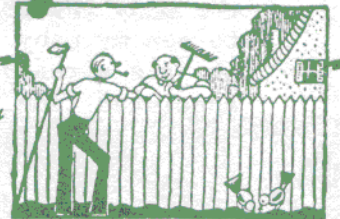




The Garden Spray

BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS

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



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Club Officers: President - Nate Siegel Vice President - Phil Smith
Secretary - Ed Culbert Treasurer - Dave Johnson
Immediate Past President - Grant Christenson
North Star Region Delegates: Verner Carlson & Dale Durst
Directors: Roger Anderson and Otto Nelson

MAY 13 MEETING IS OUR ANNUAL AUCTION

SPECIAL NOTICE: The May 13 (Tuesday) meeting will be held in a different place. At the Park Board greenhouse at 38th and Dupont. Dinner will be served at 6 P.M., with the auction starting at 6:45 and all preceded by a country store at 5:30. The country store is a system under which some merchandise will be sold at set prices, as against being an auction. These are good items but the very best is said to be saved for auction purposes.

Let's get our in force to show our advance appreciation to JACK KOLB and his hard-working committee.

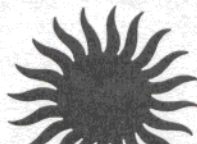
Also, bring your own contributions of plant material or garden items you may be able to spare for the club's benefit.

Buy your lucky bucks in advance, on the site, to facilitate a fast-moving evening.

SECOND MEETING THIS MONTH -- ARBORETUM TOUR

Phil Smith, VP and Program Chairman, announces an Arboretum tour on May 20 - one week after our regular meeting. The tour is to start at 6:15 at the Shelter house at the Arboretum, and wives and guests are invited. Phil suggests that many might want to bring their picnic lunches and eat beforehand. This is great - just plan to be ready to start the tour at 6:15.

REMEMBER TWO DATES: MAY 13 and MAY 20



NOTES FROM NATE -- "OUR FEARLESS LEADER"

It is the time of the year when each gardener begins to get out doors and do the many things to start his garden. The part I have found most gratifying is to see my many friends appearing again from under their winter cover, some who are already showing their bloom; others to put on their show at their appointed time. It is also good to extend again a hearty welcome to our new member, JOHN LILLIBRIDGE, Frank Vixo's son-in-law.

We are making good headway in reaching our goal of sixteen new members. To help the cause along, your board has authorized that at our May and June meetings you can still bring a prospective member as a non-paying guest. We have almost reached half of our goal and now need nine more new members.

Our program chairman, Phil Smith, is cooking up a bonus treat during the month of May. It is to be an arbo etum tour in the evening, with wife or lady friend. See the front cover of this issue for further details. This should be well worth while.

EVOLD JOHNSON will need some help getting the garden program started at the Harrison home. If you can spare a little time for a couple of Saturdays, give Evald a call.

CARL HOLST also needs help with the A.F.D.C. families. Why not give him a call and learn the details as to just what is needed. Two good chances to help others and have a little fun too.

FIVE SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

BOB SMITH, who heads up the Special Interest groups this year and who is doing a great job of it, announces the chairmen of the five units. For our new members we should explain that these are sub-groups of MGC Minneapolis, and meet occasionally to discuss the subjects as limited. Give these five chairmen a call if you want further details.

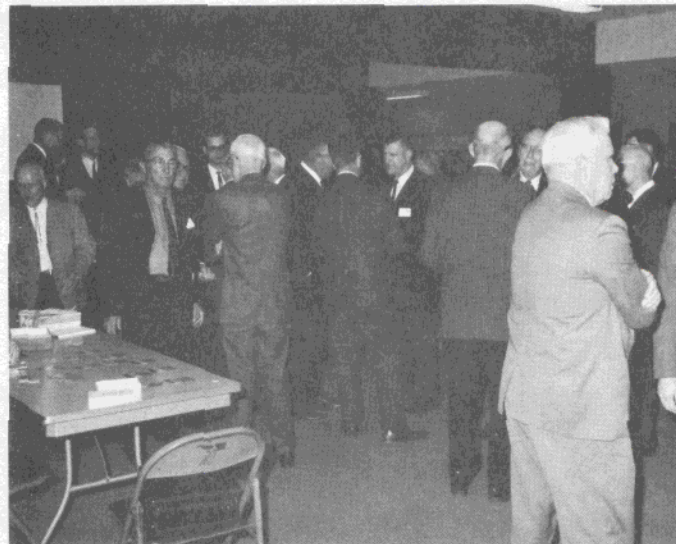
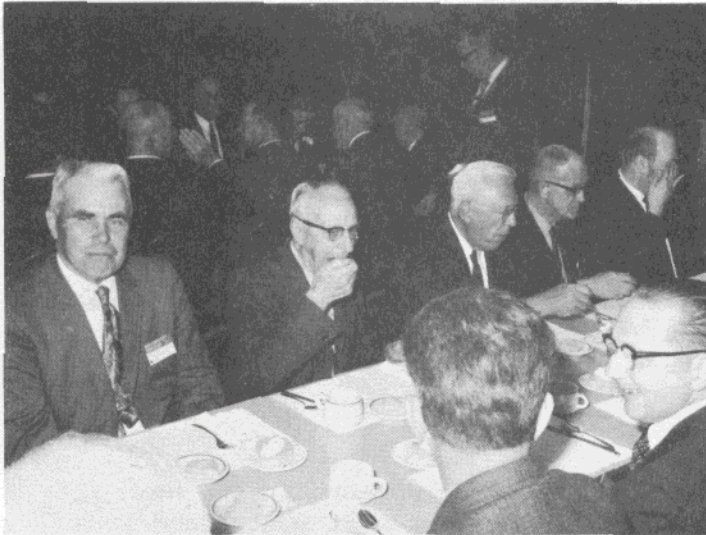
Indoor Gardening and Annuals ---- Otto Nelson
Dahlias - - - - - Thor Solem
Delphinium- - - - - P.W.Young
Begonias, lilies, clematis, mums- Sherm Pinkham
Vegetables- - - - - Charlie Proctor

SPRAY BADLY NEEDS A HELPING HAND

Editor Bill Hull again makes a plea for help. We must have a typist. Isn't there some member who has a skilled typist in his office who can type eight pages a month? Vic Lowrie and Bill Hull supplied this service for about 15 years through their office. Can't someone else now take a turn? There is no point in making Bill rough-type the material and also finish-type it too. We might even find slight funds for "thank-you" type of reimbursement for the girl to do the work. But we do want to insist on quality work. Please. How about an assist?

BIG CROWD ASSEMBLES FOR APRIL MEETING

Al Nelson, P.W.Young, Vern Roufs, Otto Erickson, Bill Swanson sit across from Carl Holst and Dale Durst. Dwight Stone welcomes new members Tom Ward and John Stuhlfeier. At lower left Sherm Pinkham buys his dinner ticket while President Nate Siegel and Ed Montgomery talk over gardening. At lower right the boys ask if spring will ever come.



That lovely day - the first gorgeous Saturday - finally came - on Saturday, April 12 - and one gardener had to give up the chores and absorb those warm caresses of a spring sunshine.



OVER THE GARDEN GATE -- by Bill Hull

Elsewhere in this issue is a chart of acceptable daily intakes and tolerances of certain pesticides. This is part of a lengthy report of the 1967 Joint Meeting of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Working Party and the World Health Organization Expert Committee. Should be reliable !

This came about as a result of a joint meeting of an FAO Panel of Experts on the Use of Pesticides in Agriculture and the WHO Expert Committee on Pesticid Residues, in 1961. The two groups have met in 1961, 1963, and 1965 and issued supporting documents. This has all culminated in the WHO 1968 report from Geneva, called "Pesticide Residues" from which the chart is taken.

A Successful Guy made all his mistakes when no one looked.

Congratulations to the Sioux Valley MGC. This club is one of the top six club in percentage of growth over 1968. Of course it is a new club but it shows a 14% gain. We certainly wish them well. Head of the list of clubs is Jefferson City, Mo., with a 30% increase. I have personally visited this club and it has always been a fine group.

We in Minneapolis MGC should be there soon -- providing we send in the new members we are constantly gaining. Let's not let a member wait months and months to start getting his MGCA benefits from the home office, particularly THE GARDENER. If you as a new member are not getting THE GARDENER, speak up to the secretary or treasurer and let's get your name in to Des Moines.

Admittedly you can't take it with you, but where can you go without it?

Prizes will be given at the Colorado convention for new members enrolled between January 1 and July 1, 1969- but they must be into the national office. From 5 to 25 new members earns a certificate of merit to the individual, 26 to 50 a MGCA jacket, 51 to 75 a jacket and a certificate. Over 75 gets a jacket and a plaque. To be eligible a member must notify MGCA national headquarters of the new members he has sponsored plus the names of clubs in which the new members are enrolled.

Club prizes are also available. The two local clubs showing the highest 1969 percentage gain in net membership, over 1968, will win cash prizes. A 25% increase, for example, earns a 50¢ per member prize; it increases thereafter.

After we stop wondering why the kids don't turn out the lights, they grow up and we wonder why they do.

Welcome back: GREG LUCKING home after a month in the hospital. CORTIS RICE home in Sarasota after a hospitalization, FRITZ HOLZMAN after a long illness. May God Speed you to complete recovery.

The new morality: Do unto others and then cut out.

Do you like the graffiti strewn herein? You know who Graffiti was don't you? He was Mussolini's Secretary of Defense. (Credit: John Mader, Des Moines).

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDED ACCEPTABLE DAILY INTAKES, TOLERANCES, TEMPORARY TOLERANCES AND PRACTICAL RESIDUE LIMITS

[See "1967 Evaluation of Some Pesticide Residues in Food"
(FAO/WHO, 1968) for further details]

(Figures are for raw agricultural products moving in commerce except where otherwise indicated)

Compound	Maximum acceptable daily intake (mg/kg body-weight)	Tolerances (ppm)	Practical residue limits (ppm)	Remarks
chlordane	0.001	Large root crops, leafy stalk vegetables..... 0.3* Small root crops, (except carrots), cucurbits, pineapple. 0.2* Sugar beets, whole pods of pod vegetables, berries, tomatoes and related garden crops, sweetcorn and popcorn 0.1*	Cereals 0.1*	Measured as alpha plus gamma chlordane Tolerances are for residues resulting from soil treatment only.
DDT	0.01	Apples, pears, peaches, apricots, small fruits, except strawberries, all vegetables except root veg. fat of meat, fish and poultry 7.0* Strawberries, root vegetables 1.0* Cherries, plums, citrus, tropical fruits 3.5*	Milk..... 0.005* Milk products (on fat basis)..... 0.2*	For DDT, DDD or DDE or any combination of the three
dieldrin	0.0001	Vegetables and fresh fruit (other than citrus) 0.1*** Citrus, rice 0.05***	Cereal grains 0.02*** Whole milk .. 0.005*** Milk products (fat basis) ... 0.125*** Meat (fat basis) 0.2***	Combined total aldrin and dieldrin
lindane	0.0125	Cereals 0.5* Vegetables, small fruits 3.0*	Whole milk ... 0.004* Milk products (on fat basis) 0.1* Meat (on fat basis) 0.7*	Tolerances for milk products in previous report changed to practical residue limit
malathion	0.02	Fruit (excluding citrus), dried fruits, nuts and cereals 8.0 Citrus 4.0 Leafy vegetables 6.0 Other vegetables 3.0		Cereal products deleted. Otherwise unchanged from previous report
parathion	0.005	Vegetables, except		

SIX POTTING MIXTURES -- by Bill Cowcill

Nearly all plants grown in pots, tubs, or window boxes, have rather definite soil requirements. These may vary with the age of the plant. It's ancestral home also affects its needs. Fortunately, most of the requirements can be reduced to six standard potting mixtures, the preparation and uses of which are listed here:

Mixture Number One: For potting up rooted cuttings taken from sand:

2 parts of sharp sand, 1 part screened loam, 1 part leaf mold or peat moss - using the latter for acid-tolerant plants.

Mixture Number Two: For transplanted seedlings and for cuttings when moved from the Number One mixture:

1 part sand, 1 part loam, and 1 part leaf mold.

Mixture Number Three: For general potting, especially for such plants as garden geranium, fuchsias, chrysanthemums, etc.:

1 part sharp sand, 2 parts loam, 1 part leaf mold or humus, 1/2 part dried cow manure, 1 five-inch flower pot full of bone meal for each bushel of mixture.

Mixture Number Four: For plants requiring more humus than in Number Three, such as begonias, many ferns, primulas, etc.:

2 parts sharp sand, 2 parts loam, 2 parts leaf mold or humus, 1/2 part dried cow manure, 1 five inch pot full of bone meal to each bushel of mixture.

Mixture Number Five: For potting many hard-wooded plants such as azaleas, certain ferns, etc.:

2 parts sharp sand, 2 parts loam, 2 parts peat moss, 1 part leaf mold or humus, 1/3 part dried cow manure.

Mixture Number Six: For most cacti and succulents.

2 parts sharp sand, 2 parts loam, 1 part broken flower pots or soft brick broken into small pieces, 1/2 part leaf mold or humus, 1 five-inch flower pot of ground limestone for each bushel of the mixture.

CAUTION FOR ALL MIXTURES: Be sure that all pots are thoroughly cleaned, for easier exit of the plants and for control of disease.

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It would take 50 people working day and night for 200 years to make the same mistake that an electronic computer can make in only two seconds. (Wall Street Journal).

THE MOST GORGEOUS FLOWER GOD CREATED- THE PEONY

by Dick Lehman

I suppose most of you fellows who know me think of me as a mum and clematis grower and hybridizer. But I really had my start and early training in the peony business under the tutelage of America's greatest peony grower and hybridizer, Archie M. Brand.

In the fifteen years I worked with Mr. Brand, I suppose I handled a million peony roots and probably that many flowers. We grew thirty acres.

I attended and set up displays of flowers at five national peony society shows in St. Paul, Duluth, Des Moines, Peoria and Chicago. I suppose the biggest flower show ever held in these parts was the national peony show in the old Hippodrome building on the fairgrounds in 1923. They estimated that 50,000 flowers were in competition or used for decorations.

After World War I and until the crash in '29 there was a terrific peony craze in the United States. Many wealthy people bought large collections of peonies and the prices were high, wide and handsome. I remember taking care of the Brand booth at the St. Paul show during the lunch hour and a fellow from Des Moines walked up and gave me a list of fourteen peony roots he wanted. The price of these fourteen was \$50 a root and he gave me a check for \$700 without a blink.

In 1962 we cut 30,000 blooms from the fields in Faribault and showed them at the Chicago World's Fair. We came back with handfuls of gold medals, winning them in every class we entered: 100 class, 50 class, 10 class.

As a flower I personally think a well grown specimen of a peony is the most gorgeous flower God created. There are beautiful roses, mums, dahlias, orchids and other flowers but the peony stands supreme. It has everything: size, color, form, fragrance, and is a wonderful cut flower.

The peony we are familiar with today is native to the colder regions of Siberia where the temperature often goes to fifty below zero. So it is perfectly hardy here. It cannot be grown in California and Florida, or the deep south, where there is not a cold winter for dormancy.

Peonies are easy to grow, perfectly hardy and will live for years if totally neglected. Plants in some of the colonial cemeteries are known to be over 100 years old. A peony will come into its best bloom from the third to the eighth or tenth year. It needs very rich soil, full sun, long-lasting fertilizer such as bone meal. It must not have competition from tree or shrub roots. The best planting time is September -- anytime from August 15 to November 1. Plant so the buds are two inches below the surface. Never, never transplant a whole plant of a peony without first dividing it.

Peony don'ts: Don't plant too deeply - two inches is right. Don't cut the foliage down until September. After blooming time, trim the plant to

make it shapely. Be sure it has sufficient sun, isn't planted too closely to trees or shrubs, or planted in sod. Peonies need cultivation for two or three years. If planted as a bud by themselves, plant three to four feet apart. They will not use all of this for three or four years, so interplant with iris, phlox, delphinium, daisies, mums, or other perennials for a succession of bloom.

To handle cut flowers or show flowers, always cut in the bud. When the size of a golf ball, they are right. Place in water overnight, and when morning comes, you will have a full bloom. Cover with a paper bag. Select buds on the thickest stems, for the biggest flowers. You can keep the flowers perfectly for thirty days in dry storage at 32-34 degrees.

Here are some good, recommended varieties:

HYBRIDS: Tennifolium flora plena, officinalis rubra, Red Charm, Tree Peony

JAPANESE: White (Toro-no-maki), Red (Akashigata), Pink (Tokio).

SINGLES: Krinkled White, Flanders Fields, Helen.

WHITE: Festive Maxima (1851), Mrs. J.H.Neeley, Duluth, Gardinia, Casablanca, Ramona Lins.

LIGHT PINK: Myrtle Gentry, LaLorraine (1901), Walter Faxon (1904), Dolorodell.

REDS: May Brand, Philip Rivoire, Karl Rosfield (1908), Longfellow, King Midas, Red Charm.

YELLOW: Fanny Curly, Festival Queen, Primevere, Philomele.

DARK PINK: Martha Bulloch, Blanche King, Ensign Morarity, Mons Juls Elie (1888), Sarah Bernhardt (1906), Therese (1904).

(Note: This was a talk given at our April 1969 meeting. Thank you, Dick.)

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BACK ISSUES OF SPRAY

If you wish any for 1967 to date in 1969, please see the editor right away because old files will be cleaned out very shortly. So speak up.

BIG PUMPKIN CONTEST

MGCA Executive Secretary Guy Chichester has just announced that supplies of pumpkin seeds have just been sent to each regional president, in spite of a severe crop failure by some growers. The contest will be in effect again.