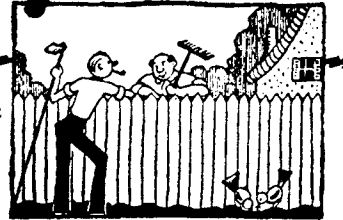




# The Garden Spray

BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS



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## November Meeting

Tuesday, November 8

Mount Olivet Lutheran Church

50th St. & Knox Ave. S.

5:45 p.m.

\$2.00

## Officers

R. E. Smith (Bob)

Pres.

G. R. Christenson (Bud)

V.P.

S. F. Pinkham (Sherm)

Sec.

Frank P. Vixo

Treas.

## HOW TO MAKE CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS .....

will be demonstrated to us by newer member Merwin Dreher. Merwin, associated with the Lutheran Brotherhood Insurance Co., is a past master of seasonal decorations. He will show us the actual steps involved in creating wreaths, table decorations and door pendants.

Bud Christenson has arranged a fine program for us. Let's not miss it!

## MINNESOTA GROWN 140 POUND PUMPKIN MAY LEAD FIELD NATIONALLY

Dale Durst lists in this issue the statewide winners of the Big Pumpkin Contest, with the top award going to the youthful grower of a 140 pound monster. It is thought this may be tops nationally. Last year's national winner was 160 pounds. That's some punkins for Minnesota.

## CHRISTMAS PARTY SLIDES NEEDED NOW BY PWY

Now is the time to sort out your 1966 garden slides and send or take them to P. W. Young by the November meeting. Thus he can work on them preparatory to showing at the Christmas party. The date of that Christmas party is December 13 (second Tuesday) and the place will be the Thunderbird Motel. Plan ahead with your girl friend.

PRESIDENT BOB SAYS .....

by Bob Smith

The other day St. Clair Beeman asked me "How do you winter geraniums?" I answered "I don't...but you should have been at the October meeting." At least three members told of different ways that they successfully winter them. I can't remember their methods because growing geraniums is not one of my gardening interests. Hence I didn't listen as intently as otherwise, but even with a subject of greater personal interest it is hard for me to retain all the information I would like. Maybe some of our programs should be taped to provide Spray material for future reference. Does anyone have a tape recorder that they would like to donate, and also the personnel and ability to transcribe the material taped?

I thought the October meeting was extremely interesting and if this was true for you, too, maybe we should make this an annual affair.

Thanks Dale for a really fine job on the Big Pumpkin Contest. I hope this contest can be conducted again next year.

Dr. Lee Schoenleben retired from his dental practice on October 26 to devote full time to gardening and his other interests. Lee and his wife will be moving to their new home on Otter Lake. The address is Mary View Addition, Route #4, Hutchinson, Minnesota. Best wishes, Lee, to a long and happy retirement.

DALE DURST ANNOUNCES WINNING 140 POUND PUMPKIN

The Minnesota Big Pumpkin Contest (any cucurbit) is over and prizes have been awarded under Dale Durst's direction. Dale had sixty entries from all parts of the state totaling 4,020 pounds of pumpkin! The average was 67 pounds. There was an instance of a little sister with a 20 pound pumpkin to big brother's 100 pound plus pumpkin. The contest was well received and the children are looking forward to next year's contest.

The biggest pumpkin, at 140 pounds, was grown by Steven Hanson, 13 years old, RFD 1, Canby, Minnesota. An eighth grader, Steve this summer grew potatoes and tomatoes which he sold. He also raises horses as a hobby. His winning cucurbit was a "Burpee Big Max" with three other pumpkins on the same vine weighing 39, 46 and 55 pounds. He grew his pumpkin in the family garden and had no idea that he might have a winner on this, his first contest.

The other winners were Brenda Tegmeier, age 16, 120 pound pumpkin, RFD 1, Box 157, Morristown, Minn.; Tony Lodermeier, age 6, 112 pound pumpkin, Route 1, St. Joseph, Minnesota; and Julie Smith (President Bob's daughter) age 6, 107 pound pumpkin, 3210 Chase Drive, Minnetonka, Minnesota.

There were 20 entries in the Giant Sunflower Contest. The diameter of the seed heads ranged from 12 inches to the winning 20½ inches grown by Jeffrey Alan Gartner, age 6, Fountain, Minnesota.

We cannot praise Dale Durst sufficiently for the herculean job he has done supervising our portion of this national contest. Dale has placed several articles in the local city and suburban papers and even drove 180 miles each way to Canby to bring the winning pumpkin for display in a Minneapolis bank. Hats off to you, Dale Durst, and may your local statewide winners place high in the national contest.

## GROUND COVERS FOR MINNESOTA

Leon C. Snyder

- Adiantum pedatum (Maidenhair Fern). A delightful fine textured ground cover for covering slopes in shady areas. Requires a moist, woody soil. Can be used on north sides of buildings.
- Aegopodium podagraria 'Variegatum' (Variegated Goutweed). An attractive foliage plant belonging to the carrot family. Does best in shade. Plant where there is little danger of spreading, since this plant can become a weed.
- Ajuga reptans (Bugleweed). This member of the mint family, with broad leaves and blue flower spikes, is easy to establish and does well in sun or partial shade. Plant where it will have dependable snow cover, as it is somewhat borderline in hardiness.
- Anemone quinquefolia (Wood Anemone). A low spreading spring wild flower that often forms large mats at the edge of woods. Attractive in bloom and in foliage.
- Artemisia frigida (Fringe Sagebrush). This low growing, silvery sagebrush is common in open sunny sites from Minnesota westward. A low, mat-forming selection was made from the mountains near Golden, Colorado, that shows promise. If flower stalks are mowed with rotary mower, the plant remains attractive all season.
- Artemisia nana (Dwarf Sagebrush). The correct identity of this plant has not been determined. It was received as A. nana but no official description of this species can be found. It may be a dwarf form of the southern wormwood, A. abrotanum. The plant forms dense mats with fine textured, dark green foliage. It should be cut back to the ground each spring for best results. Plant in full sunlight. Withstands drought well.
- Artemisia schmidtiana 'Silver Mound'. This choice plant is a perennial that kills to the ground each spring. If planted a foot apart, plants form a fine textured silver carpet. Plant in full sun for best results.
- Arctostaphylos uva-ursi (Bearberry). This is one of the few broad-leaved evergreens that will survive in Minnesota. Thrives in acid, sandy soil but difficult to transplant. Potted, rooted cuttings should be used in establishing a new planting. Grows in full sun or partial shade.
- Asarum canadense (Wild Ginger). This native species forms dense mats in shaded woods. The large, heart-shaped leaves shade the ground. It competes well with other plants. The European species A. europaea is evergreen and would be a better choice than A. canadense if it should prove hardy.
- Buxus microphylla Koreana (Korean Boxwood). This dwarf boxwood is often used as a specimen plant or for dwarf hedges. An attractive ground cover can be formed by planting the plants a foot apart. Grows in full sun but will tolerate considerable shade. Avoid planting where ice forms.
- Clematis. Several species of clematis make excellent ground covers. These include C. paniculata, C. tangutica, and C. virginiana.
- Comptonia peregrina asplenifolia (Sweet fern). This native makes an excellent ground cover on sandy soils. The fernlike foliage gives a pleasing texture to a dry hillside. Difficult to transplant from the wild. No satisfactory method of propagation works.

## Ground Covers for Minnesota

(continued)

Convallaria majalis (Lily-of-the-Valley). This common ground cover is often used on the north sides of buildings and under trees. Attractive in the spring and popular for its flowers. Becomes ragged in late summer. A pink flowered form is also known.

Cornus canadensis (Bunchberry). A delightful little ground cover that thrives on moist, acid soils in partial shade. Difficult to establish in ordinary garden soils.

Coronilla varia (Crownvetch). Much has been written on crownvetch. It has been widely planted in the East for highway slopes and indications are that it may prove useful for this purpose in Minnesota. Several strains have been selected and are on the market.

Cotoneaster apiculata (Cranberry Cotoneaster). This is the only creeping cotoneaster that has shown any degree of hardiness in Minnesota. Best planted where there will be some snow cover, since the tips of the upper branches often show dieback in open winters.

Dicentra eximia (Fringed Bleedingheart). A most attractive plant over a very long season. Especially suited to shady situations. Individual plants may be short-lived but volunteer seedlings spring up to replace those that die.

Euonymus fortunei (Wintercreeper). A very variable species with forms ranging from low, prostrate vines to upright shrubs. Since this species is a broad-leaved evergreen, only the low creeping forms are suitable. The cultivar 'Coloratus' is perhaps the hardiest and best adapted for Minnesota conditions. Plant in partial shade where there will be dependable snow cover.

Forsythia 'Arnolds Dwarf'. This low growing forsythia is planted for its mass effect rather than its bloom. Plants should be spaced about 2 feet apart each way.

Gypsophila repens (Creeping Baby's Breath). This low, creeping plant forms a dense mat of silvery green color. Small white flowers clothe the plant in midsummer. Does best in full sun.

Hedera helix 'Ogallala' (Ogallala English Ivy). We have always considered the English Ivy too tender for Minnesota. All attempts to grow this species failed until the above variety was planted 3 years ago. The Ogallala variety was discovered growing on the side of a house in Ogallala, Nebraska. The original source of the plant was apparently eastern Canada. Plants of this variety were planted on the north side of a wooded area and left alone except for removal of tall weeds that might shade the ground. With no winter protection other than leaves that fell naturally and the normal snow cover, plants have thrived and are spreading, which suggests limited use of this plant is possible.

Heuchera sanguinea (Coralbells). This delightful little plant with basal rosette of evergreen leaves and pink flowers is a favorite garden flower. Unfortunately, the species is none too hardy and is inclined to be short-lived. Mr. Simonet of Edmondton, Alberta, has succeeded in crossing this species with the native Heuchera richardsonii (Alum root) and the resulting seedlings are vigorous and much hardier than H. sanguinea. Seed of this hybrid has been obtained from Mr. Simonet and will be planted in the arboretum.

Hosta species (Plantain Lilies). The Hostas make excellent ground covers for shady places. There are many species and cultivars that give bold foliage effects from early spring to late fall. Flowers are quite showy and fragrant. About 20 distinct types can be seen in the arboretum.

# T U L I P S

by Kermit A. Olson

The tulip is the aristocrat of bulbs. There are some 150 species of Tulips, a genus of the Lily family and are found growing from the mild regions around the Mediterranean, across southern Russia, Turkey, Persia, up into Turkestan, Siberia, down into Kashmir and on into China.

Of all the fall-planted bulbs, Tulips furnish the gardener with the widest range of colors to achieve the effect he desires. They cover approximately two thirds of the color spectrum ranging from violet-blue, through red, orange, yellow and white.

It should be pointed out that while the Darwins, Cottage, Parrot, Breeder, Single and Double Early tulips are more widely advertised, there are other smaller varieties which can be used effectively, sometimes more effectively with other groups of spring flowers than the larger varieties. These smaller varieties are of many shapes, and color designs.

Tulips should be planted in groups rather than in a single line in the border. They are used to good advantage in groups around steps, paths, garden gates or in shrubbery or perennial borders.

In general, tulips like a sunny location in a rich, loamy well-drained soil. If available some well-decayed manure or compost plus some super-phosphate, bonemeal, or 5-10-5 fertilizer (3 pounds per 100 sq. ft.) should be thoroughly worked into the soil.

The bulbs should be planted 6 to 8 inches (from the tip of the bulb) deep and 6 inches apart. Care should be taken to see that the soil is firmly packed around the bulbs and that no depressions are left on the surface of the soil where water might accumulate.

Tulips may be planted in this area from the first of October until the ground freezes. A mulch of straw or hay may be used but it should not be applied until the surface of the soil is frozen solid because mice or rodents might do considerable damage to the planting.

When the tulips are through blooming, the blossoms should be removed to keep the bulb from setting seed. Annuals may be planted between the tulips. However, if the tulips interfere with gardening operations, the bulbs may be lifted and placed in a trench and covered with soil until the foliage has died. The bulbs may then be lifted, cleaned, dried and stored for the summer to be planted in the fall.

There are many types or classes of tulips differing in earliness of bloom, type of bloom, and the use to which they are particularly suited. By proper selection of species and varieties a succession of blooms may be obtained almost from the time the snow melts to early summer.

## Order of Bloom

1. Species and species hybrid. These bloom ahead of or with the early daffodils. They are short stemmed but gaily colored, long lasting and resistant to injury from storms and cold. They may be planted in poorer soils than the larger varieties. They are ideal for planting around rocks, along paths or in odd corners. The blossoms vary in height from 4 to 10 inches. Good varieties

Tulips  
(continued)

2. Single and Double Early. These tulips are valuable for formal beds and for forcing. Flower stems vary from 10 to 14 inches. However, the flowers do not have the keeping qualities of some of the later varieties. Good single varieties include General DeWit, Keizerskroon, White Hawk, Van der Neer, Olympiade and Cauleur de Cardinal. Popular Double Early varieties are Dante-blood red; Peach blossom-soft rose pink; Schoonoord-White; and Mr. Van der Hoeff-pure yellow.
3. Double Late or Peony Flowered Tulips. These tulips have a blooming period midway between the early and late tulips. The blossoming height is approximately 20 inches. Good varieties are: Coxa-Scarlet tipped with white; Eros-lilac rose; Mount Tacoma-White; Bleu Celeste-soft violet blue.
4. Triumph and Mendel Tulips. These classes have strong sturdy stems and large flowers. They fill in the gap that exist between the Single and Double Earlys and the Darwin, Cottage, and Breeder groups. The blossom height varies from 18 inches to 24 inches. Good varieties of Triumphs are Elisabeth Evers-Pink; Kansas-White; Elmus-cherry red; Red Matador-orange scarlet. Good varieties in the Mendels are: Emperor-wine red; Orange Wonder-bronze orange; and Her Grace-rosy pink.
5. Cottage or Mayflowering Tulips. These tulips blossom about the same time or perhaps just a little earlier than the Darwins. The flowers are less formal in shape, some being egg shaped with recurved petals, others having incurved petals. The blossoms vary in height from 22 to 30 inches. Some of the good varieties are Advance-scarlet; Golden Harvest-lemon yellow; Rosabella-soft pink; Marshall Haig-scarlet; and Carrara-White.
6. Darwin Hybrid Tulips. These are the newest development in tulip world. They are big sturdy growing tulips that bloom slightly earlier than the regular Darwin tulips for outdoor planting. Varieties like Apeldoorn, General Eisenhower, President Roosevelt, Oxford, Dover, Lefeber's Favorite, London, and Diplomat are the best red selections. President Kennedy, Jewell of Spring and Gudoshnik are the best yellows.
7. Darwin Tulips. At present the most popular of all because of the color range. They have tall straight stems 22 to 30 inches high with large rounded flowers. They are valuable as cut flowers, as well as for planting in perennial borders, beds, or in the foreground of shrubbery. Some of the more popular varieties are: Grant-purple; Pride of Haarlem-cerise; Queen of the Night-black; Yellow Grant-yellow; Princess Elizabeth-rose; Insurpassable-light violet; Scotch Lassie-deep lavender and Golden Age-dark yellow.
8. Breeder Tulips. These tulips have large flowers on tall stems (22 to 30 inches). Their coloring runs strongly to the bronze and mahogany shades with different shades inside and outside the blossoms. The more popular varieties are: Crusader-bronze blue and gold; Louis XIV-bluish violet with tawny margin; Cherbourg-golden yellow with terra cotta and Indian Chief-reddish mahogany flushed violet.
9. Parrot Tulips. These tulips are unusual in that the blossoms have fringed, twisted, multicolored petals giving the blossom a mottled effect. The blossoms are large on a fairly sturdy stem ranging in height from 20 to 26 inches. Some of the more popular varieties are Fantasy-salmon pink with green markings; Orange Favorite-orange with green stripes; Sunshine-yellow with green markings; Blue Parrot-bluish heliotrope.

## GRANDIFLORAS - THE ROSES OF MANY VIRTUES

by Fred J. Holzman

NAME ORIGIN: This rose was given the class name of Grandiflora by the All American Rose Selections for the reason that it grows so exceptionally tall, having hybrid tea form, the floribunda habit and producing many blooms in clusters. It does, however, produce many fine single-stem blooms of the hybrid tea type.

VARIETIES: In my rose garden I have twelve Grandifloras as follows:

### Rating

9.0	3 Queen Elizabeth - one is a tree rose; soft pink, pointed buds.
8.0	1 Star Fire - medium red, oval bud.
8.0	1 El Capitan - medium red, pointed bud.
8.6	2 Montezuma - orange, one is a tree rose, oval bud.
7.4	2 War Dance - orange red. unusual color, oval bud.
7.8	1 Pink Parfait - pink blend, pointed bud.
9.0	1 Carrousel - dark red, oval bud.
New	1 Camelot - pink, pointed bud.

CARE: This class of rose is a very vigorous grower, very tall, with lots of foliage. Therefore, like any rose, it needs lots of food and water to produce its many blooms. My bloom records prove this fact. Proper winter covering will save the many canes this rose usually produces year after year.

DISEASE: Since this rose is so vigorous, it is less subject to mildew or blackspot. None of the twelve grandifloras in my garden have ever had any disease. Of course, spraying at least every week is essential.

WHERE TO PLANT: Queen Elizabeth, Star Fire and Carrousel all will grow from six to seven feet tall or higher (if given proper winter protection. Therefore, they should be planted in the background of a bed so as not to hide the smaller bushes. El Capitan grows exceptionally tall and should have a trellis to support it. Also, El Capitan does not produce lateral canes which are as strong as the good laterals produced by Queen Elizabeth, Star Fire, and Carrousel. Camelot is new, but all indications are that it, too, will grow very tall. Any grandiflora should have lots of room to grow.

BLOOMS: I keep an accurate written record of the number of blooms produced each year by each of my rose bushes. Queen Elizabeth gives me the most roses; it produces many single-headed long stems which are outstanding. My Queen Elizabeth has consistently produced approximately 300 blooms per year since 1962. The tree Queen Elizabeth grows too lanky and I do not recommend it for that reason.

Star Fire blooms continuously. You have roses coming all the time. The buds are oval and come in clusters more than on single stems. My Star Fire has produced approximately 250 blooms per year since 1962.

Montezuma is very lovely; however, the blooms will ball if left on the bush too long. It lasts long and never drops petals. I planted Montezuma in 1959. My Montezuma has not produced as many blooms as Queen and Star Fire, but it has been in a crowded location. My Montezuma tree rose has good growing room and is outstanding in bloom. It has averaged 150 blooms per year since 1962.

Carrousel. The blooms last a long time and it always has more blooms coming. Since 1962, my Carrousel has averaged 240 blooms per year.

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GRANDIFLORAS  
(continued)

El Capitan. I think you will love this rose since it has lovely buds and lasts long in bloom. Mine is planted next to the house and uses a trellis. My bush has averaged 150 blooms per year since 1962.

War Dance. This grandiflora has an unusual color, and its flowers are the largest of the grandifloras. My two bushes have produced an average of 110 blooms per bush per year since 1962.

Pink Parfait. This one has a smaller flower but lovely pointed buds. Its blooms often come on stems, like a hybrid tea. The blooms last long on the bush. Since 1962, my bush has averaged 150 blooms per year.

Camelot. This is a newer one that I think you would like. The blooms come in a large cluster, more like the floribunda. My Camelot has produced only about 60 blooms but this bush is also crowded in close to my large Queen Elizabeth, as is my Montezuma, and will be moved to a less crowded location.

PRUNING. I believe that the pruning of a grandiflora should be high, as your blooming area is up high. The bush should be shaped when it is pruned. For example, when the budding starts in the spring, leave as many buds as you can. Then, when you prune, always cut on a slant directly above a bud. If you want the bush to grow wider, cut the cane on a slant, leaving the bud on the outer side of the cane. If you want to fill in the center of the bush, cut the cane so that the bud is on the inside of the cane.

THE LIFE OF A GARDENER'S DOG

We've often heard the comment concerning the fellow who leads "a dog's life." It seems to me that such an existence could be fairly attractive. Our Tobey leads a canine's life, true indeed, but there's a lot of TLC involved. He is carefully pampered and rushed to the veterinarian at the first sign of trouble, whereas with adults or children we let them toughen it out because one has to learn to take some hardship. He is fed according to schedule and exactly what he requires. Now he may think we're mean to keep from him those succulent tasties we nibble on but we remember the veterinarian saying, "Feed him the garbage people eat and you'll have a sick dog." When let out of the house he heads straight for the newest pyramidal arborvitae, just carefully planted a week before. But for some ridiculous reason we choose to ignore what he does. My uncle on the farm would have placed a boot on his posterior - but not Midget's Smokey III, nicknamed Tobey, descended from twenty-four champions, all listed ~~on~~ his pedigree!

And when he digs up the petunias - "Oh, well, he's only a dog." When he gnaws a valuable table leg - "He's only a two-month old puppy." When he digs holes in the lawn, which could cause a broken leg - "Well, we do have insurance." When he digs up a newly planted malus to eat the bonemeal mixed with the soil; when the mice kill the winter covered roses because we were afraid a rodenticide would kill the dog; when the "puppy" chews the leaves off the household vines - we really can't be too rough on him; after all, he's just our little pal who lead's a dog's life anyway. - WHH

If "All the World Loves A Lover," how come  
there are so many house detectives in hotels?



## ANNUAL OFFICIAL ROSE TEST REPORT

by W. H. Hull

I've just been rating my test roses for the official MGCA Rose Testers report. This is an involved and detailed job with some rewards in the pleasure of seeing an old friend you have tested for a few years as a number actually hit the market and perhaps become an All American. This is what happened, for example, with GAY PRINCESS, Jackson & Perkins' floribunda of delicate pink. But just the opposite has happened, too. Not long ago I received permission to destroy one which failed to measure up. And bear in mind there are thousands of varieties which never look sufficiently promising to hit the testing market.

Of course I cannot mention numbers of roses or breeders until they have been identified and marketed. So we can mainly talk about named varieties. And, of course, some roses do so much better in one zone than in another, that they fail the test of universal acceptance. For example, one of the loveliest roses in my garden is a gorgeous pink grandiflora which still hasn't been marketed, yet it seems to deserve publicity. I also have a world beater which just can't get going in my garden, which proves there are some particular bushes that are not as good as the variety as a whole.

Perhaps you had a chance to see my LEMON SPICE (Armstrong HT). Mine are newly planted this year and range from yellow to pale chartreuse in color. Most outstanding feature to me is the fragrance which alone makes the plant worth having.

If you like reds, there are a lot of newer ones on the market which are outstanding. Not in any order, here are some: EVELYN FISON, with its 20 blooms still going strong on a new plant, on October 8. MR. LINCOLN, a very lovely dark red (Conard-Pyle). I have always liked that rose and it is even better this year than last, with its huge red buds and blooms. There is BOB HOPE (Jackson & Perkins HT), a vigorous grower which I like better each year. Sometimes sunburns. There is MEXICANA (J & P HT) a bi-color red. There is SIMON BOLIVAR (Armstrong HT) which is red to deep rose pink and is approaching cabbage shaped blooms. Others of all colors which I personally find satisfying are BLITHE SPIRIT (Armstrong HT), POLYNESIAN SUNSET (J & P HT), CAMELOT (Conard-Pyle) lovely salmon-pink, and the superb large bi-color pink ISABEL DE ORTIZ (J & P) with its lovely fragrance.

### CONVENTION NOTES

by Dwight Stone

Mark your calendar now. Starting in January the first Tuesday of each month will be Convention Meeting Night. The best format seems to be a meeting at Becky's Chalet, Miracle Mile, with a 6:30 dinner for \$2.25. All members of Minnetonka, Richfield and Minneapolis MGCs are invited to attend. Each committee chairman should start picking men to work on his committee. By January we will want a listing of all committee personnel. In addition to the formal tours for the convention, we will have individual gardens of members and non-members listed for informal tours. If you know of an outstanding garden in your neighborhood, please notify Ron Twite so he may investigate the possibility of listing it on the tour guide.