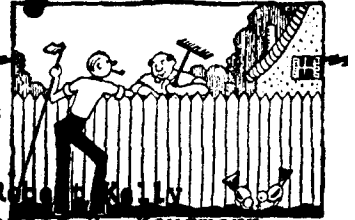




The Garden Spray

BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS



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

January 1966
Volume 24, No. 1
William H. Hull, Editor

Associate Editors:
G. Victor Lowrie, J. Robert Kelly
Charles R. Proctor, Harold R. Kaufmann

January Meeting

January 11, 1966

Mount Olivet Lutheran Church
50th Street and Knox Ave. So.

5:45 p.m.

\$1.75

Officers

R. E. Smith (Bob)	Pres.
G. R. Christenson (Bud)	V. P.
S. F. Pinkham (Sherm)	Sec.
Frank P. Vixo	Treas.

Come hear ...

Dr. Gustav Hard, Extension Horticulturist at the U. of M. discuss how changing patterns in our everyday living has influenced our necessity for redesigning our landscapes. Not just an academic topic, this will be an interesting talk by this specialist in landscape design.

Also, we will install our 1966 officers and receive our annual reports.

Thank you, Vic Lowrie

After serving as Associate Editor of Spray under Jack Cohen for several years, Vic Lowrie took over as editor in 1949 and has done a herculean job. MGCA has honored him several times as editing one of the ten best club bulletins. We have honored him with the Presidency in 1952 and the Bronze medal in 1954 and look how much he has contributed since those years as well as prior to them! Now he feels I should take a larger role in producing Spray and has asked I become editor, to which President Bob Smith has agreed. Although I have been Associate Editor since 1953 I do this reluctantly and only because Vic will continue to help. We owe him a tremendous debt and know he will serve in other capacities in our club as he has always done. As to Spray, we will need help. We solicit your advice and your assistance in assembling news of our members' activities and interests.

- W.H.H.

CLIPPINGS

by Charlie Proctor

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for the privilege of serving this past year. It is a real pleasure to have such a fine bunch of men backing one up as the officers and all of the club members.

As of the last tabulation there are still 39 members who have not paid their dues for 1966. This is hurting us in three ways: First, we must pay our dues to Men's Garden Club of America and Minnesota Hort. Society the first of the month; secondly, we cannot print our club roster until we know the intentions of each member; and third, we cannot prepare our club roster until we know how much income to figure on. So, let's get the dues in to Sherm pronto. I feel it was a successful Christmas party - it was fine to see such a large turnout. Phil Smith did a good job - our thanks to Phil.

The first seed catalog arrived in the mail today, signaling the beginning of that pleasant period of armchair gardening. I hope to have some new, different varieties this year.

Success is fleeting. The latter part of last year we achieved full membership, the first for some time. Now, with the election of two to honorary membership and the loss of a couple more, we again have vacancies for new members. Let's bring along those gardening friends who would make good additions to our club membership, and strive to achieve again the "full" status for the incoming officers. With several of our members off to warmer climes for extended stays, let the rest of us turn out for the winter meetings and keep our monthly attendance at the high level we experienced last year.

Dr. Joel Poinsett was our country's first minister to Mexico from 1825 to 1829. He became intrigued by an interesting plant that blossomed flamboyantly during the Christmas season. It was known as Flor de la Noche Buena or Flower of the Holy Night. Realizing what a lovely splash of color it could add to our traditional greenery of holly, mistletoe and evergreen, he sent cuttings to a nurseryman in Philadelphia. Here it was given the botanical name *Poinsettia Pulcherrima*. Horticulturists recognized the similarity of southern California's climate to that of Mexico and have successfully propagated it there. Great fields of poinsettia can be seen near Los Angeles during the holiday season. Thanks to Dr. Poinsett's attraction to this native plant of Mexico, Central and South America, we now have the poinsettia, and were able to supply each lady with one of these plants as a memento of our Christmas party.

WANTED---OLD ISSUES OF "SPRAY"

My complete files of "Spray" date from July 1952 to date. Does anyone have older copies which they'd like to have me keep and incorporate in a permanent set? Sometime I'll see that all are turned over to the club but for the present I'd bind older copies with the bound ones I now have on hand for reference. WHH

NAMING THE 1965 BRONZE MEDAL WINNER

Excerpts from Les Johnson's Remarks

"The member who has been selected for the award this year has, in fact, been considered several times in the past and passed over because of his youth and the feeling that it would be better to take care of some of us old codgers before it was too late. And, really - that thought has had some merit. I am glad for instance that Bob Adams had the privilege of knowing that his work for the club had been recognized and appreciated."

"This young man has served the club diligently and in many varied ways. He joined the club in 1952 and began to make his presence felt at once. Our club history tells how he collected and assembled the door prizes for the 1952 Christmas party. He has been an active working member on many committees and chairman of several, including the flower show in 1954."

"Elected treasurer in 1956, 1957 and 1958; vice president in 1959; and president in 1960; he served six years on the Executive Board. This is the longest any member has served on the board. Only Norm Christopherson could have equalled it had he stayed here to serve his year as past-president."

"I could recite numerous other ways in which he has earned this award. He originated the Green Thumb award. He has long been an associate editor of the Spray and author of the Spray feature "Over the Garden Gate," etc. So, Bill Hull, please come up."

"As you all should know, Bill was elected a vice-president of the MGCA in 1961 - national president in 1964 and now as past-president is a permanent member of the MGCA Executive Board. This reflects honor not only on Bill, but also on his club."

PRESIDENT'S TROPHY TO BILL BROOKS

President Charlie Proctor's comments in making this presentation:

"On a late spring day, nine years ago, I was working in my garden and looked up to see a stranger ambling across my lawn. He came over and introduced himself. It was Bill Brooks, and he was there to check my garden in connection with my application for membership. This was my first meeting with Bill, but in the ensuing nine years, I have found him to be involved in practically all club activities. This year, for example, he took over the "Soils" educational booth at the Flower Show and did a bangup job. In addition, he worked like a Trojan in helping to set up and break down the show. It is a real pleasure, Bill, to present to you the President's Trophy for 1965-66."

I Have Received More than I Have Given

by Harold Kaufmann

This letter is an effort to express my gratitude to the club for the pleasure it has given me over the years, in knowledge, inspiration, opportunity to serve, and above all, friends. I am proud to be a member of a club with the national stature of ours. Only one other of the hundreds of MGCs has had two national presidents. Only one or two will have hosted two national conventions in its first 25 years.

The caption of paragraph four on page four of the December issue reads: "Congratulations Honorary Members Kaufmann and Witmer." Once the startled surprise of this announcement had passed, I began to question the motivation. For Joe, Most certainly, yes; but, Harold _____? Perhaps I should explain.

Twenty-one years ago I was introduced by a good friend and advisor, Henry Bachman, to Herb Kahlert, with the suggestion that I should join the then very young Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis. I became a reluctant drag-in. But not for long!

After my first several meetings I realized, and that conviction has grown over the years, that this was something very special. Here was a first-name club that was truly democracy in action, where executives and employee, professional and amateur, professor and student were one and equal.

For these were dedicated men to whom gardening was a way of life, a spiritual communion with God and nature. To them, the warm feel of the soil and the beauty and fragrance of their gardens is the sure surcease of the trivia and worries of every day problems.

Our garden club has given each of us the opportunity to personally participate in acquiring and sharing knowledge, skills and techniques; thus bringing our personal creative abilities and our ambitious plans for home environs into a closer reality.

Our club has made each of us an active working partner of our city park officials, our university and our horticulture society in beautifying, in a meaningful way, our neighborhood community and state. One has but to mention our efforts in behalf of the state arboreum; our planting of 200 flowering crabs in Lyndale gardens; our civic and industrial awards; and, our continuing efforts toward achieving a real park-located garden center.

Personally, over the years, I have received reward far beyond any merit of mine.

I recall with humble pride (is there such a thing?) that I served as club president in 1947 and that year received the first bronze medal awarded by our club. I remember well with what pleasure I served for five years as general chairman of the special interest groups and annual editor of the very constructive summary reports of the various chairmen.

The ten or more years that I have served as chairman or co-chairman of our membership committee have had many rewards, such as personally bringing to our club roster such members as Dick Lehman and four past-presidents, Vic Lowrie, Rene Dufourd (the hard-shelled crab), Tony Koester, and that renowned Escoffier, Bill Swain. And, you know that I have enjoyed being our own club "Badger."

I Have Received More than I Have Given

(continued)

But beyond these many rewards of membership, this club has meant more to me than any organization, communal or social, with which I have been associated, because it has brought Mildred and me true and proven friends we would otherwise never have known. Many of these are no longer with us and like others of you old timers, I sorely miss Upsher, Herb, Jack, Tony, George, Jim, Morrey, the Freds and so many others.

To many of you good friends, still active gardeners, I am indebted beyond my capacity to ever repay; to Leon and Archie for helping me plan my landscape; to Dick and Roger for border help; to Rene for vegetables by example; to Bob for orchid aid; to Cortis for fluorescent lighting advice; to Ev for his cleverly contrived garden gadgets; and to Vic, Blackie, Walter, Glen, Joe, P.W., and others for generously sharing their favorite perennials with me so that mine is truly a "friends garden."

Some years ago, the day after returning home from a short hospital stay, I heard someone in the yard and looking out of the window, there was Vic, hand-weeding my garden at 6 A.M. He had heard from his wife that the Minnesota Garden Flower Society was including my garden in their tour that day.

More currently, who do you think uncovered my roses this spring, sprayed them every ten days over the summer because he knew that I was prohibited from doing so, and tied them down and covered them this fall? None other than the newly elected president of the Minnesota Hort. society, Carl Holst. When I remonstrated with him about all his time and trouble, all he said was, "If I didn't want to, I wouldn't do it." And, my roses were never better, Carl.

But because of severely curtailed activity this past year, whatever merit my garden had, was in spite of me. I can well imagine my neighbors paraphrasing a well-known commercial: "We expected more from Kaufmann and this year we didn't get it."

But beyond all this are Mildred's and my heartfelt, grateful thanks for your strong moral support during some very worrisome weeks in Miami last March. You can't imagine how eagerly we waited mail call and what a real lift we both got from your cards and letters, and long distance calls the volume of which convinced the Cedars of Lebanon hospital staff that I was a very important patient.

Well, I believe I have proved my contention that over the years I have received far more from our club and you than I have ever given and I sincerely wish there was some way I could compensate.

I do hope to be reactivated soon that I can contribute something to our club's second hosting of another outstanding successful national convention in 1967.

On closing, may I urge you to please, please, be very careful about spraying and dusting, and always wear a mask!

OVER THE GARDEN GATE

by Bill Hull

Congratulations and thanks to Phil Smith for supervising the fine Christmas party at the Ambassador. It was a delightful affair and fun to spend an eve with friends so dear to us. Of course we missed many who could not be present but it was still a large banquet. You might be interested to know that it was the first time Harold Kaufmann has missed this party.

Of course I was thrilled to receive the Bronze Medal! I can assure you one accepts this with genuine humility and appreciation of the accolade of you, his friends. For example, I didn't pay tribute, as I wished I had done, to Vic Lowrie, who sponsored me in the club years ago and who has taught me so much about gardening. I am truly grateful to all.

We can imagine how thrilled Bill Swanson was to receive the Lehman Trophy for the most improved garden among those entered in the competition this year. We all visited Bill's garden on tour this summer and know this is a well deserved recognition and are glad for him.

Bill Brooks, a stalwart among our club, a past president, and one who has been consistently loyal in his leadership and support, received the President's Trophy. Industrial Awards went to Fairview hospital at Southdale, the North Western National Life Insurance company. Special certificates of appreciation were awarded by President Proctor to Bud Christenson, Bob Smith, Les Johnson and P. W. Young.

Green Thumb awards for perfect attendance were topped by five years of presence and leadership by officers-elect Bud Christenson and Bob Smith, followed by Lehman winner Bill Swanson with four years, the following with two years: Don Berne, Bill Hull, Sherm Pinkham, Dwight Stone, and Ron Twite, while these received one year awards: Cliff Brisco, Paul Burt, Verner Carlson, Archie Flack, Evald Johnson, Jim Lowrie, and Charlie Proctor. This is a total of fifteen men who didn't miss a meeting at our club or make up a missed meeting at another Men's Garden club.

Dale Durst displays in his home the Blackbourne Trophy for sweepstakes at the flower show this summer-fall. Perhaps this should actually be presented at the Christmas party too.

Unrelated Interesting Items:

Some good correspondence courses in horticulture are available to you through Walter L. Haldeman, Asst. Prof., Pennsylvania State University College of Agriculture, University Park, Pa. The newest one is Basic Insect Science, an introduction to entomology and includes lessons on making insect collections. It costs \$2.25 for the entire course by mail and is not intended for college credit, just for information. Ask for the list of 21 other courses.

George Titus is recovering from surgery. Wife Jo says she brought him home on December 2 and that he is now improving. We certainly wish you well, George. For the newer members, George is a past president who now resides in Santa Rosa, Calif. Many of us had the privilege of serving under him. Jo says that friends planted the Titus' sweet peas on December 6.

.....continued

Over the Garden Gate

(Continued)

If our commercial friends such as Bachman's weren't so overwhelmed by those fine Christmas orders, we should induce them to let us hold an extra meeting there when the poinsettias are in bloom. This year they were breathtaking. Several greenhouses full of these lovely plants. Be sure to plan now to visit them next year, as I did this year with Henry himself graciously hosting. Lloyd Bachman was sterilizing both soil and tables with steam. We discussed the importance of cleanliness around a garden, particularly indoor work of course. To paraphrase his words which I don't recall verbatim, Lloyd said "I'd rather see my associates go to the table with dirty hands than to touch a plant with dirty hands." Of course he was speaking of the spread of disease from one plant to another. Good point for us to remember in our gardens.

Bob Bryant Tops Orchid Group

Bob has been elected 1966 president of the Minnesota Orchid Society, a group of about 80 orchid growers affiliated with the American Orchid society. The group meets monthly and was founded two years ago. Bob, who has been growing orchids for about thirty years, is a good man to head this group and we wish him well. We have one friend in Binghamton, N.Y., who raises gorgeous orchids in a polyethylene-lined room in his basement. Another in Houston just tells us this Christmas how orchids are getting to be a disease with him. Apparently when you start with these plants there is no stopping. If a rose grower is called a rosarian, would you call an orchid grower a --- no, I'd better not say it, even jokingly.

Ed Willson Keeps Busy as President of U of M Alumni

We've just recently heard that Ed Willson was elected president of the U. of Minnesota Alumni association. This happened back in July so we're slow to learn and to offer our late congratulations. He's keeping busy working with students and of course took an active part in homecoming affairs. As NSP Vice President, Operations, Ed is undoubtedly doing a fine job with the alumni.

NSP Provides Fourteen Good Men for Us

NSP men occupy a prominent place in our roll of members with three being or having been our presidents. The seven active ones are Dave Johnson, Evald Johnson, Cortis Rice, Bob Smith, Dwight Stone, Elwood Swanson and Frank Vixo. The seven currently holding associate memberships are Benny Benson, Wally Carlson, Norm Christopherson, Otto Erickson, Chet Harkins, Duke Johnson and Ed Willson.

Two Little Skunks.....

were named In and Out. In liked to play outside while Out liked to play inside. However, In who liked to play outside frequently got lost so Mother Skunk had to send his brother after him. That would be Out who liked to play inside. Anyway, one day In who liked to play outside got lost and no one could find him. The Mother Skunk sent out little Out who liked to play inside to find In who should have been inside. Out went around calling "Come in, In" and finally located In who liked to play outside and brought him inside. Mother Skunk was so pleased she said "Little Out who likes to play inside, how did you find Little In who likes to play outside?" "Easy," said Little Out, "Instinct."

Past National Presidents
 From our club
 Herbert Kahlert
 Bill Hull 1964

1966 Bill Brooks
 1967 Al Nelson
 1968 Sherris Pinkham
 1969 Dwight Stone
JUST FOR OUR RECORDS:

Keep

Past Presidents
 1942 Tom Hughes
 1943 Upsher Smith
 1944 Ed White
 1945 Herb Kahlert
 1946 Glenn Cerney
 1947 Harold Kaufmann
 1948 Stan Lund
 1949 Bill Swain
 1950 Cortis Rice
 1951 Fred Paul
 1952 Vic Lowrie
 1953 Rene Dufourd
 1954 Archie Flack
 1955 Joe Witmer
 1956 George Titus
 1957 Tony Koester
 1958 Bill Brooks
 1959 P. W. Young
 1960 Bill Hull
 1961 Les Johnson
 1962 Norm Christopherson
 1963 Ev Haedecke
 1964 Dwight Stone
 1965 Charles Proctor
 1966 Bob Smith
 1967 Frank Vero
 1968 Bud Hunt Christopherson
 1969 Nate Siegel

Bronze Medal Winners
 1948 Harold Kaufmann
 1949 Herb Kahlert
 1950 Jim Cristman
 1951 Archie Flack
 1952 Rene Dufourd
 1953 Glenn Cerney
 1954 Vic Lowrie
 1955 Cortis Rice
 1956 Joe Witmer
 1957 Al Blackburn
 1958 Tony Koester
 1960 Dick Lehman
 1961 P. W. Young
 1962 Bob Adams
 1963 Les Johnson
 1964 Otto Erickson
 1965 Bill Hull

Charter Members
 Henry Bachman ✓
~~Edwin Rhainin~~
~~Greg Bucking~~
 Walter Menzel ✓
~~Andy Nyberg~~
 Walter Quist ✓

President's Trophy
 Tom Krumm - 1964
 Bill Brooks - 1965
 Dale Durst - 66
 Dwight Stone - 67
 Proctor - 68
 Otto Nelson - 69
Blackbourn Trophy
 R. E. Smith - 1962
 J. D. Durst - 1963
 R. E. Smith - 1964
 J. D. Durst - 1965

Honorary Life Members
 A. H. Flack
 P. W. Young
 Harold Kaufmann
 Joe Witmer
 Walter Quist
 Henry Bachman
 Walter Menzel

Lehman Trophy
 Otto Nelson - 1962
 Phil Smith - 1963
 Les Johnson - 1964
 Bill Swanson - 1965
 Nate Siegel 66
 Hunt Christopherson 67
 Thos. Solom - 68
 Dave Johnson 69

ADULT THOUGHTFULNESS

We like the people of New Canaan, Conn., and we don't even know them. But they created something wonderful for children this summer - the New Canaan Nature Center. Some 160 potential Thoreaus, ranging in age from 5 to 13, graduated recently from this "summer school." Each received a pair of binoculars, a butterfly net and a certificate of woodland prowess to hang over his bed.

The center is a donated estate of 40 acres of woods and meadows. An association of volunteers financed and supervised it. Nominal fees are charged. Service and garden clubs, volunteer firemen and businessmen contributed funds, equipment and labor. A trained naturalist was employed as school director.

For two months, the children studied plants, animals, birds and trees. They hiked, attended lectures, wore out three pairs of sneakers and came home with a treasure box of rocks, shells, bird feathers and dried leaves.

Here is adult thoughtfulness at its best. For every child, we believe, should have the opportunity to explore nature. To chase a butterfly. To try and put salt on a robin's tail. To catch a salamander in a pond. To hear a bumblebee humming in search of food. To taste sweet blackcap berries in a woodland patch. To listen to the scolding of a mother jay. To inhale deeply the fresh fragrance of rainwashed air. To peer upward at night into a sky filled with the glittering promises of a better tomorrow.

As we said, we like the people of New Canaan, and we wish there were more around today.