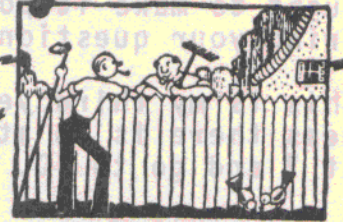




The Garden Spray

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



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

April 1978, Volume 36, Number 4

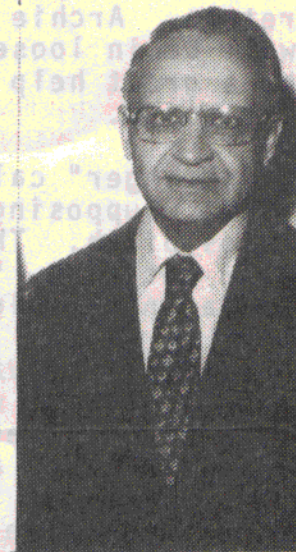
DO YOU RECOGNIZE THESE MEMBERS NEW IN 1977?



Phillip Peterson



Ted LeBoutilier



Stanley Crist

T. S.

LOOK FOR THEM AT OUR APRIL MEETING

(T. S. was pictured and named in our March issue, can you name him?)

AT MOUNT OLIVET LUTHERAN CHURCH, 50th ST. & KNOX AV. S.

6 PM, TUESDAY APRIL 11th, 1978. (DINNER \$3.50)

SPEAKER: NAME NOT AVAILABLE WHEN THIS ISSUE WENT TO PRESS (Early)

SEND IN YOUR RESERVATION CARD AT ONCE

FROM THE ARCHIVES

"January 13, 1948..Active members must be actual gardeners and must attend at least four meetings of the club during any calendar year and if they fail to qualify under this requirement, the Board was authorized to transfer them to the Associate list without hearing..."

NEW MEMBERS - 1978

Roger Bergstrand 425-2167
17628 Weaver Lake Dr., Osseo 55369

Jerry Hillstrom 920-8453
4805 W. 59 St., Mpls. 55424

OVER THE GARDEN FENCE

by Dick Hulbert

There was some response to the question-and-answer period at the February meeting. On the Board's recommendation we will continue the practice. With so many highly informed people at every meeting, it seemed to me we ought to make it possible for members to raise questions and get answers. Bring your question to the next meeting.

This is my third year on the Board. You would be amazed how much business there is to attend to and how much discussion takes place. We start at 7 and go to 10. This is where the wheels get greased.

I was excited as were all the Board members when Archie Caple offered to get out a Garden People Book. Let's all help him in getting it complete fast. When your picture is taken you will get a form to fill out and return. Archie has had a little trouble getting the form back. The book will be in loose leaf form so that new members can be added. This should be a great help in getting us better acquainted. The club will absorb the costs.

A "stranger" called me last week to ask what I thought about our garden club. Supposing I was talking to a prospective member, I gave him a real sales pitch. Then the stranger identified himself as Roger Koopman, a 20 year veteran. "Just checking up on the president." I found it very easy to say nice things.

Our mail reservation system works well. We do warn members that reservations not kept will be billed. You can cancel reservations up until Sunday at 6. After that I call the number in to the ladies who serve us. I hope you all appreciate the faithfulness of the Circle that feeds us.

Once in a while a friend will ask me if I ever talk to my plants. I have my answer in this verse:

"I hardly ever talk to plants.
In silence I attend 'em.
I figure keeping them alive
Is my complete addendum.
But if they want to talk to me
And beckon me come hither,
They do it in a plant-like way -
Their leaves curl up and wither."

Dwight Stone received a letter from Otto Erickson former Minneapolis and garden club member now residing in Sun City, Arizona in which Otto tells of driving to the Superstition Mountains with Vera and Leon Snyder to see Janet and Bill Brooks. Otto noted that Vera Christopherson had fallen and broken her hip and that Norm said the prognosis was not good.

"I'm now way behind with all the work I had planned on the outside. About a dozen rose bushes have to be replaced, the beds dug over and bedding plants set out. Did manage to rearrange the cacti corners in the back yard and plant two small Japanese Black Pines in front. The rest of my place is a mess," writes Otto.

THE FEBRUARY MEETING

The African Violet has not been long known as a house plant. Found in Tanganyika (1892); started from seeds in Germany (1896); "hot house" grown in Europe (1898); at an international show in Ghent (1900); brought to the United States (1927); it did not really take on here until after 1942 said Mel Werner prior to giving us the following advice re handling the plants.

CLEANING

- .Wash plants regularly with room temperature spray. Dry out of direct sunlight.
- .Use a camel's hair brush to clean leaves.
- .Keep dead blooms, leaves, etc. picked off.

FEEDING

- .Nitrogen--For good leaf and stem growth. Too much causes spindly plant not enough--yellowing leaves. Blood meal is a good source.
- .Phosphorus--For good roots. Brings out redness in leaves and color in bloom.
- .Potash--Makes bloom clear; wards off disease.
- .Charcoal--A go between.

HUMIDITY

- .40-60 percent is adequate.
- .Good circulation is necessary but keep cold air from blowing on plants.
- .Too much humidity causes rot; too little, bud drop.
- .Less water need when humidity is high, especially in summer.

LIGHT

- .Suspend tubes 10-14 inches above plants.
- .Start with 10 hours, increase to 12; 14 before a show.
- .Too much causes black leaves, bunchy centers, light edges.
- .Place pinks and whites on outer edge of light, blues in center. Turn outer plants every two days.
- .If too little light leaves point up.

POTTING

- .Any type pot will do. Use nylon net in bottom.
- .Sterilize pots by washing then soaking over night. (1 oz. Chlorox to 1 quart water.)
- .Work up gradually to 3" pot size (3" pot takes 9" plant). Violets must be pot bound for full bloom. It takes 5-8 months to bring a plant into bloom from seed or petioles.
- .When plants get leggy repot lower in pot. Water before repotting; remove old leaves and blooms; cut off most of root ball to fit.

SOILS

- .Should be light, porous, contain desirable nutrients.
- .Some systemics can be added to soil.
- .Always use sterilized soil.
- .Potting mix suggested: 5 parts sterile soil; 5 parts sterile peat moss; 2 parts vermiculite; 1 cup medium grade charcoal; 1 cup crushed egg shells (or one tablespoon whiting).

SPACING

- .Have good air circulation. Do not crowd.
- .Turn under light three times a week.

(continued over)

TEMPERATURE

- .65-70° daytime, 60-65° night time (never less than 50°). A drop of 10° from day to night is preferable.
- .In heat of summer cut down on fertilizing and light; circulate air; keep cool.

WATERING

- .Use room temperature water.
- .Let tap water stand 12-16 hours to get rid of chlorine.
- .Water from top or bottom.
- .Never use a finger to test.--It spreads disease.
- .Too much water causes crown rot and petiole rot.
- .Food may be applied to water. Flush down the fertilizer once a month with plain water.

RECOMMENDED TREATMENT FOR INSECTS, ETC.

- .Aphids--Malathion 50%, Stimulant, granular systemics.
- .Black Flies--Fermate, Phaltan, Terrachlor.
- .Mealy Bugs--Alcohol swab, Malathion, Cygon 2 E, Green Light systemics.
- .Soil Mealy Bugs--Cygon 2 E, Isotox granules, Kelthane.
- .Mites--Kelthane, Malathion 50%, Isotox systemic, Cygon 2 E.
- .Springtails--Malathion 50%, Chlordane.
- .Thrips--Malathion 50%.
- .Nematodes; Stunt; Virus--Destroy the plant.

RECOMMENDED TREATMENT FOR DISEASES

- .Botrytis--Zineb, DuPont Fungicide A, Parzate, Benomyl.
- .Crown Rot--Fermate, Calcium Carbonate, Terrachlor.
- .Damping Off--Panodrench, Fermate, Botran.
- .Mildew--Sulphur dust, Fermate, Mildex, Acti-Dione PM, Benomyl.
- .Petiole Rot--Fermate, Benomyl, or re pot.

MGCM PLANT AUCTION

Tuesday, May 9th

-ANNUALS- -PERENNIALS- -PRIZES- -SURPRISES-

Participate in our club's only organized money-raising project. Let's shoot for a record attendance -- guests are more than welcome,

When you divide your perennials pot some for sale at the Country Store. The store opens at 5:15 p.m.

Dinner will be served by De Laria's. It will be followed by a spirited auction of top-quality annuals, perennials, and vegetables.

LUCKYBUCKS will be available. Six bucks will be yours for \$5.00 if purchased before 6:00 p.m.

The place where the auction is to be held and other final details will be announced in the May "GARDEN SPRAY".

--Bob Livingston, Chairman 329-6019

1978 COMMITTEES MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.

AUDITING. Chrmn: FRANK VIXO.

BUDGET. Chrmn: BOB GAGE,
Members: Dick Hulbert, Charles Robbins, Dick Victor.

CHRISTMAS PARTY. Co-Chrmn: BOB GAGE, DICK STEHLY.
Members: Dean Schneider, Juel Shefland, Harry Sova, Erle Tornstrom.

COMMUNITY GARDEN. Chrmn: DON HARDESTY.
Members: Archie Caple, Larry Corbett, Ed Culbert, Bill Frederick, Chet Groger, Howard Johnson, Paul Lindstedt, Maury Moorman, Sherm Pinkham, Darwin Price, Nate Siegel, Don Wilson.

DINNER and HOSPITALITY. Chrmn: BILL FREDERICK.
Members: Floyd Ashley, Burton Deane, Walter Flumerfelt, Nick Haddad, Don Hart, Sherm Pinkham.

GARDEN TOURS. Chrmn: BOB HALEY.
Members: Bud Christenson, Stan Crist, Ted LeBoutilier, Leonard Nelson, Don O'Donnell, Jim Perrin.

HISTORIAN. BILL HULL.

HORTICULTURE. Chrmn: CHARLES PROCTOR. Members below:
FLOWERS: Jim Bezat, Les Johnson, Chuck King, Dick Lehman, Jerry Olson, Phil Peterson, Jerry Shannon, Nate Siegel.
VEGETABLES: Jim Bezat, Archie Caple, Larry Corbett, Dale Durst, Chuck King, Dick Lehman, Phil Peterson, Jerry Shannon, Harold Sievers, Bob Smith.
TREES and SHRUBS: Buster Friberg, Ev Haedecke, Chuck King, Ray Marshall, Cameron Smith.

MAY PLANT AUCTION. Chrmn: BOB LIVINGSTON.
Members: Don Hart, Fred Lang, Paul Lindstedt, James Mayerle, Charles Proctor, Charles Robbins, Kenneth Shaur, Juel Shefland, Dwight Stone, Dick Victor.

MEMBERSHIP. Chrmn: SHERM PINKHAM.
Members: (To be appointed.)

NOMINATING. (Always the president and four immediate past presidents.)
Chrmn: _____ Members: Fred Glasoe, Dick Hulbert, Bob Livingston, Jim Perrin, Leon Snyder.

PHOTOGRAPHY. Chrmn: CHET GROGER.
Members: Archie Caple, Robert Churilla, Burton Deane, Bob Haley, Don Hardesty, Ray Marshall, James Mayerle, Charles Robbins, Tom Somers, Erle Tornstrom, Frank Vixo.

PUBLICATION and INFORMATION. Chrmn: DEAN SCHNEIDER.
Members: Vinton Bouslough, Ed Culbert, Chet Groger.

SHOW. Chrmn: DON O'DONNELL.
Members: Roger Anderson, Dale Durst, Henry Halvorson, Darwin Price, Charles Proctor, Walter Schmidt.

SUNSHINE. Chrmn: VERN CARLSON.
Members: Walter Flumerfelt, Evald Johnson, Maury Moorman.

TROPHY and AWARDS. Chrmn: DICK STEHLY.

Potassium deficiency may be more to blame for tomato blossom end rot than is water variation.

MGCM member Michael Denesuk sends us this clipping to share with you. We wouldn't try it out first on African violets, however.

MEALYBUG CURE

Out of desperation and weariness from wiping mealybugs off my gardenia with a cotton swab dipped in rubbing alcohol, I found an easy cure. I mixed three teaspoonfuls of Ced-o-flora house plant spray in a quart of water in my plant mister. I took the infested gardenia plant to the basement and completely doused the plant with the spray until it dripped. The leaves were soaking wet and the plant was left overnight to dry off. The mealybugs disappeared. Now, a simple weekly inspection and a quick wipe of the rare mealybugs that appear has kept the plant free and the flower buds are now starting to set.

Mrs. W. E. T., Washington, D. C.

Know the type of weed you wish to control. There is no all purpose herbicide. Use low pressure spray for herbicides high pressure for other needs. If you must use the same sprayer for herbicides and pesticides, soak the sprayer overnight in ammonia.

Return to
THE GARDEN SPRAY of MGCM, INC.
Edwin C. Culbert, Editor
5315 Portland Avenue
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55417

MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.

CLUB OFFICERS:

- President: RICHARD HULBERT
3422 Xerxes Ave. N., Mpls., 55412
- Vice President: ROBERT GAGE
16145 Hillcrest La., Eden Prairie, 55343
- Secretary: RICHARD G. VICTOR
4358 Metcalf Dr., Eagan, 55122
- Treasurer: CHARLES H. ROBBINS
7112 Park Ave., Mpls., 55423
- Past President: FRED GLASOE
618 E. 58 St., Mpls., 55417
- Director: ARCHIE CAPLE
7721 - 15 Ave. S., Mpls., 55423
- Director: WILLIAM J. FREDERICK
4034 Quentin Ave. S., Mpls., 55416



FIRST CLASS

To

William H. Hull
6833 Creston Road
Edina, MN 55435

46th annual convention
Men's Garden Clubs of America
Akron, Ohio, July 23-26, 1978.



The Garden Spray

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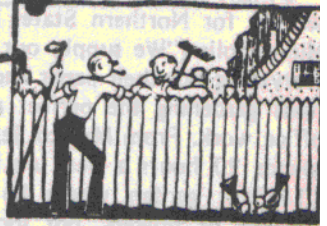
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April 1978, Volume 36, Number 4

- SPECIAL INSERT SHEET -

* * * * *

YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT



THE DATES OF THE HOME GARDEN and PATIO SHOW AT THE MINNEAPOLIS AUDITORIUM A
APRIL 28, 29, 30 - MAY 1, 2 and 3, 1978.

DWIGHT STONE will have \$2:00 Admission Tickets for \$1:50 at the April me

THE MINNESOTA STATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY WILL HAVE A BOOTH AT THE SHOW
and THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB WILL BE REPRESENTED.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO WORK a 4 or 5 hour shift on one of the days plea
CONTACT DWIGHT.

Calling All Gardeners

COMPOST OPERATION - 1978

Hennepin County will have compost available at its two sites this spring. A south site located in Eden Prairie, 2 - 3/4 miles south of the intersection of 494 and County Road 18, then one mile west on County Road 1; and the Maple Grove north site one mile west of County Road 18 just off County Road 109. These sites will be open seven days a week, starting April 15, until all compost has been distributed. Hours of operation will be 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily.

Leaves will not be accepted in the spring. The sites will reopen in mid-October to receive leaves for composting.

The compost will be free of charge. Distribution will be limited to non-commercial users the first three weeks (April 15 - May 7), then to all persons thereafter.

William J. Brenna

William J. Brenna
Environmentalist

AKRON
LY 23-28
1978

MEN'S GARDEN CLUB MEMBERS IN NEWS

(Culled from an article by Lael Berman in the

Northliner/March-April 1978)

Busy people are garden people.

Dwight Stone, administrator of office services for Northern States Power Co., Minneapolis ("We supply our employees everything but their paper and pencils"), finds gardening the perfect antidote to office work. From May to September he spends 20 hours a week on his 143-by-118-foot garden where he grows 75 varieties of flowers, not including 125 different kinds of roses, and an assortment of vegetables.

Dwight Stone, who has an eye for detail on the job as well as in the garden, emphasizes planning. To have a good garden, "you have to plan—not only what you want to grow but how much time you're going to be able to spend. And it's not just a matter of taking care of your roses or radishes; your entire grounds should be well-groomed. Frankly, simple well-tended shrubs and beautiful grass are far more attractive than lovely flowers and a sloppy yard."

Like most gardeners, Dwight Stone enjoys discussing his successes, and like most honest gardeners he admits to failures, or "things that didn't quite work out."

June 30, 1967, is a date he remembers as well as his own birthday.

"There was that storm," he recalled, still wincing at the word. "I wasn't home at the time and my 60 begonias—beautiful things—were completely destroyed. Had I been home and gotten them into the garage . . ."

Glenn Ray, energetic director of the Minnesota State Horticultural Society, said Minnesota gardeners want to be neat, but not overworked.

"We like our yards looking well-manicured and orderly, but our day does not seem to include 30 minutes to garden," he said.

Ray feels Americans in general, lacking the European tradition of gardening, "have no model to look to." He added, however, "Things are changing; people are traveling more and are seeing how other countries garden. You know, all it takes is for someone to tell you how poor you are. We're rich in natural beauty but poor in cultivated beauty."

An outdoors enthusiast, Ray also is an advocate of four-season gardening.

"What's missing here," he said, referring to the Twin Cities, "are winter gardens. Winter is our longest season yet we do nothing with it. Why in St. Paul, a city that celebrates a winter carnival, is there no winter garden? It could be a host of evergreens and shrubs creating serenity as well as protection from the winds."

On the subject of trees and shrubs, Ray notes that the no-care-but-lots-of-color variety have found their way into the hearts and yards of many would-be gardeners. "During the 1950s," he pointed out, "trees like the Russian olive, cistena cherry and golden mock orange became very popular. Little work but very colorful. Today you see them all over suburbia throughout the Midwest."

One tree that isn't "trendy" yet requires what Dwight Stone calls VLC (Very Little Care) is his "flowering crab" which back in 1963 had a number but no name. Stone got the tree—then a mere five-foot whip—from the University of Minnesota where it was being raised as an experiment. He planted it, and like a proud parent has watched it grow over the years to its present height of 25 feet with a branch spread of 30 feet.

Charles King, a baker with the Minneapolis-based Peavey Co., likes the exercise as well as the "spiritual satisfaction" he gets from tending his 800 square feet of carrots, beets, peppers, cucumbers, tomatoes and squash.

Baker Charles King, whose vegetables are a source of pride to him, cites a case of "faulty planning" as his one major fiasco.

"I had been growing tomatoes for three straight seasons and for some reason failed to rotate them—move the plants from one row to another—which is a must. I ended up with zero tomatoes and had to go and buy them in a grocery store. Talk about adding insult to injury . . ."

Gardening, as in baking, notes King, requires planning ahead. Like knowing your ingredients, you must learn when the seeds go in, when to germinate, when to transplant and what the weather means. Any library can provide a host of books and articles with all that information.

Patience, suggests Charles King, is critical. "Too many people peter out in the middle of the season. You've followed through, stay with it."

In Minneapolis, Nate Siegel, manager of Pioneer Shoe Co., said he or less "inherited" a garden when his wife Elsie bought their south Minneapolis home 35 years ago.

"The small yard was beautifully escaped by the previous owner," called. "There was a rock garden, greens, poplars, a garden pool with cascade, perennials, annuals . . . It seem right not to keep it up."

Mrs. Siegel became the principal gardener, said Nate, "I've busied myself with more he-man activities like fishing and golf. Soon I got to finding that the time I was spending up turf could be better spent turning soil!"

These days, from mid-May to September, Siegel spends a couple hours a day—a few more on the weekend tending his Harvard tea roses, and waterlilies. His 40-by-150-foot den, one neighbor points out, "how you can make an average-size yard very un-average."

Nate Siegel claims his biggest problem has been "trying to grow things indoors," so he doesn't do anymore and concentrates solely on outdoor gardening. With a yard semi-shaded one might think the plants are limited, but Nate has planted a very colorful coleus garden which thrives beautifully in the shade and requires little tending. In the easy-to-field he also recommends plants which are disease resistant and bloom in summer.

As Nate Siegel put it, "Each time when my flowers start to bloom, I'm greeting old friends."

**THINK AKRON
JULY 23-26
1978**