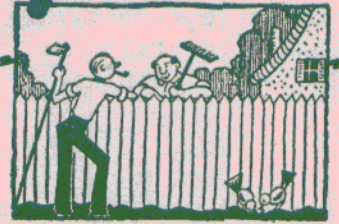




The Garden Spray

BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS

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



March 1961
Volume 19, No. 3
G. "Vic" Lowrie, Editor

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

March Meeting

Date: Tuesday, March 14, 1961
Place: Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church
Knox Ave., So. & W. 50th St.
Time: 5:45 P.M. Sharp
Price: \$1.75

Officers

Les Johnson President
N. W. Christopherson Vice Pres.
Dwight Stone Secretary
Ev Haedecke Treasurer

Office of the Secretary
4620 Hampton Road

Office of the Exchange Editor
G. Victor Lowrie
401 Essex Building

PROGRAM

Several three minute talks by our newest members on their gardening activities and interests.

"Annuals in the Border", a talk by Mr. Bruce Johnstone, Northrup King Company, illustrated with slides.

LATE NEWS

Bill Addy in Homewood Hospital, 1254 Penn, No. Old timers go see him; others send cards.

John McClure is out of the hospital after a gall bladder operation. Says he is feeling fine. Give him a call or drop in and see him at home.

Henry Bachman in Swedish Hospital, possibly be there for awhile. Send him a card.

Bob Smith, Archie Flack and P. W. Young put on program for the Rochester Men's Garden Club March 2nd. The arrangement sponsored by North Star Area Council.

February 16, 1961

Honorable D. D. Wozniak
State Representative
State Capitol
St. Paul, Minnesota

Dear Sir:

At the regular monthly meeting of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, held February 14, 1961, the following motion was made, seconded and carried.

"RESOLVED that the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis does support and approve a bill which would regulate advertising adjacent to the Interstate Highway System in the State of Minnesota and that the Secretary be instructed to send a copy of this resolution to Representative Wozniak at the State Capitol."

The Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis has a membership of over 100 men, all of whom are interested in the natural beautification of our State. We therefore urge that you do all in your power to enact Bill HF268, which calls for Regulation of Billboards on highways.

Horticulturally yours,

W. D. Stone
Secretary

TOR TORGERSEN COMMENTS ON OUR FEBRUARY GARDEN CLUB MEETING

by Jack Peterson

Aye went to a meeting of sum Garden Klub Fellas out tu Mownt of Olives Shursh las mont an de vas a bunsh of gude guys yu bet.

Firs de feed me a svell supper, pork shops an everyting, an koffee - my gudeness dem vimmen fill yu up full. Dey giv me tu kups an wile I drink up vun dey fill op odder. I neffer drink so much koffee sinc I leaf farm. Only trubble dey don gif yu no sawcer tu drink frum an no sugar lumps.

Aftur supper sum fella get up frunt an tell about bugs. He gut so much stuff to kill bugs lik I neffer herd uf. I tink if yu yuse all his stuff yu gut nottin lef tu kill or eet. I vunder wat has happen tu Paris Green.

Den tree yung Fellas get up an tell how tu gro stuff in yur house. Dat vas gude but I gess von of dem name Yung dident tink much uf his stuff, kuss ven he get dun telling how tu gro it, he dump all of hissen on flor.

Den de kraziest ting happun. Sum Irish Fella get up an tak about manur, I don tink sum of Fellas no vat dat stuff iss. De shud ask me, I no all abowt it frum frunt to bak vards. Sum Fellas bys tuns off it. Dey bettur by lots of purfum for der Vives, yu bet.

But Aye have lot uf fun an go bak nex mont iff dey let me. I lak to fine out sum

WHO IS THE MYSTERY MAN THIS MONTH?

One of our members is known in his neighborhood as "Chanel No. 5". Only one clue to his identity can be given: Joe Witmer was the first member to order a load of steaming, growth-promoting, neighbor-repelling top dressing for flowers.

HELP WANTED

The Manure Committee has a tiger by the tail and can't let go. Early reports indicate the quality of the year old material being delivered is tops. However, another not so elusive quality renders it unsuitable for use where neighbors live closer than a few country miles.

Storage space that is easily accessible to a road would solve our problem. Any suggestions? Please call Neil Barry, TA 5-5827 during the evening.

SPRING IS COMING - BELIEF IT OR NOT - AND THE PLANT AUCTION

The Plant Auction Committee has made preliminary plans for the Annual Plant Auction. In continuation of the idea so successfully carried out last year the emphasis will be more on having a good time than on making a lot of money.

We intend to revert to the original idea of the plant auction, when the major percentage of the material was grown by the members themselves. We are aware that more and more of you are working with the growth of plants indoors through one medium or another. As you transplant those seedlings, save the surplus rather than discarding it. We need it for the auction! How about tools or other gardening equipment which you have duplication or no longer use. Maybe someone else has been wanting just that item or can envision a use for it.

So again, let us urge you to keep the auction in the back of your mind. Rummage out that unused equipment, nurse those "plant auction" seedlings as tenderly as you do the ones intended for your own garden and above all, keep in mind the second Tuesday in May for a real entertaining evening.

Incidentally, we will need some assistance in various jobs and anyone who wishes to volunteer should speak to Charlie Proctor.

Auction Committee

OVER THE GARDEN GATE

by Bill Hull

Isn't it intriguing to know that we have a manure committee in our club? This is a distinction few clubs can claim. Perhaps the purpose should be explained; namely, to assist in obtaining manure for organic gardeners in our midst. See Neil Barry, Chairman.

* * *

Interesting discussions these days with Leon Snyder, Archie Flack and Larry Bachman regarding ground covers for Minnesota. Of course, there aren't many that are hardy. Among the better seem to be pachysandra, pachistima and polygonum.

* * *

I've long been interested in roadside beautification. Anyone else want to discuss this subject with me? Would like to see us undertake some sort of project to beautify Minnesota highways.

* * *

In this connection, congratulations to Archie Flack for bringing to our attention and proposing resolution which passed, that we support and approve legislation to regulate advertising on Interstate Highways.

* * *

Who will call President Les and volunteer to be the March Mystery Man? This means you agree to furnish a plant, keep your identity secret, and during the meeting present the plant to the seventh person who comes up and greets you with a handshake. I started the ball in February and the recipient was Otto Erickson - a large African violet.

* * *

See P. W. if you're interested in the Plant Exchange Program. What can you contribute as well as receive?

* * *

A very fine speech by John Lofgren, extension entomologist, U. of M. My notes read: For routine subterranean soil treatment in the Spring use Chlordane or Dieldrin, the latter being perhaps a little higher in effectiveness and also toxicity. Both long-lasting. Keep in top inches of soil. A good reliable insect control combination is Methoxychlor and Malathion. With modern

OVER THE GARDEN GATE (Cont'd)

insecticides it is an outmoded approach to categorize sprays as for sucking versus chewing insects. If you don't need to worry about residues on fruits and vegetables (because you grow none), okay to substitute DDT for Methoxychlor. Good fungicides are still Captan, Ferbam, Phaltan. Miticides: Malathion still good unless mites very bad and use Kelthane, also good for cyclamen mite on strawberries. Another one: Tedion. Older ones still good are Chlorobenzilate - good for red spider, and Aramite, good but has limitations on edible items.

* * *

Perhaps the safest insecticide form is wetttable powder; next is dust. Liquids (emulsions) are easy to overdose due to high distribution of liquid insecticide in the water. Push button sprays must be used carefully and at sufficient distance to avoid foliage injury.

* * *

Systemic insecticides taken by roots to make sap toxic are just coming on the market for home use. Cystox sprayed on foliage is effective up to 21 days later. Dimechron, available commercially for potatoes, etc., Toxic, Mildex still is good for mildew.

* * *

Also a very good trio of seed sewing experts at the February Meeting told us how and when; my notes from their remarks:

Archie Flack: Common troubles: sewing too deeply and letting seedlings dry out. Sews seeds in three inch pots, which are placed in aspharagus trays surrounded by moss to avoid pots drying out. Covers with glass during germination. Uses sterilized soil. Three inch pots give lots of plants which are, of course, pricked out and transplanted into the hot bed later on.

Norm Christopherson: Uses sterilized soil and milled sphagnum, plus a larger seed pot than Archie. Emphasized importance of fresh seed, good soil, proper drainage and right temperature. Puts cover of moss over soil to prevent damping off. About 1/8 inch of such. Wets moss with a fogger, covers pot with glass and places in propogation box at 72 degrees for 5 to 8 days to germination.

P. W. Young: Uses flats instead of pots because holds moisture better, Screens soil for seeds through 1/8 inch screen. Keeps soil nearly an inch below pot top level to give room for plants to grow a while before touching glass cover.

OVER THE GARDEN GATE (Cont'd)

Uses Pano-Drench or Wilson's Anti-Damp to sterilize soil and containers. Sews in dry soil, tops with moss, waters and drains. When seedlings touch glass, remove glass, place flat in subdued light a couple of days, then under lights. When roots about 2 inches long, transplant. Uses only best plants, puts into 2½ inch plantbands in a flat.

* * *

How are the Koester lily seeds coming? My 12 year old helped me plant them (using technic about like the Young method above). First signs of germination in 10 days. Twelve days breaking through moss to light. Too early to tell but germination percentage looks low. Will report later.

* * *

Thank you, Otto Nelson, for bringing the three tropical plants to the club. They resembled young palm trees, about three feet tall. They were: Arum Palaestinum or Black Callow Lilly. Tuberos herb, requiring rich soil, plenty of water, shady position. Can be grown in pots in greenhouse.

EVENING CLASSES TO BE HELD ON GARDENING

Joe Witmer will conduct an eight-week course on gardening for adult evening classes. This series will be offered at Armatage School, 56th & Russell Avenue, So., Minneapolis.

The classes will be held on Tuesday night of each week beginning March 14.

Subjects to be discussed and the order of their presentation are:

1. The Garden Design (planning and arranging)
2. Propagation of Plants
3. Lawn Care
4. Garden Management
5. Soils and Soil Conditioners
6. Shade Problems
7. Chemicals for pests and Disease
8. Review and Examination.

Information regarding registration and fees may be obtained by calling the school.