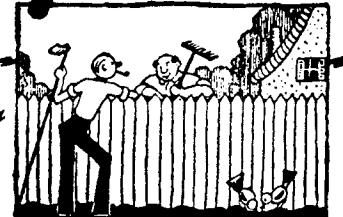




The Garden Spray

BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS

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



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Secretary: Phillip H. Smith Treasurer: Nathan S. Siegel

JANUARY 10 IS NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, January 10 ...Mount Olivet Lutheran Church, at 50th Street and Knox Ave. S.
The price is \$2.00 and the time is 5:45 P.M.

THE PROGRAM FEATURES A TALK ON STATUARY AND OFFICERS' ANNUAL REPORTS

Member Al Hubbard who has created some beautiful statuary for his garden will show slides and talk of how each of us might make such statues. Recommended. Also, we will have the annual reports of the retiring officers and installation of our 1967 leaders. Let's be present to give them an enthusiastic send-off.

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT ALSO TO BE VOTED ON AT JANUARY MEETING:

"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." This change is recommended by the nominating committee and others and, if passed, it is expected the nominating committee will present a slate of two candidates for these extra board positions, as was requested.

THIS IS THE YEAR...But IT'S ONLY FIVE MONTHS LONG

This is 1967. Your year. Your convention year. The year when several hundred people will accept your personal invitation to be your guests in July. You are a host, as am I. Now is the time for us to speak up, to find our jobs, to be counted. In five short months we take the test, ready or not. We can't wait another day to do our job. Your job. My job. If we don't have one, let's get one. We can do them or we can goof off. But what a splendid job we can do by doing it together--with every single one of us working. Working hard, starting right now. The starting pistol has been fired. Do we now individually run for cover, or for the finish line--a highly successful national convention?

BILL BROOKS WINS COVETED BRONZE MEDAL

The highest award we can give as a club is the Bronze Medal, which went to Bill Brooks at the Christmas party. In his presentation, Les Johnson (head of committee of three most recent winners: Johnson, Erickson, Hull), praised Bill for his many contributions to our club for so many years. All of us who have been in the club many years know that this is true. I can remember meeting in Bill's home at board meetings so many years ago that probably half of the fellows in those meetings are now deceased. But the span of Bill's work has not only covered many years, it is still going on. He is currently planning actively for Decorations for the 1967 convention, which will be a very important part of that meeting. Bill Brooks, we all salute you, with many thanks.

DALE DURST WINS THE PRESIDENT'S CUP

Congratulations to Dale Durst, who was presented the President's cup by Bob Smith at the Christmas party, for his many contributions, particularly the role he played in managing and publicizing the club's part of the national Big Pumpkin Contest. Our club took this over on a statewide basis this year and Dale did a superb job of it, with outstanding winners. We didn't make national winners (that one was 230 pounds from Georgia), but we did very well in Minnesota --- all thanks to Dale Durst. This cup was presented to the club a few years ago by the nieces and nephews of former member, Dr. Joe Cohen, in his memory.

NATE SIEGEL EARNS LEHMAN THROPHY FOR MOST IMPROVED GARDEN

And Nate Siegel won the valued Lehman Gardens Trophy, for the garden showing greatest improvement this year. Offered since 1962 by the Lehmans, this trophy has gone to Otto Nelson, Phil Smith, Les Johnson, and Bill Swanson. We are all pleased to see Nate win this. A good gardener, a steady worker, a good friend, Nate Siegel certainly deserved this award. Thanks Archie Flack and Phil Smith for your efforts on this committee.

LES JOHNSON---that winner of everything--WINS AGAIN!

And it couldn't happen to a nicer guy. Les won the BLACKBOURNE CUP for sweepstakes in the flower shows we held monthly from June through October this year. With 36 points, Les topped the total of all competitors, and gets to keep the cup for the coming year. But we should also put in headlines the name of VERNER CARLSON who did an exceptionally good job with a total of 35 points---just one point behind Les. Then came Al Nelson with 32 and Dale Durst with 31, all very close together. Congratulations, all.

BOB AND BUD HAVEN'T MISSED A SECOND TUESDAY FOR SIX YEARS

Retiring Prexy Bob Smith and retiring VP Bud Christenson received Green Thumb Awards for six years perfect attendance, at the Christmas party. This is certainly a laudable achievement, which just slightly overshadows the wonderful record of Bill Swanson, who has five years of perfect attendance. Don Berne and Dwight Stone have reached three years; Archie Flack, Evald Johnson, Jim Lowrie and Charlie Proctor, two years; and, Les Johnson, Nate Siegel, Phil Smith, Fred Holzman, and Dale Durst, one year. Some of these fourteen winners have had to start over after having multiple years' steady attendance. We do congratulate them.

PRESIDENT BOB SAYS

Happy New Year! A bright new year lies ahead with a group of very capable new officers at the helm to guide our club in this 25th anniversary year and convention year.

I have enjoyed very much the opportunity of serving as your president this past year and appreciate the fine cooperation rendered by so many of you in the many areas of club responsibility. It has all helped make this another very successful year.

It was very nice to see a good turnout at the Christmas party. There were 116 in attendance including quite a number of guests. The "Ecstatics" provided us with some good barber-shop singing. My thanks to Jack Peterson, chairman of the party, for a fine job.

A new professional member, Joseph C. Priley, has been accepted into membership of our club. Mr. Priley resides at 203 8th Avenue East, Duluth, Minnesota, 55805, and is St. Louis County Commissioner. His outstanding work in beautification projects in the city of Duluth was written up in the July 10 Picture Magazine of the Minneapolis Tribune. He is also a musician, playing the viola as a charter member of the Duluth Symphony Orchestra.

Do you have some gardening friends who aren't members of the club? If so, bring them to the January meeting. We need new members.

There have been numerous changes in our membership. In order to get a new and up-to-date membership roster to you soon, we need your dues statement returned right away.

LET'S RAISE MORE MONEY FOR USE AT CHRISTMAS PARTY

One esteemed member came to the editor the other day and made a suggestion we feel worth tossing around. He was unhappy with his banquet meal and said we should either pay more money for the dinner or else have a money raising campaign to help pay in advance for the dinner's cost. His suggestion was to hold a rummage sale and showed a listing of six being held on one weekend.

We have heard about these, too, and the funds brought in are larger than one would believe. We all must have countless items we'd contribute to such a sale, everything from cigarette lighters no longer in use to pretty fair clothing that isn't a proper fit or of which we're just tired of wearing. Who knows enough about this type of activity to supervise one for us, providing the board likes the idea?

"My Beagle likes to chew on ice cubes. Guess it's because he likes his likker cold."

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Introducing SOMEONE and WHO

1. Someone is needed to take charge of an outdoor picnic.
2. Someone must reserve the tables now for that date. And plan with caterers.
3. Someone must urge every chairman to get in his suggested budgets NOW.
4. Someone should help with local publicity.
5. Someone must pin down bus costs and make arrangements.
6. Someone to draw up lists of local prospects for our advertising brochure and booths at the Nicollet Hotel.
7. Someone to plan automobile needs for several occasions where we are going to try to avoid renting buses.
8. Someone to take charge of name and place cards for head tables at about five meals.
9. Someone to work with decorations committee to assure all visiting notables have flowers in their rooms.
10. Someone to help see that everyone is pinned with a flower at all times.
11. Someone to see that ice water is on the podium at all times.
12. Someone to see that water is available to the directors when they meet.
13. Someone to see that everyone is welcomed when he first enters the hotel.
14. Someone to walk around the lobby just being there so people aren't lonely.
15. Someone to take charge of a special night showing of films by other clubs which want to tout future conventions. Equipment on hand, etc.
16. Someone to find a photographer to free lance, to take photos on assignment, to sell photos of crowds, events, individuals, to our guests.
17. Someone to advise people of restaurants where they might dine on their own on one or two free mealtimes.
18. Someone to locate free restaurant guides for distribution.
19. Someone to locate and order plastic envelopes for distribution at the time of registration.
20. Someone to find out from the hotel where is all this free parking we are going to guarantee our registrants--and what, if any, advance action do we take?
21. Someone to come up with goodies to give our guests as souvenirs.
22. Someone to work with the Minnesota Dinner committee in acquiring food from local firms. Minnesota Manufactured or Grown products.
23. Someone who is just willing to run errands.
24. Someone who likes to butter up the ladies and wants to work on that group.
25. Who will drive his car and have it available for at least a whole day at a time?
26. Who will arrange for availability of a doctor, perhaps an ambulance and know how to contact them 24 hours a day for four days?
27. Who will help the treasurer design some forms which need printing?
28. Who has a contact to help us print them very reasonably?
29. Who will work at the registration desk in the hotel lobby, in shifts?
30. Who will stuff registration folders in advance?
31. Who will prepare and print tickets in books for each registrant?
32. Who is able to get a soft drink manufacturer to set up a tasting display?
33. Who will be host on different busses? Who will prepare their pitches?
34. Who will prepare in advance the story of the Arboretum for bus-hosts to talk enroute to the arboretum (Who else but Leon probably).
35. Who is going to make people feel we are sincerely glad to see them?
36. Who will help us think of the million and one little jobs that must be done?
Who will even write them down now, in advance, by committee?

SOMEONE and WHO

Is one of them YOU?

Jan

HAVE YOU MADE YOUR LOAN TO THE CONVENTION FUND?

Most of us have done so, but there are a few who have forgotten to respond. And we have a very few pledges which are yet unfulfilled.

If you fall into either of these categories, won't you please take care of this matter at once so we can close the books on this portion of our convention efforts? This will also save us approaching you by telephone.

Checks should be sent to Treasurer Frank Vixo.

QUEEN OF SHOWS CUP GOES TO AL NELSON

...who won this beautiful cup, a memorial award to Tom Foley, with a cactus dahlia named "Danny." We think Al wanted to show us that he grows other winners besides roses, and he certainly does. Good going, Al.

MEDICAL CLINIC WINS INDUSTRIAL AWARD

The Minneapolis Clinic of Psychiatry and Neurology in Golden Valley won the only Industrial Award given this year by the Club, and presented by Ev Haedecke. Dr. Burton Abramson accepted this award in behalf of the clinic. Others considered were: IBM, downtown; Minnesota Toro Co., Bloomington; Northern States Power Co., downtown; Hansord Pontiac Co., downtown; and the Pentagon Office Park, Edina.

BOB SMITH ENDS YEAR AS PRESIDENT

At the January meeting Bob Smith will take his adieus officially as president. Immediate Past President Charlie Proctor presented Bob with his Past President's pin at the Christmas party, but Bob still has some business to transact in January. Those of us who have gone your route, Bob, welcome you to the gang of P.P.'s -- where you still get all the work you can handle. We congratulate you for an excellent job. We don't know how anyone rates presidents. They probably shouldn't even be compared because each is a different person, with different ideas, etc. But if we did rate them, we'd rate Bob Smith as a truly outstanding prexy. On hand to see Bob take his bows were nine other past presidents. We'll list them alphabetically: Bill Brooks, Archie Flack, Ev Haedecke, Bill Hull, Les Johnson, Vic Lowrie, Charlie Proctor, Dwight Stone and P. W. Young.

BY THE BUSLOAD THEY ARE COMING TO MINNESOTA CONVENTION!

Right. Dr. Larry Grove, MGCA National Director in Des Moines, says they are planning a busload of people from our good neighboring city. And J. C. Holton, president of the Jackson, Mississippi, MGC says, "We may charter a bus for the national convention."

Good news! We'll welcome them with open arms and try to show them a good convention.

A LETTER FROM HOWARD BISHOP

Dear Friends:

The December Garden Spray arrived yesterday, and I simply must tell you what a fine issue it is, and how much I enjoyed reading it, as an old-time member and resident of Minneapolis for over thirty years.

That little poem "America the Ugly" is really terrific - and fills a very much needed place in today's efforts to improve such bad conditions as it describes. It reminds me that when we lived in Winter Park, Florida, a few years ago, we went thru just such an experience as is described in the last verse.

That part of Florida is the citrus growing part of the state. It seems there were reports of Mediterranean fruit fly, which could have been very damaging. So the men in charge of such things promptly started spraying from airplanes. But they also sprayed many housewives' Monday washing which is hung out to dry down there. And there was quite a little uproar, as you can imagine, until they worked it out more carefully.

We no longer have a garden of our own, as we now live in an apartment, but our daughter lives just about five miles from us, so Mrs. Bishop and I have all the fun we want planning and planting and tending her garden; putting in just as much time as we care to - and no more! It works out very well! I'd recommend it strongly to any gardener about to retire from business. And our daughter is also delighted to be somewhat relieved of it. Also, our very busy son-in-law. A neighbor asked him "How do you get your father-in-law to do all that work for you?"

After gardening in places as far apart as North Dakota, Central Florida and Southern California, it is fun to see how it goes in St. Louis county. This is a very good area, garden-wise, and the native shrubs and trees are so fine and beautiful.

My best regards to you, especially the older members who might remember me, and most especially to my old-time friend, Archie Flack.

Yours truly

(signed) ... Howard Bishop

BIG PUMPKIN CONTEST

The largest pumpkin in the national contest last year weighed 166 lbs. This year the winner weighed 230 lbs. It was grown by a 14-year-old, Robert Taylor, Bowder Springs, Ga. The MGC of Marietta, Ga. was the local club sponsoring the contest. Clubs everywhere are becoming interested in sponsoring Big Pumpkin and Giant Sunflower contests through 4-H and other youth organizations. According to the November 12, 1966 issue of GRIT, a man in Pouille, France, grew a 245 lb. pumpkin. For size, it pays to fertilize.

WILD FLOWERS IN MY GARDEN

by Nate Siegel

We were fortunate when we purchased our home to find a few wild flowers growing in a rock garden. These varieties were the wind flower (*Anemone canadensis*) and the wild violet and blue flag. All spread rapidly. As time went on we brought the blue forget-me-not (*cynoglossum*) from the banks of the River Brule in northern Wisconsin. In northern Minnesota we found an area with an abundance of trillium and a number of these plants were added as well. In this same area we found Jack-in-the-pulpit (*arisaema triphylum*) which we also transplanted to our rock garden.

In order to add to our collection of wild flowers I have ordered the following varieties from nurseries specializing in wild flowers: golden lady slipper (*pugoseum*), liverwort (*hepatica triloba*), shooting star (*dodecatheon media*) and the cardinal flower (*lobelia cardinalis*). One of the best wild-flower nursery in our area is the Springdale Nursery at Askov, Minnesota. They list 26 varieties and a number of ferns, with instructions for planting. Seed catalogs list rock-garden varieties that are also considered wild flowers. From Park Seed Company I added the Poppy Mallow (*callirohoe involucrata*).

The most interesting way to add to a collection is to go into a wooded area as I did about three years ago, along Nine Mile Creek and brought back with me blood root (*sanguinaria canadensis*), wild strawberry, many varieties of wild ferns, ground covers and varieties of wild flowers that I cannot identify. These I planted under a large pine tree in a corner of the rock garden. There, with the trillium, liverwort, lady slipper, and jack-in-the-pulpit, they make an attractive display in the spring.

This fall I have planted in the area where most of my wild flowers grow the following: fringed bleeding heart (*dicentra eximia*), wild blue phlox, *mertensia virginica*, showy lady slipper (*spectabile*) and the trout lily. This spring I am looking forward to seeing these new varieties in bloom.

Wild flowers grow best in areas that resemble most closely the conditions under which they grow naturally. Most of them like a filtered shade and a soil rich with humus on the acid side. If you are starting a wild-flower garden, haul in soil from the woods, if possible. Fall planting is also recommended. However, I have planted in the spring successfully.

After your garden is started the best method of watering is to let the water trickle down among the plantings. However, I have constantly watered with an ordinary sprinkler without any known ill effects. A mulch during the summer months is good. I have not used it then but I do apply a mulch in the fall. Avoid using leaves that mat. If they do, break them up or they will smother the plants. In the spring do not remove your mulch too early. After your plants have started their growth so you can identify them, thin out the varieties that are spreading too rapidly. After that do not cultivate or fertilize.

A wild-flower garden each spring is like a touch of woodland in your garden with its fern and wild flowers in blossom. They are as nature meant them to be and have a beauty and charm that is all their own. If you have an area in your garden shaded by trees, plant it with wild flowers and fern. As spring comes you will find, as I have, that it is this part of your garden that will hold your greatest interest.

CONVENTION PROGRESS

by Dwight Stone

Governor-Elect Harold LeVander has accepted our invitation to welcome the MGCA convention to Minnesota. John Nash Ott, a pioneer in time-lapse photography, has accepted our invitation to be one of the two featured speakers, with the other being our own Dr. Leon Snyder. Northrup King and Co. has invited us to tour the trial gardens and will sponsor a lunch at the farmstead. Minneapolis Brewing Co., the industrial award winner in 1964, has invited us to visit Grain Belt Park. These are just some of the things that are planned and firm as far as the convention is concerned.

The advance registration fee has been set at \$27.50 if paid before June 15. After that date, \$34.50. This will include two banquets, three luncheons, three and maybe four bus tours of both private and public gardens, and entry to all events. For the ladies - activities on each of the three days of the convention.

For members of the North Star Region of Men's Garden Clubs even something more: a roster of members in the Rochester, Richfield, Minnetonka and Minneapolis clubs. For the \$5.00 advance registration fee you will get your picture in the North Star Roster and two or three line-by-line accounts of your gardening interests.

This \$5.00 fee will apply towards your convention registration, is not refundable, and will insure you of the advance registration fee basis. In the event you wish to take in just a couple of events, your registration is paid, so all you would need to pay is the going rate for each separate function. This would apply to any event your wife might attend also. Pictures will be taken at the February or March meeting.

Many of you have already received your convention assignment. If you haven't, let's discuss it.

Please - everyone - plan now to devote full time at the convention. If you can't devote full time, arrange to work some phase of the convention. We will need 50 to 60 members participating in convention activities - guides, drivers, registers, decorators, etc.

Mark your calendar - the first Tuesday of every month is Convention meeting night at Becky's Chalet - Miracle Mile - complete dinner \$2.25.

NEW MEMBER'S LAMENT

When I see you at our meetings
You never say "hello,"
You're busy all the time you're there
With those you really know.
I stand among my fellow men,
Yes, I'm a lonesome guy,
We new members feel so strange
When fellow members pass us by.
Why don't you nod and say a word,
Or stop and shake a hand,
I'd also like to meet your chums--
I hope you understand.