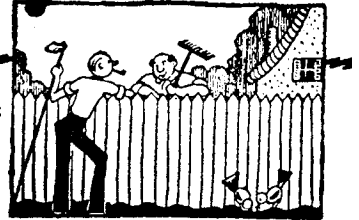




The Garden Spray

BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS

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



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July 12 Meeting is a Tour

We will tour four or five gardens starting at 6 P.M. with a \$2.00 dinner at Phil Smith's, 4328 Coolidge Avenue S. (Coolidge is three blocks east of highway 100 and is at 43½ Street.) Your personal guests will be welcomed but your officers should be informed.

Bring Garden Flowers

We will still have our monthly flower show even though meeting outdoors. Let's support President Bob's leadership by having more members bring one or more entries this month than at our big show last year. To do this, mark your calendar for Monday, July 11 and cut your flowers that evening or early the next morning. But bring them.

Convention Plans Being Made

The Steering Committee of the 1967 MGCA convention met again June 17 at the call of chairman Dwight Stone. Main discussion topic: the budget. Each committee chairman is to be asked to outline at once his ideas, his cost needs and his manpower requirements. Then the master budget will be prepared. The committee hopes to have a final report at the July meeting.

Lilium, Trilium & Orchids Too
One and All, They're All Taboo

In our state you cannot just go out into the woods and dig up a wildflower. Protected wild flowers growing on public lands are "completely protected," which means you'd better keep your hands off them. Protected wild flowers on private land should be taken only with the owner's written consent. Included in the list are the showy lady slipper or mocassin flower (our state flower), all members of the orchid family, gentians of all kinds, trailing arbutus, and all species of lilies which contain the scientific names "Lilium" or "Trilium" in their identification. (Source: Minn. Dept. of Conservation, Room 350, Centennial Office Bldg., St. Paul, Minn.)

OVER THE GARDEN GATE

by Bill Hull

We are sorry to report the death of Don Young (1887-1966). Don was well known to us and we have shared many hours with him since he joined our club in 1954. Some of the younger members may not have had a chance to get to know him. This is your loss, too. A memorial is being sent to the Arboretum in his name and his family so informed.

We also must announce regretfully the death of Philip Conrath, 1965 president of MGCA. A very close personal friend of the writer's, Phil gave his last years to MGCA activities. He died suddenly on June 12, at age 74.

Lorraine Durst tops Edina show. Dale's wife won Sweepstakes in the Edina Affiliated Garden Clubs show recently, for which we congratulate her. Now, Dale, you'd better get cracking to win our Sweepstakes again.

A personal note from the Old Buzzard, which we reprint as received: "My wife would die if she knew what I ate at the June meeting. Here I am trying to 'eat sensibly' and the church circle feeds me bread, corn, potatoes, bread pudding, gelatine salad, another pudding for desert, and meat. The fellow across from me ate only his meat and another guy near me complained. Can't we get something besides starches and sweets?"

Our sympathies go to Bill Swanson upon the death of his mother. This is a loss one never fully comprehends until it happens to him. We're sorry, Bill.

The purpose of the North Star Region tour is to locate new members. President Ed Graupmann told us in June of the meeting coming up August 15, 16 and 17, which is a tour of gardens. Tickets are to be sold to ladies, with their husbands being admitted free. Good idea. Will give us a choice to find new members for all clubs in this area. Let's get more details and some tickets to sell. And let's open our gardens for our own benefit.

Congrats to our board for the monthly flower show. We first saw this idea years ago at Syracuse, New York MGC. It has been discussed before but this is the first time we've had a chance to try it. Webster Groves MGC also uses this plan.

Norm Christopherson sends greetings from Sun City via Les Johnson. Also he sent them to Bill H. at Portland via Dave Guyton, a former MGCA director and another Sun City resident. They both boast their city to the skies.

Hey, Telephone Committee. Where are those personal information sheets you are completing? We need them badly.

GREEN-BRONZE REGIONAL MEDAL TO P. W. YOUNG

The entire officer group of the North Star Region came to our June meeting to present the Green-Bronze Medal to P. W. Young for his work in the past in that group. We are pleased to see this go to one of our men, and congratulate P.W. If you are confused as to medals, this might straighten you out: the Bronze medal is an MGCA medal awarded only by local clubs to members of their choice. The Green-Bronze is an MGCA medal awarded only regions. The Silver medal and the Gold medal are also MGCA medals awarded on a national level, only; the Silver to a member for outstanding work and the Gold to any horticulturist

PRESIDENT BOB SAYS....

by Bob Smith

The June meeting was very eventful. With all the awards and recognitions, it was almost like the Christmas party. Some of the highlights of the meeting were as follows:

P. W. Young was awarded the Green-Bronze medal in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the North Star Region.

Bill Hull was recognized for receiving the Silver medal from MGCA at the national convention. This is the highest award offered by MGCA. Bill really deserved this award and we extend our congratulations to him.

Archie Flack was honored on his 80th birthday and we all wish Archie many more happy years of gardening.

We were glad to have Ed Graupmann, Bill Dickson, Frank Berg and George Larson from the Minnetonka club as guests. Three of these men are officers in the North Star Region (Ed is president) and Nate Siegel of our club is Vice President. Ed presented the award to PW and also told of the North Star plans for a Parade of Men's Garden Club Gardens to be held on August 15-17. The tour is being designed to advertise men's gardening and to stimulate an interest in gardening in areas where there are no men's garden clubs, and to attract new members to existing clubs.

Gardens of the Minneapolis, Richfield and Minnetonka clubs will be on display. If you are asked to show your garden, this is an opportunity for you to help both our own club and North Star in this endeavor.

I thought our first monthly flower show was a great success. It added a lot of color and atmosphere to the meeting. We are hoping to have an even better show at the July meeting. Ed Beery and Bob Kelly have done an excellent job of setting this program up. Keep handy your exhibition rules and schedule of entries from the last Spray. Remember, this event is open to all members. We encourage the professional members to display also. The only requirement is that the specimens be grown in the member's own garden.

We are sorry to hear of the passing of Don Young, as is mentioned elsewhere in Spray.

Lloyd Bachman was hospitalized for surgery in June and we wish him a speedy recovery. We hope that both Joe Witmer and Harold Kaufmann will be able to be with us on our summer tours. Chris Christopherson was back for a visit and we are sorry he couldn't be with us at the June meeting.

ABORTED DEFINITIONS

TRAFFIC LIGHT: A trick to get pedestrians out in the middle of the street.

TELEVISION: A place where all the little movies go when they are bad.

HAIR: The only thing that will really prevent baldness.

WATERWORKS: Is it one word or is there a hydrant in between?

PORTLAND WAS FINE....MINNEAPOLIS NEXT

We have just returned from the 34th Anniversary Convention of MGCA in Portland. Of course, we were unable to stay beyond the opening day, but what we saw presaged a very fine meeting. Now, later, we have heard from Otto and Minnie Nelson that it was a fine meeting, indeed.

Everything grows in Portland as it would in Never-Never Land. Rose canes are tremendous in girth and blooms are prolific. Rhododendrons were breath-taking although slightly beyond their prime. The city was inebriated with the enthusiasm of the Rose Festival and the place was jumping, including the go-go girls at the local discotheque.

I was there mainly for the board of directors meeting and to make my report as chairman of the Ways and Means committee. Therein we recommend that MGCA build its own permanent national headquarters building. A very fine invitation was issued by Rockford, Illinois, and the board unanimously voted to go ahead and build its own such building at a site to be determined no later than the January 1967 Board of Directors meeting. Invitations are now being extended, just as I did to our club and the city at our June meeting.

Later the delegates unanimously endorsed the board's bold decision to go ahead with this plan. It was most gratifying and indicative of the aggressive nature of this board as opposed to some which have been more conservative.

"THE GARDEN SPRAY" AND "THE GARDEN GATE" WIN TOP AWARDS

We are pleased to announce that THE GARDEN SPRAY again received a certificate for being an outstanding club bulletin, having already received it four times under Editor Vic Lowrie's direction. We are also happy that THE GARDEN GATE, bulletin of the MGCA of Richfield, again received an identical honor and we congratulate editor Marlin Gilhousen. A third club, the identity of which we can't remember, completes the best of three in the Central States.

NELSON, MILLER, HULL REPRESENT 1967 CONVENTION AT PORTLAND

Otto Nelson and Bill Hull pushed for a big attendance in Minneapolis, distributing bottles of Sky Blue Water supplied by NSP. Otto attended our booth regularly as did wife, Minnie. Bill made a Sunday evening pitch to 150 or so early registrants. We put a hundred pins on officers and delegates, each reading "Minneapolis next." We feel a lot of enthusiasm was generated and have returned with a lot of ideas for Dwight Stone and the committee. We believe we'll have a big attendance in Minneapolis. Some regular conventioners didn't make the trip this year but we hope will join us next year. Portland had nearly 200 advance registrations, of which 105 were men from out of the region, while about 47 were women from out of the region. Obviously the other 45 or 50 were local.

A special word of praise and thanks to Gardener Miller. Gar is a member of the Richfield MGC and, with his wife, Karen, were of great help to us in Portland. They transported material west and Gar made a stirring presentation before the delegates when Otto was busy at the booth and Bill was gone on business. We certainly invite Gar and others in our sister clubs to help us in 1967, as Dwight has said.

HULL RECEIVED MGCA SILVER MEDAL

Thank you, fellows, for the recognition given me at the June meeting. Your friendship is a valuable possession. The Silver Medal award was a great surprise to me and shall be valued all my life. It will hang in a place of honor along with the Bronze medal from my own home club in Minneapolis. Nobody works for honors but we are all

WHAT WILL WE DO WITH OUR PUBLIC LANDS?

The United States owns 770 million acres of land, which is 34% of the total acres of our country. 483 million acres of this is in "the unreserved and unappropriated public domain" while the rest is under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management of the Department of Interior, the U. S. Forest Service, the National Park Service, the Fish and Wildlife Service, the Department of Defense.

Currently some 740.7 million acres of these public domain lands are now being studied by the Public Land Review Commission authorized by Congress to determine future use of the land. The problems are numerous. The act creating the PLLRC states, "It is hereby declared to be the policy of Congress that public lands of the United States shall be (a) retained and managed or (b) disposed of, all in a manner to provide the maximum benefit for the general public."

That's fine and good, but: (1) should these public lands be retained or sold to private owners or state and local governments: (2) if retain, how used? if sold, should any group or individual or use be given preference? (3) if retained, what fees and charges should be levied for such purposes as grazing, timber cutting, mining? Should some uses yield a profit for the USA? (4) how would revenue derived therefrom be allocated among local, state, federal governments? (5) how much and what kinds of public lands should be preserved in their natural state? (6) how shall extensive oil shale reserves on public lands in Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming be developed? The problems are many.

Where are most of these public lands? About half are in Alaska and in the eleven western states, but don't be so glib about passing it off. For example, we here in Minnesota have 3,160,399 acres of government owned land, 1,393,736 of which is still in the public domain. Of our total acreage of 51,205,760, this means the government owns a big hunk of our state-- six per cent. For example, there is no land in the public domain in the states of Connecticut, Delaware, D.C., Georgia, Hawaii, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, and Puerto Rico. Parks and government-owned land, yes, but not one acre in the public domain!

The PLLRC is authorized to spend \$4 million to carry out its work and is headed by Congressman Wayne Aspinall of Colorado who is also chairman of the House Interior Committee.

THE OLDEST LIVING THING ON THIS PLANET

may have been destroyed in 1964 when the U. S. Forest Service granted permission to a young scientist from an eastern university to cut down a bristlecone pine growing near Wheeler peak in the Humboldt National Forest in Nevada.

The American Museum of Natural History reports in its June-July 1966 issue that the tree turned out to be 4,900 years old, some 300 years older than a known 4,600 year-old specimen in the White Mountains of eastern Colorado.

In defending its action, the Forest Service said the tree was in poor health. But conservationists pointed out that most ancient bristlecones consist of much dead and very little living wood and that the tree had probably been "ailing" since the birth of Christ. They said a core sample could have been taken from the tree which would have permitted the tree to continue living and would have served the purposes of scientific study equally well.

A DOZEN PERENNIALS FOR THE MINNEAPOLIS AREA

by Glen Cerney

Selection of a dozen best perennials to grow in this area could qualify as very controversial. The following perennials were selected because each had one or more of the following merits: ease of culture; ease of propagation; adaptability to varying soil conditions; productivity in sunshine or partial shade; the need of no or minimum spraying; making a good display in the border; having good cutting flowers and fragrance; long-blooming period; winter hardiness. Selection is alphabetical and does not include bulbs.

CHRYSANTHEMUM. This genus includes the Painted Daisy, Memorial Daisy, Shasta or Alaska Daisy, and the two species with their many crosses and varieties which we call "mums"; it is these that are concerned with in this paragraph. Its merits include its ease of culture, undemanding soil conditions, good range of color, superb cutting flower, relative freedom of pests, long blooming season and good garden showing. It will tolerate some shade but sunshine is recommended. It can be transplanted even in full bloom. It is not considered winter-hardy here but can be carried through the winter in a cold-frame or by simply heeling-in near the house foundation. Selections could be made during blooming season.

CLEMATIS. Besides being showy, most clematis can be grown on what is ordinarily waste space, such as under or near a fence or near buildings, except on the north side. It can be used as a screening plant to at least seven feet. It is free of insect and fungus pests. Clematis should be well fed and watered. It is recommended that purchase be from reliable Minnesota growers or plant retailers. Pot-grown plants should be planted about four inches deeper than pot dirt level.

DELPHINIUM reminds us of blue but they also come in purple, pink, white and bi-color with self or contrasting colored bees. Delphinium makes a good showing in the border as well as in a flower arrangement. They prefer a sunny location and good feeding. The old favorites Belladonna and Bellamosa are winter hardy and long-lived, although the flower spikes are shorter than those of the hybrids. Most of the hybrids are short-lived and a planting should be made every few years as they grow easily from seed. Delphinium may need spraying for aphids and/or cyclamen mite.

DICENTRA spectabile, Bleeding-Heart. The harbinger of spring, it comes into bloom early in May with many one-sided racemes which make the plant showy for a few weeks and provide graceful flowers for early season arrangements. When being used in the border, some provision should be made to replace the area in the summer with some annuals about 30 to 36 inches tall (mums, zinnias, marigolds) to screen the ripening and yellowing foliage. Bleeding-Heart is winter hardy but not always long-lived, but does self-seed when growing in fairly dry soil on the lime side. They may be moved or transplanted in late summer and early fall or propagated by root divisions at this time. No pests.

HEMEROCALLIS, Day-Lily...is almost indispensable. It grows in almost any soil, moist or dry, sun or considerable shade and can be called free from pests and diseases. By proper selection of varieties bloom may be had from May to September. In selecting hemerocallis it should be remembered that there are day-blooming and night-blooming. The so-called night-blooming varieties are not fully open during most of the daylight time. It is recommended that stock be obtained from a reliable local grower or plant retailer and when possible the plants be seen in bloom. A few varieties are fragrant and a few are invasive,

A Dozen Perennials for the Minneapolis Area
(continued)

HEUCHERA sanguinea, Coral-Bells. This plant is one of the best edging plants, having attractive foliage and upright fifteen-inch bright flower scapes from May to September. It makes a good garden show and is a good cutter. The pure white variety is also attractive. This perennial is long-lived, winter hardy and seems free from pests and diseases.

IRIS. One of the most showy displays of bloom in the border is made by the so-called German Iris. Although there are very desirable species which bloom both before and after the German, the latter is our mainstay. There are listed many hundreds of named varieties of the German Iris and their crosses with other species. Some of these crosses or hybrids from out of our state have not proven hardy. When making your selection it is advisable to buy from someone growing them locally, or get the advice of a reliable nursery or local member of the Iris society. Since the Iris is evergreen a good deal of vigor can be preserved by winter covering to produce shade from winter sunshine. Iris should be planted or divided when necessary during July to obtain good bloom the following year. The borer is the chief pest of Iris but can be controlled with DDT or Malathion spray. The eggs hatch in late April and early May so that is the time to spray.

PEONY. They are the most popularly-grown perennial in this area, for many good reasons. They are of easy culture and need not be moved or divided for almost a lifetime. If they must be moved they should be divided into about five-eyed divisions which should be planted not more than an inch below settled-soil level during September or October and covered the first winter. Better blooms are produced by disbudding. For competitive purposes the best blooms are obtained from plants ranging from three to five years old. Peonies are free from insect pests, except ants, which seem to do no harm. Botrytus is a fungus disease which sometimes attacks peonies turning the leaves and/or branches black. Cut off and burn the infected parts and spray with any good fungicide. A good preventative is a liberal spraying with Bordeaux mixture in the spring.

PHLOX. There are four species of phlox quite commonly grown here but phlox paniculata, Summer Perennial Phlox, is the specie most common and useful. It makes a good showing in the border from mid-July to September, is of easy culture, tolerates considerable shade although it is best in full sunshine. It does well in most soils which are not on the acid side. Phlox is fragrant and winter hardy. The only insect likely to cause much damage is the red spider mite but a swift spray or stream of water from a hose will generally take care of the situation. Watch for them during hot days. Do not crowd phlox nor allow the clumps to get larger than a foot in diameter at the base, thus providing ventilation to the plant and reducing the incidence of blight. When spraying roses with fungicide, include the phlox.

PLATYCODON, Balloon-Flower... has but one specie which has a few varieties. Thriving in sunshine it is of easy culture, long-lived, fully winter hardy, need not be divided for many years and is free of pests and diseases. Platycodon gains a place on this list by virtue of being the only deep-blue perennial blooming from the latter part of July through August. Light-blue, pink and white varieties are available, as are double-flowering varieties.

RUDBECKIA. Two species of this perennial are well worth growing: *R. speciosa* and *R. laciniata*. The first one has two varieties, *Neumanii* and *Goldsturm*, which are quite similar. Both grow about eighteen-inches tall and nearly as broad with many two and a half-inch daisy-like yellow and orange-yellow flowers from

A Dozen Perennials for the Minneapolis Area
(continued)

mid-July to frost. This plant prefers a sunny location but tolerates some shade. It is a good cutter. No insect pests or diseases. Winter hardy. Rudbeckia laciniata is commonly known as "Golden-Glow," grows to five or six feet and blooms with many yellow double two-inch flowers beginning in the last week of July and continuing for a few weeks. It will bloom well in considerable shade. Tolerates dry soil conditions. Good cutter. Winter hardy. In the spring this perennial tends to send up many more stems than can be supported with vigor and should be thinned to about five for each two-foot square area, thus insuring strong stems. Insect pest is the red aphid. No diseases.

SEDUM. In any border and in almost every yard there is a need for sedum, either as a ground cover where most other plants may not grow well, or as a cover to produce shade to keep the soil cooler around lilies and other bulbs or plants which benefit therefrom, or as an accent among the stones of a dry-wall or retaining wall, or simply as plants at the edge of the border. There are many kinds of sedum but Sedum spurium in a red or rose variety (coccineum, roseum) is recommended. Blooms during a fairly long period commencing in early July. Culture is very easy. Sun or part shade. Dry or moist soil. No pests. Invasive but easily restrained because of the shallow roots. Good cutter and winter hardy.

78 Toes Amputated by Power Mowers in Wisconsin. Two die.

"A statewide study conducted by a Milwaukee surgeon..has revealed that a minimum of 352 persons were injured by power mowers last year in Wisconsin. Two died... one third of the injuries were caused by objects hurled by mower blades...half of the flying missiles were pieces of wire. Fifteen eye injuries were reported, 3 resulting in blindness; 78 toes were amputated and 58 fingers were lost. Both deaths...followed lower extremity injuries. The largest number of injuries occurred among children in the 11-to-15 year age bracket."

Modern Medicine, June 20, 1966

Roots on Fruit Trees Spread Wide

The May 1966 issue of the Jrnl of the Royal Hort. Society, contains an excellent report of work being done at the East Malling Research Station on the study of roots, about which it turns out really not much is known. Whole trees were excavated using the technics of archeologists while other trees were observed from trenches dug adjacent to the areas and covered with permanent roofing. Through windows in the trenches root growth and activity was observed and photographed. One of the things they learned was that "in general the roots of fruit trees spread further than the branches; on loam about twice as far, on clay about 1½ times, and on sand 3 times." This is just a small portion of an excellent article. Anyone wish to read the editor's copy?

When you thin out or remove perennials....

suitable for growing in woodland shade, member Al Hubbard would be most happy to accept any offerings. He has plenty of area and wants perennials for shade, such as the following: astilbe, anchusa, aquilegia, bleeding heart, companula, chelone, cimicifuga, doronicium, daylilies, linoria, lupine, mertensia, monarda, phystegia, polemonium, pulmonaria, pyrethum, primrose, silene, and Siberian iris. If you have any of these give Al a call. He'll be glad to come and pick them up at your convenience. Call 944-2486 at home or 927-4471 at the office.