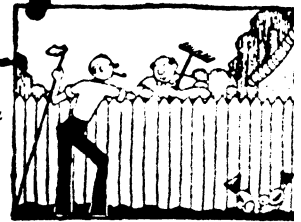




# The Garden Spray

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

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



August 1973, Volume 31, Number 8

Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc., Minneapolis, Minnesota  
Edwin C. Culbert, editor, 5315 Portland Avenue, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55417  
Editorial Staff: Robert E. Smith, Leslie W. Johnson, and Donald Wilson

Club Officers:

President: Carl J. Holst	Vice President: Henry Halvorsen
Secretary: Robert C. Livingston	Treasurer: James E. Perr
Immediate Past President: Roger J. Anderson	
Directors: John E. Lillibridge and Donald Wilson	

MEN'S GARDEN CLUB TOUR, TUESDAY, AUGUST 14TH

- LADIES' NIGHT -

(Other guests more than welcome, also)

MEET AT MARLIN GILHOUSE'S 6738 - 15th Av. S. 5:45 P.M.

We will have dinner and view the gardens of Marlin and of Darwin Price across the street and then visit by bus the gardens of Dick Lange, Vern Carlson and Jim Bezat. This will be an opportunity to become acquainted with the fine gardens of some of our new members from the former Richfield club as well as to revisit Vern's always interesting garden.

TOTAL COST, DeLaria Dinner plus Tour, \$2.50 (A half buck less than last year)  
Tables will be furnished. Bring your own chairs, the ladies won't want to ruin the clothes by sitting on the grass.

\* \* \* \*

FRAGRANCE GARDEN MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

August 3-4-5 Sherm Pinkham, Norm Stewart	August 31, September 1-2 Open
August 10-11-12 Nate Segal	September 7-8-9 Roger Anderson
August 17-18-19 Open	September 14-15-16 Rollie Anderson
August 24-25-26 Ed Culbert, Dwight Stone	September 21-22-23 Open

Approach ecology as a science. Become a thoroughly grounded plant physiologist first. Study the soils, and the climate effects on plants, as they cluster, as they stand.

## THE JULY TOUR

It would have been hard to find a more delightful spot than Les Johnson's place to assemble for our July tour. Members came early and while waiting for food had ample time to leisurely examine Les' lilies, annuals and some of the border perennials mentioned in his current series of GARDEN SPRAY articles. I finally learned that a plant I have long admired and seldom see is baptisia. Les had two big specimens. Most of the fellows figured as I did--It was easier to sit on steps and grass than to bring tables and chairs.

The bus then took us to Al Nelson's and Jerry Olson's homes. Al has been spending a lot of time at New Prague helping a nephew but his plantings were in good shape. A heavy layer of dry, brown, leaf mulch covering practically every inch of space between plants discouraged weeds. Tomatoes interplanted with cabbage was the "something new before" item for me.

Jerry's place was a rosarian's paradise and a riot of bloom. Miniature roses, miniature tree roses, tree roses, roses with canes eight feet tall and an inch thick. You name it; he had it growing in raised beds of deep rich composted soil. "How does he find room (and time) to bury them each year?" was echoed over and over.

Our Fragrance Garden looked better than expected despite the fact that the sprinkler heads had been stolen and some areas were aching for want of water. The nicotiana looked best to me. Four-o'clocks were coming along strong and the cleome and marigold combination was superb.

Carl Holst likes fresh from the vine tomatoes with outdoor meals. He has tomatoes planted along the edge of his patio. When seated at the picnic bench one need only reach back to pick them. The plantings on side and front of his house, spic and span like Carl, showed his training and skill. The background of yew, dogwood, and other shrubs highlighted by the curved foreground row of fibrous begonias presented a picture worthy of a magazine cover.

Clif Brisco likes matricaria and achillea. So does Dorothy for the garden was full of them. (Mine would be too, if I had my way.) They were stand-outs. But that wasn't all. There were huge pansies, fine lilies, well grown vegetables, hollyhocks, and rich black soil showing around everything. Where does he grow his weeds?

The bus brought us last to Charley Proctor's garden. The shades of night were falling fast but not so fast that we couldn't see that part of his garden was a shade garden. The odor of lilies hung heavy on the air. A high bush cranberry loaded with berries promised a lot of tasty jelly later this fall. (Wonder what he does about the skunk odor they give off during cooking.) We found Charley in the vegetable patch hidden behind the garage, the area of maximum sunlight. The beets, cabbage, carrots and other vegetables were obviously his pride and joy.

Barbara, my wife, can hardly wait for the August Ladies' Night Tour after hearing at July.

### BACKWARD, TURN BACKWARD, OH TIME....

"TO CLEAR VEGETABLES OF INSECTS.--Make a strong brine of one pound and half of salt to one gallon of water; into this place the vegetable (with the stalk ends uppermost) for two or three hours; this will destroy all the insects which cluster in the leaves and they will fall out, and sink to the bottom of the water."

--GODEY'S LADY'S BOOK AND MAGAZINE. NOVEMBER, 1864

THE 49ERS -- BOB BRYANT  
by Don Wilson

When you call someone up, and they don't answer the phone right away--it's a good sign. They are out in the backyard where they should be, working in the garden. My call to Bob Bryant found him out pulling weeds, and his wife transplanting.

"Let me catch my breath, first," he said. He admits to at least three score years and 10.

It seems that Bob came to Minneapolis in 1921 and got a place on Highway 101 in 1933. Since then he has been selling blooms of orchids and dahlias to florists. He is a past president of the Minnesota Orchid Society and a past president of the Minnesota Dahlia Society, and is a lifetime member. He belongs to the National Orchid Society and the British Orchid Society.

"I'm never going to retire," he said vehemently. He has done a lot of flower judging in the past, and he said that recently he judged a show at Minnetonka and was glad to be read in the paper that he was a "tough judge."

"You've got to keep up the standards," he said. Bob has worked with orchids for 40 years. He and his wife have worked with flower arranging and displays at the State Fair and are great exhibitors. He thinks the best thing about MGCM is the people.

He keeps busy. "A lot of my friends are moving to apartments or condominiums where someone else does the work. I'd die if I couldn't putter around in a garden."

GARDEN CLIPPINGS

These are the days that we dreamed about last winter. We planned our garden, made our orders and drew our plans. Now we can see the results. Take time to just sit and enjoy the beauty that you have helped to create, even if it means postponing weeding or clipping. Also take time to enjoy other gardens.

The Minneapolis Men's Garden Club did just that in July. It was a very pleasant evening and we had a good dinner in Les Johnson's yard. His well planned and well groomed garden was delightful. Jerry Olson always has outstanding roses and they were a mass of beautiful bloom. Albert Nelson has roses, annuals, and vegetables and they are all doing very well.

Our next tour is the second Tuesday in August. That evening we entertain our wives and girl friends for dinner and a bus tour. Celia and I expect to be in Europe at that time. We hope to see some interesting gardens and we plan to visit the International Floral Display at Hambourg, Germany.

I hope all members are thinking about our fall flower show. It will be held at Pear Park on September 8 and 9. Dale Durst, Ronnie Twite and I are making the plans. A flyer and show schedule will be sent to every member and we hope every member will plan to exhibit. We haven't had a show for two years and we have the biggest membership ever. So, let's all get behind it and we will have a fine show.

--Carl J. Ho

---

WE WELCOME new member Robert T. Haley 14505 17th Ave. N. Mpls. 55441  
Mr. Haley, sponsored by Paul Lindstedt, is a former Minnegasco executive now retired. He is landscaping a new home where his wife, Kay, is developing a Shakespearean herb garden.

## WORTH SEEING

Editor's Note: Carl Holst gave me for publication the following letter from Virginia Rahja, Director of the Gardens, at the School of the Associated Arts, St. Paul. The gardens are eminently worth visiting. Ms. Rahja tells me no advance clearance is needed for individuals wishing to visit on their own.

"We wish to invite you and the members of your garden club to visit the Associated Arts gardens at 344 Summit Avenue (St. Paul). The gardens constitute the campus of the School of the Associated Arts and are unusual for an educational institution in that they consist of many beautifully terraced gardens in both formal and natural styles of landscaping.

"Perched high on the bluff overlooking the Mississippi River Valley, the gardens offer an outstanding view of the surrounding territory. The present gardens were started approximately ten years ago and are planned to be interesting and colorful throughout the year, starting in April when many thousands of bulbs and tubers, well as apple and other flowering trees are in bloom. The various levels in the terraced gardens provide secluded outdoor studios, while the fountains, grottoes and cloister walks add interest to the pleasant atmosphere.

"While the original gardens had been started fifty years ago, they had been neglected for many years before being replanned and developed by the Associated Arts.

"Perhaps some of your members visited us briefly during the (state) convention. They might like to return to browse more leisurely. The gardens are open to groups during school hours, 9:00 to 4:00, Monday through Friday. If you are interested, give us a call at 224-3416 so we'll know when to expect you.

"We hope to have the pleasure of meeting you some time during the summer."

## DRIFT FROM THE SPRAYER

It may seem a bit late to comment but did you see that beautiful full page picture of Carl Holst in the Lake Harriet Rose Garden which appeared on the front page of the *Minneapolis Midweek Sun* for June 7? A 5 x 7 portrait with a write up appeared on page 22 of the same issue.

News of Bob Smith's expertise as a vegetable grower is spreading. Hal Nelson, editor of *The GARDENER*, in his July-August editorial column invites questions and says, "We ask our experts such as Larry Groves and Bob Smith to provide the answers".

If you haven't already done so, read Harold J. Parnham's article page 103 in the July-August issue of *The GARDENER* to get yourself better acquainted with MGCA's national office.

Dave Goddard had a severe heart attack July 18 and was taken to Mercy Hospital, Coon Rapids. As of June 25 he was out of intensive care.

Because of the careful preplanning, the North Suburban Men's Garden Club was able to hold its scheduled July 21 flower show and tour at Avon Acres despite Dave's illness.

Don't give up on those weeds and let them take over. They compete with your plants for water, nutrients, light and air, and in addition, provide an excellent home for insects and diseases. As a very general rule, complete control of weeds for one year reduces the number for eight years. Each year billions of seeds mix with the soil. Some germinate the first year; others may remain in the soil for years.

## PERENNIALS FOR THE BORDER, PART 2

by Les Johnson

DICENTRA spectabile--the old fashioned Bleeding Heart is a nice early blooming plant that is very attractive in the spring. However, after blooming, the foliage disappears leaving a void that needs to be overplanted with an annual to hide the bare spot; but the Plumy dicentra, Eximia, is a very satisfactory plant that blooms early but also continues to bloom all summer. This plant grows about 10 to 12" tall and makes an attractive mound of lacy green foliage all season.

Do you have a difficult spot--under trees--too much shade--poor soil--for which you could use a ground cover? Try LAMIUM--grows about 10" tall--nice variegated foliage, pink or white flowers in May and June. Foliage stays bright and attractive all season. It spreads by underground stolons but is shallow rooted and can be controlled without too much trouble.

An old fashioned perennial that you used to see in many home gardens, but that seems to have been neglected lately--probably because it was too common or spread too rapidly, is RANUNCULUS, or Buttercup. It grows about 24" tall with very pretty double yellow flowers in June and July. While it spreads quickly it is easily kept in control.

PYRETHRUM--Painted daisy. Now usually listed in seed catalogs as Chrysanthemum coccineum--is a very easy plant to grow from seed. It has lovely daisy like flowers in June and July, white, pink through to rich crimson. Perfectly hardy and free from pests. The 2 ft. plants make a fine show in the border.

LYCHNIS.--There are several varieties of Lychnis that are deserving of a place in the border. Lychnis chalconica (Maltese Cross) is best known. Its rich crimson red flowers brighten the border for weeks if spent flowers are kept picked. Lychnis arvensis has larger flowers of a somewhat lighter color. Lychnis haageana grows about 15" and has orange red to crimson flowers. All these are easy from seed. Lychnis viscaria splendens flora pleno is the loveliest of all. It grows about 10" tall and covers itself with bright red double flowers in June. It is not as hardy as the others and requires winter protection, as it tends to be evergreen like Coral Bells.

PLATYCODON grandiflora. Long lived and lovely. (Balloon Flower) Once established, blooms from June until frost. Flowers are blue, white or pink. Very easy from seed. Often will bloom the first year if seeded early and conditions please it.

CHEIRANTHUS (Wallflower) with very fragrant bright orange flowers is free blooming many weeks. It is not long lived but will flower from July to November from seed sown in February or March.

ANTHEMIS Kelwayii (Golden Marguerite) 24" has very frilly, lacy, airy foliage and large 2" deep yellow flowers over a long season. Will often bloom the first year if sown early. A fine cut flower too.

ASCLEPIAS tuberosa. (Butterfly Weed) Has showy umbels of brilliant orange flowers. 2 ft. plants. It thrives in a hot sunny location. It is very attractive to butterflies. It needs slightly acid soil to do well.

ACONITUM (Monkshood) is a very attractive and interesting plant. A. fischeri grows about 5 ft. with dark blue, hooded or helmeted flowers. The roots of the Aconites are very poisonous and should never be placed in the mouth. It would be better not to plant them too close to the vegetable garden.

---

Plants and trees require a regular period of "sleep" like humans. Without regular p

WE'VE      RECENTLY THAT

Meat tenderizer,  $\frac{1}{4}$  teaspoon dissolved in 2 teaspoons of water, is an effective treatment of insect stings. It contains an enzyme that attacks the venom, breaking it into harmless components and stops the itch or pain in minutes. An M.D. friend tells me it is the major medication he has used in recent years during his annual two week unteer stint at a summer camp in Wisconsin.

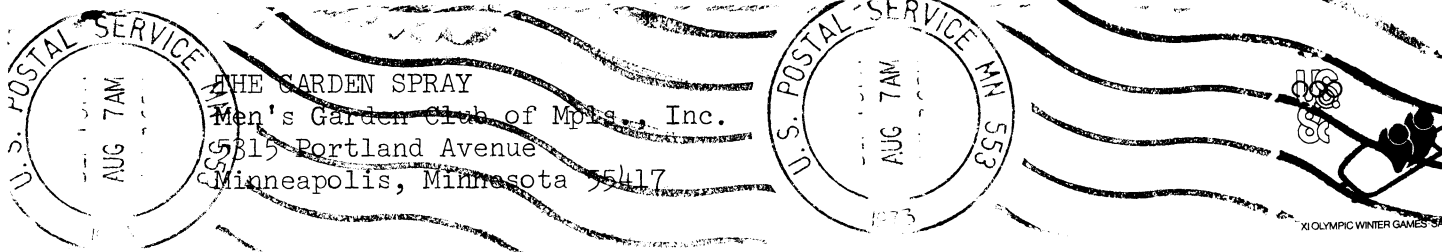
If you want a real treat, go out early in the morning, take about a dozen pumpkin blossoms, cut the stems out of the blossoms, dip them in an egg and milk mixture and fry them. They are delicious. Day lily buds are said to be a similar delicacy.

Elderberry leaves can be used as an insect repellent. A switch of any branch of shrub or tree works better for me.

The National Wildlife Federation has a new 20 page book, a summary of the most available pesticides along with a summary of the insects each helps to control. It also contains the safest way to apply pesticides and methods for disposal of unwanted pesticide containers. Copies of the book are available from Nat'l Wildlife Federation 1412 - 16th St. N.W., Washington, D. C.

In Singapore private firms are encouraged to plant trees and sponsor gardens at street intersections and on highway dividers. Trees are jealously guarded. Even if he wants to cut down a tree in his own yard, a person must get government permission.

Plants that adapt well to bottle gardening include geranium, hibiscus, coleus, alyssum, ivy, aglaonema and grape ivy. These plants are well suited because many of them have an embryonic root system at each point where a leaf originates. These preformed roots develop rapidly when placed in water.



FIRST CLASS MAIL

**William H. Hull  
6833 Creston Road  
Edina, MN 55435**