centifolias) are other old European roses. They are widely known. In fact Thomson says they: (have perhaps the most widespread reputation of all the roses...the class contains perhaps fewer varieties of real floral perfection than the others..the name has no reference to the size of the cabbage, but to its shape...compared to Damascena, Centifolia is taller, the prickles are more pronounced, and in some cases more hooked...the foliage often has the alba thickness and dryness, and blooms come in shades of white through deep pink. Here is Alba influence. There are no true red centifolias, although bybridization with Gallica did produce some later." Examples are Rose centifolia (superb fragrance), De Meaux, Fantin-Latour, Unique Blanche also called White Provence and Voerge de Clery. "One of the real greats." says Thomson.

PART II will be continued in next month's issue.