



The Garden Spray

BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS

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



January 1963
Volume 21, No. 1
G. Victor Lowrie, Editor

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

January Meeting

Date: Tuesday, January 8, 1963
Place: Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church
Knox Avenue at W. 50th St.
Time: 5:45 P.M. Sharp
Price: \$1.75

Officers

Ev Haedecke	President
Dwight Stone	Vice-Pres.
G. R. Christenson	Secretary
Charles Proctor	Treasurer

Office of the Secretary
8300 Sheridan Ave, So.

H A P P Y N E W Y E A R

January Program

1. Annual Business Meeting - Short and Snappy

Officers Reports
1963 Budget
Auditing Committee Report

2. Roundtable discussion on "What's New for 1963"

How about becoming a member of the Green Thumbers by starting off the year with 100% attendance.

GREEN THUMB RECIPIENTS

At the 1959 Christmas party we awarded three Green Thumbs for perfect attendance during that year; it was an unannounced program. A year later we had eight members with perfect attendance, eleven in 1961 and thirteen were awarded at this Christmas party for perfect 1962 attendance. Here are the honored men: For four years: Eng Hoyne and P. W. Young. For three years: Norm Christopherson and Fred Paul. Two year: Bud Christensen, Archie Flack, and Bob Smith. For one year: Bob Adams, Charlie Procter, Phil Smith, Dwight Stone, Bill Swanson and Joe Witmer. Congratulations to these men for their loyalty to the club.

BOB ADAMS WINS BRONZE MEDAL

Dick Lehman, last year's Bronze Medal recipient, acting for the committee, awarded this year's medal to member Bob Adams. Bob has been active in the club in many categories for countless years and this was truly an earned recognition. Perhaps Bob is most recognized for his yeoman's work in arranging for our food at each meeting throughout the years. Bob was active on the old Grill'n Grub committee, has been liaison man with church committees, caterers and banquet chefs. Thanks, Bob. It's a pleasure to see you receive this award.

OTTO NELSON FIRST LEHMAN TROPHY WINNER

Otto Nelson, whose garden has always been beautiful and outstanding was honored by being awarded the E. H. Lehman Trophy this year, the first annual award of this trophy provided by Dick as a recognition for the garden showing most improvement during the year. Archie Flack and Joe Witmer, the committee making the study of the thirteen gardens entered in the contest, were lavish in their praise of Otto's garden, showing slides of the massive use of color (petunias for example) in Otto's terraced garden. A well-deserved honor, Otto, and we all congratulate you.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP TO ARCHIE FLACK

Our honorable Archie Flack received another honor - election to the rarely awarded position of Honorary Member, at the Christmas banquet. Of course this was voted on at the November meeting, as is required by our by-laws, but official recognition was given at the Christmas party. For his many years of service in countless categories, his contribution to the club as Horticulturist, his assistance to the many presidents (this writer certainly acknowledges this debt), his leadership as president, Archie well deserves this recognition.

PAST PREXY'S PIN TO DEPARTING NORM CHRISTOPHERSON

"Chris" and "Verna" are on their way. We will miss them at our many functions but we certainly hope they will return frequently. These were the thoughts expressed for all of us when Past President Les Johnson awarded Chris his P.P's pin at the Christmas party. Thank you for your efforts, Chris, and may good health and cheer go with you both. His new address: 10423 Monte Rosa Drive, Sun City, Arizona.

WEATHER ZEROES IN ON JOE WITMER . . .

...his greenhouse, that is. On the night of our first sub-zero weather, Joe's gas heating unit for his greenhouse went out. Apparently the gusty wind caused the pilot light to go out and of course there was no heat. As a result, Joe's many fine house plants including 150 geranium cuttings, were all lost. Joe suggests others with greenhouses consider putting in an alarm system to call attention to such heat failure. Why don't we all flood Joe with a plant or two as a starter?

STRELITZIA BLOOMS FOR BEZOIER

Dolph is sporting a fine blooming strelitzia. However, it isn't a contagious disease but an excellent bird of paradise. We haven't had a chance to see it yet but have heard how attractive it is. Hope the blooms last, Buzz, until we can get over to your house.

TRANSPLANTING FLOWERS IN ZERO WEATHER

Blooming plants can be transplanted at the worst time of the year if a few precautions are taken. Naturally one would attempt to warm up the automobile first but sometimes this takes a long time if the car has been outdoors or in an unheated garage. Place the plant on a layer of at least four double sheets of newspapers. Bring the four corners together at the top and staple all open areas so the cold wind can't get inside. Further protection will be obtained if it is placed in a box before taken outside. This technique has worked successfully for me many times, again recently on a ten below zero morning.

CIVIC BEAUTIFICATION AWARD

The Richfield Lutheran Church was the only recipient this year of the Civic Beautification Award. Past President Joe Witmer, in presenting the plaque, praised church officials for the outstanding landscaping. Accepting the plaque was the Rev. H. T. Rasmusson, accompanied by the Rev. O. R. Rees.

MAURY LIFSON RECUPERATING

We're glad to hear that Maury Lifson is home from his recent surgery and that Mrs. Lifson says he is progressing well. Maury now can have visitors so we'll get to visit him. A lot of people have been and still are, pulling for you, Maury.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR 1963 DUES YET

WE ARE SHORT OF WORKING CAPITAL

SO PLEASE PAY UP PRONTO

TIPS ON CARING FOR CHRISTMAS PLANTS

The blooms on your Christmas plants will last longer if you follow a few rules in caring for them.

Most flowering plants of the Christmas season are short lived when brought into the home because it's difficult to obtain the ideal conditions under which the plants have been growing in greenhouses. However, C. G. Hard, extension horticulturist at the University of Minnesota, says you can prolong the beauty of many of these plants by:

Placing them in bright light, preferably sunlight.

Keeping them at cool night temperatures.

Keeping the soil moist but not bog-like.

Of all the Christmas plants, the poinsettia is perhaps most sensitive to sudden drops in temperature and to drafts. A temperature of 70 to 75 F. is preferable. Temperatures below 60 F. or above 75 F. shorten the life of the poinsettia. Avoid setting it near a cold or hot air register or near the door. The poinsettia should never be near a window at night.

Keep the soil in the pot moist but do not overwater. Placing the plant in a metal tray in which sand is kept constantly wet will increase humidity.

Hard gives these further tips on caring for other popular gift plants:

Jerusalem cherry. Keep as cool as possible and in full sunlight. Discard when fruits have dropped. Fruits drop naturally soon after they mature.

Cyclamen. A cyclamen may bloom for several months if placed in a cool room of 65 to 68 F. Place it where it gets some morning light. Never allow the soil to dry out completely while the plant is in flower.

Cineraria. Keep in full sunshine during the day and at a night temperature of 50 F. Water heavily. The lower leaves will turn yellow and wilt if the soil is too dry or if the plant gets too little light.

Azalea. The blooms will last much longer if the plant is kept at a temperature between 50 to 60 F. Keep in partial shade and water moderately.

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U OF M DEVELOPS THREE ORNAMENTALS FOR HOME GARDENS

Three new ornamentals for home gardens - a chrysanthemum, a climbing rose and a flowering crabapple - have been developed by University of Minnesota horticulturists and will be available from Minnesota nurseries for spring planting.

The chrysanthemum, called Tenstrike, has bright lavender $1\frac{1}{2}$ -inch fully double flowers which bloom about mid-August. This high-mound type of plant

U OF M DEVELOPS THREE ORNAMENTALS FOR HOME GARDENS (Cont'd)

reaches a height of 15 to 18 inches and a spread of 24 to 30 inches when grown in full sun. Plants have been unusually uniform in growth habit and flowering each year, regardless of weather conditions. They are useful for a mass color effect in the front flower border.

Tenstrike is the 42nd variety of garden chrysanthemum introduced by the University's horticulture department.

Viking Queen is the name given to the floribunda - type climbing or pillar rose. It produces clusters of fragrant flowers 3 to 4 inches in diameter from late June to mid-October. Blooms are borne in clusters of five or more flowers. The medium to deep pink flower color does not fade, and petals remain on the blossoms even after they have passed their prime. New plants of Viking Queen will grow as much as 6 feet in one season.

Although this rose has demonstrated unusual hardiness, some protection is advisable during Minnesota winters.

Vanguard, the new flowering crabapple, combines year-round interest with a desirable upright habit of growth. The large, rosey pink flowers and the reddish cast of new leaves and fall foliage make this variety an attractive addition to the home yard. Bright red fruits remain on the tree well into winter, serving as food for winter birds.

Vanguard proved hardy in tests at branch experiment stations in various areas of Minnesota. It appears to be highly resistant to cedar apple rust and fireblight and moderately resistant to apple scab.

More information on the new varieties is given in the following publications available from the Bulletin Room, Institute of Agriculture, University of Minnesota, St. Paul 1: Miscellaneous Report 49, Viking Queen; Miscellaneous Report 50, A New Garden Chrysanthemum; Miscellaneous Report 51, A New Flowering Crabapple.

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THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

And congratulations to all who had a hand in planning and executing our Christmas Party.

Our particular praise goes to:

Frank Vixc
Dolph Bezoier
Dwight Stone
Bob Adams
P. W. Young

Am sure everyone had an enjoyable time and it was wonderful visiting