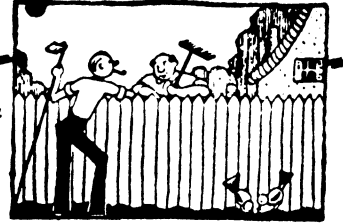




# The Garden Spray

BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.

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



APRIL 1976, Volume 34, Number 5

NEXT MGCM MEETING, TUESDAY, APRIL 13<sup>th</sup>, 5:45 PM

## ALL ABOUT GARDENING

A PANEL of MGCM MEMBERS and GUESTS will discuss  
Flowers, Vegetables and what not.

Bring your questions. Share your expertise.

at MOUNT OLIVET CHURCH, 50th and KNOX S. DINNER \$3.00

Funny looking spray, eh? It sure  
is and it's all my fault.

Your April SPRAY will reach you late because  
of a big boo-boo I made but it will come.

HOWEVER, EVEN IF THE SPRAY IS LATE, the meet  
will be held on the usual date.

TUESDAY APRIL 13<sup>th</sup> 1976.

SEE YOU THERE.

Ed O. Albert



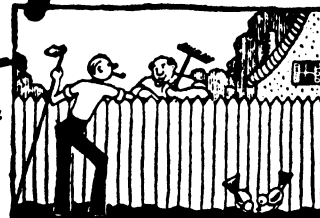
# The Garden Spray

BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.

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

April 1976, Volume 34, Number 4

Tuesday April 13th at Mount Olivet Church, 50th & Knox South



## ALL ABOUT GARDENING

Vegetable Gardening. Flower Gardening. You don't grow vegetables? You can't eat flowers? Trees and shrubs are your babies? The panel of MGCM members and non-member guests may even touch on them.

Come for dinner at 5:45 (\$3). Bring your questions. Share your expertise. There'll be so much to cover we'll skip the mini-clinic for this meeting SEE YOU THERE.

\* \* \* \* \*

## THE MAY AUCTION'S JUST AROUND THE CORNER

The annual Garden Club Auction has been scheduled for May 11th, so be sure to reserve that day on your calendar. The location for this year's event is currently being decided and we'll announce the location in the next issue of the Spray. The success of last year's auction will be hard to top, but the committee is giving it's best shot to insure a pleasant evening for all. The auction's success, however, depends largely on the continued generosity of all the club members who bring from their own garden greenhouses or indoor light tables the unusual plantings and horticulture they are known for. As usual we will have a good supply of annuals, perennials, bulbs, roses and many other gardening items for auction as well as for door prizes.

We also encourage all the members to bring a fellow gardener or acquaintance to this meeting as a guest so that we may show the potential member one of our many special events.

--Dick Victor, Auction Chairman

## A MOVE TO ORGANIZE the FIFTH DISTRICT

For many years the Fifth District of the Minnesota State Horticultural Society has remained the only unorganized one in the Society. At our March 10th Meeting a motion was made and passed that our Men's Club would join with the other Clubs in this district in having an organized Fifth District.

The area of this district is--roughly--that of Hennepin County. It has 18 affiliated Clubs representing approximately 3,000 members. When organized we would have our own District Officers to plan activities that would involve all of the affiliated clubs. Activities in other organized districts have been: Work Shops--Garden Tours--Garden Lectures--Civic Beautification--Projects with School Children, etc.

## THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

I was sorry to have missed the March meeting but I understand it was another success. We left Minnesota on February 26 to spend a few weeks in southern Texas. It was nice to miss a few of our March snowstorms and the accompanying cold weather.

We spent two weeks in Harlingen soaking up the sunshine and visiting neighboring communities, including South Padre Island. The Rio Grand Valley is quite significant horticulturally, being the home of the fine Texas grapefruit. They also grow many winter vegetables, including cabbage, head lettuce, carrots, and onions. Wild flowers were at their peak along the roadside with several evening primroses, prickly poppy, lupines, creeping phlox, Indian paintbrush and many others putting on a grand display. As we traveled northward on our return we passed through the rolling countryside of eastern Texas and western Arkansas. Along the roadside, redbud and flowering dogwoods were in full bloom. Peach orchards and escaped peach seedlings and wild plums were also in bloom. As we got into Missouri there was evidence that winter was still with us but we did enjoy a mild day in Columbia where we visited our son and family.

It is nice to be back and we can all look forward to spring. We got back in time to meet with the board on March 23. Plans were presented for the upcoming plant sale which promises to be a dandy. Let's get behind the committee and make this the best plant sale yet. We can do this if each of us brings a neighbor with the uncontrollable urge to buy plants.

--Leon Snyder

### MOVE TO ORGANIZE (from page 1)

In our meeting on the 10th Sherm Pinkham talked about our Club becoming involved in a program for gardening for school children. A young man also talked of a vegetable gardening project and requested help from our members. Both of these programs are most noteworthy and could be better served through participation of the entire Fifth District. Glenn Ray, Secretary of the MINN. Horticultural Society, advised our participation in the organizing of the Fifth District would not involve any additional cost to our members.

Our Men's Garden Club has been the first club in this Fifth District to join in this effort to organize our district. It is our hope that we will soon be joined by the other affiliated clubs and be able to do some constructive work for this spring and summer.

--Nate Siegel

Editor's Note: Glenn Ray, Executive Secretary Minnesota State Horticultural Society, informs us that any member of a 5th District garden club is empowered to call a district organizational meeting. THE PROCEDURE: Notify each club in the district (the Society can provide a list) of the time, place and purpose of the meeting and invite participation. Then, at the meeting officially organize the district, elect officers and get down to business.

### ADD TO ROSTER

Thomas M. Kelly                    827-2425  
5597 Fremont Ave. S.                55419

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Phillip H. Smith                    544-3190  
261 Yosemite Circle #10            55422

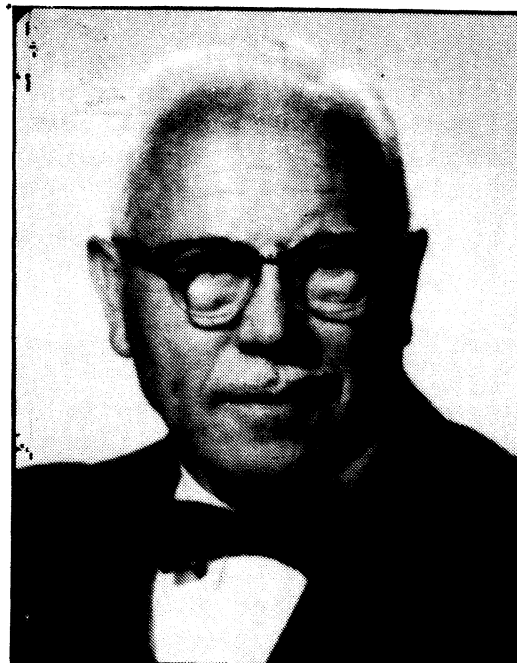
THE GARDEN SPRAY - Bulletin of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc

April 1976, Volume 34, Number 4.  
Editor: Edwin C. Culbert  
5315 Portland Ave., Minneapolis, Mn.  
Deadline: the 15th OF EACH MONTH.

MGCM PRESIDENTS: RENE J. DUFOURD 1953

Rene writes, "I was born in Deneuvre near Baccarat in the Loraine section of France (25 miles west of the Rhine in the Vosges mountains) on October 6, 1891"...

"After graduating from business college I had several small jobs before in September 1909 I joined the Prudential Insurance Company's home office in Newark, New Jersey as a clerk. Later I was transferred to the Real Estate Loan department where I was first assistant manager and later Regional Appraiser. When in 1932 the Prudential opened a Farm Mortgage Loan branch office in Minneapolis I was sent as office manager --a post I held until retirement."



Rene Dufourd

Dufourd, a multi-prize winning Victory gardener joined MGCM in October 1945. He served 6 years (1947-52) as secretary during which time he mimeographed, assembled and mailed out the GARDEN SPRAY for editor Vic Lowri rounded up MGCM speakers for talks to other clubs (or gave them himself) and worked hard on the "grub committee". Upon retirement in 1952 he found himself too busy to continue as secretary but was prevailed upon to become president. (He had to miss the first two meetings.)

In 1957 the Minnesota Highway Department took away Rene's home and garden at 5020 Second Avenue South for Interstate 35W so he moved out of their reach--to Florida--But he didn't quit gardening for, he says, "I have always been interested in gardening. My grandfather in France was gardener for a wealthy man, the president of the Baccarat Crystal factory. In my early days gardening was a way of life. You raised a garden for your fruit and vegetables during the summer and canned them for the winter. I have continued the practice all my life though I don't do as much gardening as I used to."

Then he goes on to tell of his Florida garden (as of 1/31/76), "lettuce carrots, potatoes are up; azaleas, camelias, roses, calendulas, begonias dianthus, nasturtium, pansies, petunias, gerbera, sweet alyssum all in bloom now. Others are coming along..."

And he says he doesn't do as much gardening as he used to!!

\* \* \* \* \*

Harry Sova after a 19 day sojourn is out of the hospital walking around with a new hip socket. He reports, "The gadget they inserted looks like a trailer hitch" and says, "The greetings from the gang gave me a real lift."

## THE FEBRUARY MEETING

Mini-Talk: Fred Glasoe saying, "This is the season to make geranium cuttings for 1976 window boxes" demonstrated and discussed procedures. Items: If you use a rooting hormone let the cut area dry an hour before application. Then shake and blow off as much of the powder as possible. Enclosing the cutting inserted in the growing medium in a plastic bag of the sun for the first three days helps... Mallet cuttings of geranium grow well but take longer... Geranium seeds can now be expected to come true to color.

Dr. Cecil Stushnoff started by telling us to plant fruit trees for freshness, taste and fun; they are not a cheap source of family fruit. Choose varieties adapted to your area. Buy Minnesota hardy stock. Plant in early spring in this area. Fruit trees need constant care. Timely pest control is important.

Apple trees should be pruned to Christmas tree shape--branches right at to the stem. Over pruning a young tree keeps it in a vegetative state. Summer pruning is not advisable in this area until after early July. (Fire blight danger.) Dwarf trees, especially, need winter mulching with hay or straw as well as tree guards against gnawing animals and rodent. Fertilize with one pound of 10-10-10 or the equivalent per inch of trunk diameter.

Look upon the apricot as a "not long lived" ornamental with fruit upon occasion... Bird netting and cherries must be used in combination... Mulch strawberries with 2 to 3 inches of straw or hay. A temperature to 15° will kill the flower buds. Blossom rot is due to a fungus; nubs are caused by the tarnished plant bug--nearby alfalfa fields accentuate this problem... Clip off the top 10 to 15% of the raspberry canes to increase production.

## THE MARCH MEETING (Reported by Dick Hulbert)

The program led by Jerry Olson and Ted LeBoutillier was so packed with information that any detailed account would take several pages. I therefore only skim off the items which are unusual or need emphasis according to the speakers.

Jerry spoke briefly of the beauty and universality of roses in our society and urged greater participation in rose culture because raising roses become much easier. Many varieties of roses have been developed, possibly the newest is a rose for hanging baskets.

Jerry introduced a railroading rose disciple, Ted LeBoutillier of St. Paul, who under Jerry's guidance went from 4 scrubby plants to 700 of quality, vigor and beauty equal to any in the U.S.

Ted grows his roses close--2 feet apart. He advises soft, porous, spongy soil, high in bacteria. The more sun exposure the better, especially morning sun for quick drying out of dew. He buys several loads of leaves in the fall for mulch and for composting. Bare root plants should be bought when available from fall until planting time in April. They will keep under right conditions. Selection of plants is extremely important. #1 plants have at least three main canes and a well developed and spread out root system. They should be soaked from 6 to 8 hours and after so

## FIFTY YEARS IN ROSES

By L. W. Corbett

Where have the roses gone? I entered the nursery business in 1925 as a assistant production manager in the Conard-Pyle organization. The rose trade was in an uproar arguing the merits of own-roots vs. budding and what understock was best. Today you seldom hear the term own-root but in 1925 there were several well known companies selling only own-root roses. It is fun to try own-rooting and anyone can do it.

Make a cutting from healthy blooming wood four to six inches long with least three leaves or more. Remove the two bottom leaves and put the cutting in sand or any other good rooting material. To cut moisture lo put several cuttings close together and cover with a glass mason jar. The cuttings will callous and then form roots. Remove the glass jar an give the cuttings a chance to grow. It will take three to four years f an own-root plant to catch up with a budded plant and many of our prese varieties just have no vigor on their own roots. Because of these prob lems own-root roses have dropped out of the market.

In the twenties many thousands of rose bushes came in from Europe. One of the understocks used in Europe was Canina or Dogbriar. It is not en tirely hardy in this country. It is hard for us to realize that a nurs man in, say, France or England is catering to a relatively small area without great contrasts while we here in the states have great distance and great contrasts of soil, moisture, altitude and temperature. It be came a problem of determining the best understock for all varieties and under the widest conditions. Some of the popular understocks available were Canina, Manetti, Multiflore, Multiflora japonica, Odorata, Ragged Robin and Rugosa. I will not try to go into the strengths and weakness of each of these. In a sense they eliminated themselves due to lack of vigor, cold resistance and longevity. The best and most popular for ou door cultivation was Multiflora japonica.

You may recall a period when the USDA was promoting "a living fence". number of catalogs pushed the living fence. The rose most widely used for this purpose was Multiflora japonica. Primary growers of rose bush maintain these rose hedges or fence rows to furnish cuttings for under-stocks or for seed so they can grow seedlings for budding.

The next debate was the merit of the seedling vs. the cutting. I favor the seedling but it lost out to the cutting. It is cheaper to handle cuttings and they can be budded faster with a better "take". Cuttings are made in the fall when the new wood is ripe or hardened. The import job is to cut out the buds in the axil of the leaves leaving only the t one or two to make new growth in the spring. If the lower buds are not removed correctly the plant will send up "suckers". The cutting is usu heeled in over winter and then planted in the spring. You can handle a plant these cuttings much faster than seedlings and planting depth does not have to be so exact. Budding is done in July and August and the ea budded plants will send up a "maiden" shoot and flower the same year. The wild or understock top is cut off the following spring so that all the growth goes into the "bud". The plant is shaped by summer pruning.

If you use a seedling for budding instead of a cutting you eliminate th chance of suckering. Rose "hips" (seed pods) are picked in the fall. is a mean job to get the seed out. The seed is put in lavers of sand a

planted the following spring and the young plants are harvested in the fall. The seedlings are size graded. An ideal seedling is about the diameter of a lead pencil. During the winter the seedlings are "cleaned" which means the removal of all roots and root hairs for a distance of two inches, if you can get it, below the crown. In planting this cleaned area remains above the ground level. Dirt is banked against the plant to keep this area moist. When it is ready to bud the dirt is leveled and the bud inserted in the cleaned area. The following spring the "cut off" is below the crown so what you have is the root of Multiflora japonica and the top is your budded variety. Slower, more expensive but good.

THE MARCH MEETING (from page 4)

digs a big hole, 18" by 18", a cone of earth at the bottom, for spreading roots. He fills with earth, waters, fills again and waters. Then he goes back and waters again. Bare root plants should not be fed until fully leafed out. Potted plants may be fed immediately. Ted does something new to most members. With the newly set plant he forms a mound of earth completely around and over the plant using a tar-paper cylinder. A few days later he takes away the container and lets the dirt fall away from the plant. This induces a lot of budding.

He religiously sprays every seven days. His basic formula is Isotox as the insecticide and Benlate as the fungicide. In addition he uses as needed Phaltan for black spot and Actidione PM for mildew. For spraying he recommended to the smaller grower (50 to 100 plants) the Hudson electric power sprayer which costs about \$29, very light and manageable. It is not wasteful.

He uses the Minnesota tip method of wintering roses, reminding us it is not necessary to wait for a hard freeze.

Return to  
THE GARDEN SPRAY of MGCM, INC.  
Edwin C. Culbert, Editor  
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\* \* \* \* \*

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