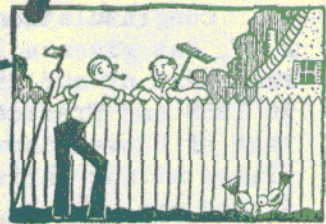




# The Garden Spray

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. V. Lowrie, Editor

Associate Editors  
Wm. H. Hull, Neil Barry,  
Otto Nelson

H A P P Y   N E W   Y E A R

## January Meeting

Date: Tuesday, January 9, 1962  
Place: Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church  
Knox Avenue, So. at W 50th  
Time: 5:45 P.M., Sharp  
Price: \$1.75

## Officers

N. W. Christopherson	President
Ev Haedecke	Vice-Pres.
Dwight Stone	Secretary
Charles Proctor	Treasurer

Office of the Secretary  
4620 Hampton Road

## P R O G R A M

Annual Reports (short and snappy)

Talk with slides by Dick Lehman on "Clematis"

Talk on "house plants" by Professor R. E. Witmer, Department of Horticulture, University of Minnesota.

A round table discussion on "something new for 62 in my garden," conducted by a panel of Club members.

This being the first meeting in the new Club year where the retiring officers account for their past stewardship, and when the new officers proclaim the "State of the Garden," let us all try to be on hand to catch the few pearls that may unintentionally be spilled.

## CERTIFICATE OF HONOUR

The Board this year voted to recognize, with a Certificate of Honour, three members whose work had contributed substantially to the success of our 1961 programs. Congratulations fellows.

Al Nelson for his fine work in masterminding the Flower Show.

Eng Boyre for leading the special project group in photography.

## OVER THE GARDEN FENCE

by Bill Hull



Congratulations to P. W. Young, the 1961 winner of the Bronze Medal. P. W. has given a lot of himself to our club and is truly a deserving recipient of our highest award. He was secretary in 1954, vice-president in 1958 and president in 1959. He has held many chairmanships such as that of Flower Show head, has annually presented the best of our garden slides at our Christmas party and has simply done too much to enumerate. A good man.

Facts and figures: Of the 12 men who have received our Bronze Medal award, ten have been presidents, Jim Christman and Al Blackburn being the exceptions. Three are deceased: Herb Kahlert, Jim Christman and Tony Koester. Two live out of the state: Rene Dufourd and Al Blackburn. The others are Harold Kaufmann, Archie Flack, Glen Cerney, Vic Lowrie, Cortis Rice, Joe Witmer and P. W. Young.

Les Johnson was our 20th president. Twelve of them are still very active in the club, five having passed away and three no longer residing locally. Those still active and given by tenure are Glen Cerney, Harold Kaufmann, Stan Lund, Cortis Rice, Fred Paul, Vic Lowrie, Archie Flack, Joe Witmer, Bill Brooks, P. W. Young, Bill Hull and Les Johnson.

Charlie Proctor passes along the word that Sam Abrams who passed away recently left a compost and soil sifter and a ten gallon milk can which the family would like to pass along to someone interested. Call Miss Abrams or see Charlie.

Sorry to hear from our friend and past president George Titus that Mrs. Titus has been ill for several months and is just now recovering from a bout with pneumonia and resulting complications. Their address: 313 Sherwood Drive, Santa Rosa, California. They hope to return to Minneapolis for a visit next Spring.

How about those souvenir glasses each person received at the Christmas party? We hope you liked them. Still have two packages of six each available on a first come basis. \$3.00 each package. See me or Les Johnson.

Question: How to postpone some of the wonderful Christmas season activities for a duller time of the year - March, for example?

Now that Les Johnson's year as president is over, we'll bet it has seemed like a short twelve months. There is always so much the president wants to accomplish and so little time in which to do it. But Les has done a lot, using the best of the old and initiating some good new ideas. Among the many innovations was the service the Club rendered in judging school gardens. Thanks, Les, for a job well done.

### OVER THE GARDEN FENCE (Cont'd)

The father came home to be greeted by the mother who joyfully exclaimed it had been a day of "firsts" for Junior. "He cut his first tooth; then he fell and broke it out; then he said his first word."

Many of you know C. D. Peterson who has just been elected 1962 president of the Minnetonka MGC. Active in the North Star Region since its inception, "C.D." would probably appreciate hearing from some of us.

Did you know that Vic Lowrie has been editor of SPRAY since 1949? Twelve years of volunteer work and not an issue missed. We've already given him a Bronze Medal but still deserves thanks for this accomplishment. I joined him as an associate editor eight years ago. Anybody want the job?

As Fred Rodda says, this weather is for the birds. So feed them.

### CHRISTOPHERSON BECOMES 1962 PRESIDENT

Congratulations to N.W. "Chris" Christopherson who was elected 1962 president of our Club, the elections having been held at the November meeting. Chris was elevated from the Vice-Presidency in 1961; he also served as Treasurer for four years, 1955-1958. Chris and wife, Verna, live at 6145 Clinton Avenue.

Our new Vice-President is Ev Haedecke, who has served as Club Treasurer for three years, 1959-1961. Ev and his wife Julie live at 5524 West 70th St.

Dwight Stone remains again as our capable Secretary; his fourth consecutive year in this capacity, starting in 1959. Dwight and Lorraine live at 4620 Hampton Road.

Charlie Proctor comes to the official board for the first time this year as Treasurer. Well qualified for this position, he is a mortgage loan man with Prudential Insurance Company. Charlie and Ruth recently moved from Drew Avenue to 4131 York Avenue, South.

These four men have all served the club in many capacities, working on and chairmaning about every committee in existence. We won't attempt to list them all here but they come to their offices well qualified and we should be proud to have them head our group.

### CHOICE GARDEN FLOWER RECIPE

To make a tarte of Marigoldes, Prymroses or Couslips Take floures and perboyle them tender, then strayne them with the yolckes of three or four eggs, and swete curdes, or els take three or four apples, and perboyle wythal and strayne them with swete butter and a lyttle mace and bake.

## OUR CHRISTMAS PARTY

A fitting climax to a successful Club year and all who worked to bring it about are deserving of a lot of credit. To everyone who had a hand we say "Thank you for a lovely evening." The food was good, appetizingly served and the service left nothing to be desired.

It was good to be able to greet so many old, as well as new, friends and particularly their wives, all of whom, the wives that is, seem to look younger and more beautiful at every Christmas party. Is it the party that does it; it couldn't have been the wine!!!

The old timers were certainly out in force including, Henry Bachman, Glen Cerney, Archie Flack, George Germain, Harold Kaufmann, Tom Krum, Greg Lucking, George Luxton, Walter Menzel, Andy Nyberg, Fred Paul, Walter Quist, Cortis Rice, Joe Witmer and P. W. Young.

We did miss a few of our old timers and especially our good friend Stan Lund, who rarely misses one of our functions, but who unfortunately has not been able to get around too well of late.

The entire evening's entertainment was splendid. The children's voices were charming and when the members and their guests joined in the singing you could hardly tell the young voices from the old. Santa Claus Ev added some enjoyable humor in his recognition of a few of the boys unusual talents. Bill Hull, with his Green Thumb awards, single, double and triple, made quite a hit, and Joe Witmer has the enthusiasm of the Club for the awards he presented as Chairman of the Industrial and Commercial Landscaping Awards Committee.

We salute P. W. Young in winning the Club's Bronze Medal award and give him a hearty vote of thanks for his interesting presentation of members' gardens on film.

All in all it was a rewarding evening including the garden club glasses - a Bill Hull special.

To the Haroware Mutual people who so generously provided their gaily decorated dining room and auditorium we extend our thanks and appreciation.

### GREEN THUMB AWARDS . . .

. . . were presented to the following members for perfect attendance during 1961: Dolph Bezoier, Bud Christenson, Archie Flack, Tom Krumm, Maury Lifson, Otto Nelson, Jerry Olson, Charlie Reif, Vern Roufs, Bob Smith, and Fred Paul.

Norm Christopherson and Rog Koopman received awards for perfect attendance in 1960 and 1961.

Eng Hoyme, Les Johnson and P. W. Young were recognized for never missing a meeting in 1959, 1960 and 1961.

Congratulations to all of you!

## NEW FERN HILL

Did you know that we have an unusual fern garden in Theodore Wirth Park jointly sponsored by the Minnetonka Garden Club and the Little Minnetonka Club. This lovely garden has been developed from an unsightly brush covered mound and this Spring should prove to be an interesting as well as fascinating study for our wild flower lovers.

Ferns have been planted to suit their particular environment as for example, Ostrich Ferns, Cinnamon Ferns and Royal Ferns have been planted at the base of the hill where they can enjoy the moisture.

On the steepest part of the hill exposed to the sun you will find the Lady Fern and Interrupted Fern. In the more shaded areas under the oaks have been planted the Brittle Bladder Fern and the Berry Bladder Fern.

This beautifully transformed area includes such varieties as the Christmas Fern, Goldie's Fern, Hayscented Fern, Narrow-leaved Spleenwort, Silvery Spleenwort, Marginal Shield Fern, Spinulose Shield Fern, Crested Wood Fern, Narrow Beech Fern, Bracken and Rattlesnake Fern.

Incidentally, markers are being made ready this winter, to be installed in the Spring for quick identification of the various varieties of Ferns.

## A FEW CHOICE GARDEN FLOWER RECIPES

To fry Primrose-Leaves in March with eggs take a handful or two of Primrose leaves, mince them very small, beat them into a dozen eggs; your pan being very hot, cool it a little, and put in your eggs, fry them very soberly; when it is enough on that side, turn it, and lay it in again on the other side; when it is enough, scrape on Sugar, scruipe on the juice of a Lemmon.

The whole Body of Cookerty Dissected, Taught, and fully manifested.  
London, 1673

To make sirrup of Violets pick the flowers and weigh them, put them into a quart of water, and steep them on hot embers, until such time as the flowers are turned white, and the water blew as any Violet; then add to that quart of infusion, four pounds of refined Sugar, and boyl it until it comes to a sirrup, being boyled and scummed on a gentle fire, lest it turns its colour; so don, put it up, and keep it for your use.

The Art of Confectionary, London, 1750

Rose Pie - take fresh roses, strip the leaves, remove the white from the petals, put them in a mortar; pour on some broth and strain. Skin four cooked calves' brains and remove the nerves; grind eight scruples of pepper moistened with the juice and rub. Break eight eggs, add one half ladle of wine, one ladle of raisin wine, a little hot oil. Grease a pan, plance it on the hot ashes and pour in the mixture; when it is cooked sprinkle with pulverized pepper and serve.

Apicius de re Coquinaria. Rome, 100 B.C. (?);  
perhaps the oldest cookbook extant.

## GROWTH CONTROL BY CYCLIC LIGHTING

A new method of applying artificial light to plants to control their growth - cyclic lighting can save nurserymen up to 90% of electrical costs - and increase the number of plant species that can be grown this way.

Cyclic lighting is the application of light in patterns of short, regularly occurring intervals during a 3 to 5 hour period in the middle of the night. Light applied in these cycles of alternating light and darkness can control plant growth with as little as a total of 12 minutes of light per night.

In contrast, the lighting system now used in most commercial greenhouses to get the same amount of plant growth control uses 4 hours of continuous light per night.

The great reduction in lighting costs per plant controlled with cyclic lighting would permit nurserymen to regulate growth of more plant species such as crop plants, trees and shrubs. Only plants with high unit value - chrysanthemums, for instance - are now controlled to bring them into maturity at set times of the year.

Cyclic lighting is a result of ARS research on photoperiodism - control of growth responses such as seed germination, vegetative growth and flowering by the relative length of daily light and dark periods.

Regulation of day length has been used by nurserymen since the early 1930's to control flowering of chrysanthemums. At first, 8 hours of continuous light applied at the beginning or end of the day was used.

Then, in the 1940's and 1950's scientists found that 4 hours of continuous light applied during the middle of the night was just as effective.

During the middle of the night, plants apparently undergo crucial growth changes, according to scientists. Thus, by manipulating night-length artificially during this period, plant growth can be readily controlled. Cyclic lighting is used during this period.

Cyclic lighting's development was possible because of the reaction to darkness (dark change reaction) of phytochrome - the dual-form, light-sensitive pigment which governs growth in all plants. When the sun sets, or when artificial light is turned off, phytochrome in all plant tissue reacts by slowly changing its form. This form change triggers changes in plant growth.

Developers of cyclic lighting found that the pigment's change in form - in reaction to a dark period that follows a period of artificial light in the middle of the night - is complete enough in 1 hour to affect plant responses. In terms of control-growing, this would cause a loss in the attempted control of the plant.

Therefore, horticulturist H. M. Cathey and plant physiologist H. A. Borthwick regulated light intervals in the cycles so that intervening dark periods never exceeded 1 hour. They let phytochrome begin its reversion, but repeatedly interrupted darkness with a light break before the pigment changed enough to lose growth-controlling effectiveness.

### GROWTH CONTROL BY CYCLIC LIGHTING (Cont'd)

For example, to control growth with a total of 12 minutes, Cathey and Borthwick used cycles such as: three seconds of light every minute for 4 hours, 30 seconds every ten minutes for 4 hours, or 90 seconds every 30 minutes for 4 hours. Light was applied from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 20-foot-candles (a 75-watt incandescent lamp 3 feet above the plant.)

The scientists got equal control of growth responses using longer total light exposures at lower foot candles of intensity. But with all successful cycles, the amount of light needed for control of plants was still considerably less than the 4 hours used commercially. These experiments were made at USDA's Agricultural Research Center, Beltsville, Maryland.

No specific recommendations are offered to nurserymen about programs of cyclic lighting best suited for their operations. What is best depends on the existing lighting installation, the plant species controlled and the purpose for which the light is given.

Phytochrome and its sensitivity to light were first detected in plants in the early 1950's. The pigment was isolated from plant tissue in 1959 by scientists at Beltsville.

Reprinted from "The Wind," MGC of Chicago Region.

### AN ARTIFICIAL CHRISTMAS TREE

Poem by Woodbridge Metcalf  
Berkeley, California

I think that I shall never see  
A thing as ugly as this "tree."  
Instead of needles soft and green,  
It has a harsh, metallic sheen.  
The branches fold, its trunk is square;  
No bird has ever nested there;  
No fragrance as of pine or spruce,  
Pervades the air throughout its use.  
It never felt the gentle rain,  
The season's change on hill and plain,  
Or sensed the tender loving care  
Provided in plantations where,  
Under the grower's watchful eye  
The green trees thrive beneath the sky.  
This thing of metal's not for me  
I want a green and fragrant tree.

Editor's note - "Amen, Amen, Amen"