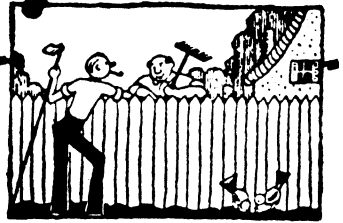




# The Garden Spray

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



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

August 1975, Volume 33, Number 8

## AUGUST MEETING and GARDEN TOUR - LADIES' NIGHT

Tuesday, August 12, 1975: Cost \$3.50

MEET, 5:45 P.M., at Mount Olivet Church parking lot, 50th Street and Log Avenue, South, for bus to the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum (and, maybe, to see some gardens en route?). Dinner will be served in the dining room at the Educational Center by the Arboretum and Horticultural Research Center catering service.

In addition to members' gardens we will have time to view the perennial borders and the conifer collection at the arboretum so round up your par and call your caller at once. This will be a high spot for the summer; hence, we must know who is coming so there will be a place for everyone.

### AUGUST MINI TOURS

An opportunity to enjoy a casual visit to each other's gardens and, possibly, the opportunity to visit with the gardener in the midst of his creation. Each garden offers an opportunity for learning and enjoyment. This month's Mini Tours include several gardens from the North Suburban Club. We have shared our list of open gardens with them so may have the pleasure of their company. Here are the places to go listed by weekend and general area. Addresses which can be found in the Roster are omitted.

#### AUGUST 9-10 SOUTH area:

Sherm Pinkham, general; Otto Nelson, breathtaking terraces; Vern Carlson horticulturist extraordinaire; Nate Siegel, a little beauty, maximizing utilization of space.

#### AUGUST 9-10 NORTH area:

Dick Hulbert, unique design; Jim Perrin, in construction - interesting in evening; and two North Suburban members with variety gardens; Jim Klандe 3125 Kentucky Ave. No., and Lloyd Wernecke 8171 Patsey Lane in Golden Valley.

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### NORTH STAR REGION MGC 1975 FLOWER and VEGETABLE SHOW August 16th and 17th at the arboretum

This show is sponsored by our Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis so we want a fine showing from our members. Attached to this issue of the GARDEN SPRAY you will find complete details as supplied by Darwin Price. Dr. Snyder says there will be no entry or parking fee when you come with you

## THE JULY TOUR

Old timers, look to your laurels! The newcomers' gardens seen in July were par excellence.

First, Norman Stewart's garden hidden and invisible from the street. Huge delphiniums like trees standing against a solid background of arbor vitae. Clumps of lilies white, pink, and yellow. Huge leaved strawberry plants serving as border atop the split limestone terrace wall. For accent a cart of geraniums in the corner. And, mustn't forget the roses, especially that white floribunda; nor the gorgeous snapdragons.

Next, Fred Glasoe's under the huge oaks and offering glimpses of nearby Diamond Lake. One border of geraniums; another, of the rose, Nearly Wild. Lilies in more variety and color than even at Norm Stewart's. A compost corner behind an oak; ferns and a shade garden under it. A tree loaded with apples. Dahlias staked with iron reinforcing rods. Plus, an orchid house.

Then, Clarence Knoblauch's. More ferns. Superb perennial sweet peas. Bloom laden tree roses everywhere in compost like Jerry Olson's. Buckets of petunias--the whites very eye-catching as was also the basket of vining geraniums. A pear tree, fruit looking good enough to eat already. Vigorous tomato plants here and there. And, a seldom seen flowering cabbage.

Finally, the MGCM Community Garden the petunias a blaze of glory greeting the eyes as we rounded the corner. The background shrubs are now tall enough and thick enough to screen the house on the south. My, the petunias and annual phlox smelled good! Bob Livingston has been rounding up folks for garden maintenance we hear. Want to volunteer? Call him--or just amble down on your own and pull a few weeds from time to time.

## JUNE 1975 WEATHER SUMMARY

(For those who file weather records with their garden notes.)

June was a warm, wet month. Temperatures for the month averaged 2 degrees above normal. It was cool the first 18 days with highs in the 60s and low 70s, and lows in the 40s and 50s; the rest of the month averaged much above normal. Highs for this latter period were in the mid and upper 80s with a 90 on the 28th. Lows were in the 60s and low 70s.

Precipitation for the month was 7.99 inches, a little more than double the normal of 3.94 inches. Measurable rain fell on 15 days - the greatest amount 2.58 inches on the 11th.

There were 3 clear, 7 partly cloudy and 20 cloudy days.  
(Data for this summary from records compiled by the National Weather Service.)

WANT SPRING FLOWERING BULBS? Charles Proctor will be sending an order for tulips and other spring bulbs to Dutch Gardens later this month (August). They will be delivered in late September or early October in proper planting time. If you are interested in ordering contact Charley.

Otto Nelson was awarded an honorary life membership in the Minnesota State Horticultural Society at the convention in Winona. Carl Holst accepted in his behalf.

THE GARDEN SPRAY, August 1975, Volume 33, Number 8  
Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc., Minneapolis, Minnesota  
Edwin C. Culbert, editor, 5315 Portland Avenue, Minneapolis, Minn. 5541  
Editorial Staff: Leslie W. Johnson, Robert E. Smith, and Donald Wilson  
Deadline for material the 15th of each month.

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#### THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Our thanks to tour director, Dick Hulbert, for arranging a most interesting July tour. Enjoying dinner in the company of Norman Stewart's spectacular delphiniums was an ideal way to start the tour. Visiting Fred Glas left me very envious of his varied garden and energy conserving green house. Clarence Knoblauch's garden was remarkable--such a profusion of bloom on an immaculate city lot. Our own club's colorful garden respond tremendously to the care of Carl Holst, Vern Carlson, Paul Lindstedt and all of their volunteer helpers.

The Fragrance Garden is maturing into a delightful small oasis in a blighted neighborhood. Some of its plantings and design now need an evaluation I've asked Nate Siegel to head a committee to develop a plan to bring so improvement to the site. Lastly, we always need assistance in the maintenance of the garden. Why not call Vern or Carl and donate a few hours to the project?

In August we can look forward to our "Ladies' Night" tour on the 12th. Also, our flower show scheduled for August 16-17th is a very important event. In the last few years our show has suffered from a lack of participants and, generally, a shortage of spectators. With the show scheduled at the arboretum it would seem we are assured of better attendance. So it's up to all of us to improve our participation. We can do this in two ways:

1. Each one exhibit at least a few specimens from his garden. The more exhibitors we have the more successful the show should be.
2. Plan to visit the show. It's a great time to visit with other club members. In addition you may spot some plant you would like to see in your own garden.

The MGCA convention on September 26-30 is fast approaching. If you are attending and plan to stay for the entire program consider being a club delegate. We are entitled to six delegates and the club will contribute a modest sum to offset some of your expenses. Please contact me soon if you are interested.

-- Bob Livingstone

#### CHANGE OF ADDRESS and PHONE

Robert H. Campbell, 3121 Keewaydin Place, Mpls. 55417 Tel. 722-0313

#### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

(Clip and paste in your roster.)

Frank E. Brown 869-5082 R. T. LeFrois 920-5460  
6825 Garfield Ave. S., 55423 4224 Linden Hills Blvd., 55410

Thomas Kelly 827-2425 Walter Schmidt 588-3460

## PREMATURE DEVELOPMENT OF SEED STALKS (BOLTING)

by L. W. Corbett

There is very little recent research on this subject. Dr. H. C. Thompson work on celery during the late teens and early twenties is most helpful. He used the same lot of seed and started his plants in the greenhouse. Seed planted early developed more seed stalks than seed planted at later dates at monthly intervals. Plants transferred to cold frames developed more seed stalks than plants held in the greenhouse.

In 1923 I worked on the truck farm of R. H. Garrahan. We grew celery seed to sell to others. What we called "basic stock" seed we produced from celery plants selected in the fall harvest. For commercial seed we started plants in the greenhouse in December or January and transferred the flats to the cold frames as soon as practical. These plants would go to seed nearly 100 percent.

In our research at Northrup King & Company we were working in reverse. We wanted beets, carrots and other biennials that would be non-bolting. Seedling flats were started and then exposed to long daylight and temperatures of 40° F. for about 60 days. All plants that showed seed stalk development were discarded and only non-bolters were saved. We found a great difference in varieties. Some varieties bolted 100 percent. e.g. Scarlet Nantes carrot bolts more than Red Cored Chantenay carrot.

There are many beliefs held by growers as to what causes premature bolting. Some are: too rich soil; too poor soil; sudden checks of growth; crowding, etc. We now know for sure that freezing or heat above 80° F. will actually inhibit stalk development. Not all plants react the same to a given set of conditions. Some species react much faster than others. Varieties react differently within a specie group. The evidence points to early planting with exposure to long periods of lower than 60 degrees. Dr. Nyland of the U. of Minn. states that two weeks of exposure to temperatures below 55° F. will cause seed stalk formation.

Larger, vigorous growing plants are more subject to bolting than are weaker, stunted plants. The focal point of change is the crown or growing point. We do not know the true effects of length of daylight or of fertilizers. Research indicates more trouble with early planting and with exposure to relatively long periods of low temperatures but not actual freezing. The age of plants, soil fertility, and speed of growth are undoubtedly contributing factors to the premature development of seed stalks in biennials and some annuals.

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Chet Groger writes, "Did you ever divide an oxalis? I did and received surprise. It yielded about a dozen smaller bulbs, each with from 2 to 6 long-stemmed leaves. The parent bulb had about 16 leaves. They divided beautifully but, the next morning, all leaves were flat. I thought I had committed a murder. They remained flat and gradually shriveled and died. As the leaves died, I trimmed them off, leaving just a dormant bulb. However, in about 3 weeks, new growth appeared and they resumed normal production of leaves. In about another month, every plant was healthy and uniform with about a dozen leaves and about 4" high. This is the first plant I have encountered that dies back when transplanted. It would be interesting to know what other plants react this way. This happened to be *Oxalis Braziliensis*, a tender indoor plant."

FLOWER SHOW TIPS  
by Marlin Gilhousen

As flower show time approaches, most of us are busy trying to anticipate which flowers will be ready and which ones will have just finished or not quite started to bloom. It is funny how everything seems to be just past its prime or not quite far enough along on show day. What we have to do is consider what we actually have and do the right things to it so that we can bring home the ribbons. Did you ever walk through a show and wonder why one flower won a ribbon and another similar one did not? Take a real good look next time and you will probably see why. Listed below are some of the things you might do to enhance your chances of winning.

Blooms should be picked in the cool of the day, either the evening before or early in the morning on the day of the show. It is also a good idea to give the plant a good soaking the day before picking. This will help produce good substance in both the bloom and the leaf and stem structure. Take a container of luke warm water with you into the garden. Cut as low a stem as you can without damaging the plant, remove the lower leaves and place the stem in water immediately. Condition in a cool dark spot.

The exhibit should be free from mechanical injury, insect damage, spray residue and dirt. An old shaving brush, small paint brush or wad of cotton is handy for removing any foreign matter from plant leaves or blooms.

Select blooms that are true to type and strive for uniformity in size, shape and color. If the schedule calls for more than one bloom, they should be as much alike in length of stem, size, color and maturity as possible. The perfect exhibit is one where all blooms are exactly the same. It is much better to have smaller size of bloom and all the same than to have two large blooms and one small one. Also, be sure that all blooms are of the same variety.

When placing the bloom or blooms in the bottle, remove all foliage below the neck of the bottle and leave enough stem above the bottle. Judge the length of stem you should have by the size of the bloom and its natural growing habits. Waxed paper or aluminum foil are very good to wrap the stems so that the specimen will stand up straight in the bottle.

Spike type blooms should have as many florets open as possible without the bottom ones being overmature or wilted. If there are wilted florets they should be removed. In snapdragons watch for skips (missing florets and clubby stalks). Round headed blooms should be open (matured) enough so that the outer petals begin to turn down, but do not show discoloring.

If that special bloom comes along too early it may be saved for some time in the refrigerator. Store in plastic bags without water. Pick a day before normal show stage except glads and lilies which should be cut at full development. Mums and carnations are the best keepers, but snaps, zinnias, marigolds, cosmos and many others can be kept for up to a week or more.

Now let's get out in the garden and bring everything we can find. Let's make this one of the best shows ever. It is up to you, the specimens are out there.

## DRIFT FROM THE SPRAYER

Bob Bryant in his article on orchids in the GARDEN SPRAY for August 1974 referred to the meristem method of propagation. This method of test tube plant propagation which, we read, has developed increasingly over the last decade consists of excising tiny bits of plant tissue, growing and subdividing them in moving nutrient solutions, until finally the multiplied structures are rested and allowed to form new plants. Orchids were among the first plants commercially increased by this technique, but recently workers have found ways to apply it to lilies, gladiolus, geraniums (Pelargoniums), petunias, begonias, asparagus, dianthus, and chrysanthemums. Researchers in several universities are culturing tissues from flower organs such as anthers and petals to observe genetic changes in the resulting plants. By manipulating chromosome numbers, they hope to speed up breeding programs. One interesting thing we were told at Cornell University last summer was that in the case of a vary-colored flower such as a red and white petunia a tissue cutting from the red part produces only plants with red flowers, a cutting from the white part only plants with white flowers.

While we are thinking flower show an article by Uncle Dan Blazey in GREEN FINGERS, the Toledo Ohio MGC bulletin, seems a timely supplement to Marl Gilhousen's article page 5 of this issue.

### HOW TO CARE FOR CUT FLOWERS

1. Cut in the cool of the evening or the very first thing in the morning.
2. Use a sharp knife for a clean cut. Second choice sharp scissors.
3. If possible use a bucket with cool water in it, as soon as you cut your flowers put them in water. If you can't do this, cut your flowers, take inside and recut your stems about three inches, then put them in water. You can even split the stem ends a little.
4. Let stand for several hours or over night before arranging.
5. When transferring them to the vase, make a fresh slanting cut at the base of the stem, remove foliage which will be below the water level of the vase to prevent decomposition.
6. If flowers are not placed in water soon enough and they wilt, revive them by cutting the stems under water with sharp scissors so the water, not air, enters the cut end; warm water enters faster than cool.
7. Arrange in vases with about a third of the stem in cool water. Do not pack tightly at the neck of the vase.
8. Never place cut flowers in a draft, in the sun, or near heat. They will give off more moisture than they can take up through the stems and will wilt.

P.S. There are flowers that can take more abuse than others. So watch for them.

Good advice from F. A. C. McCulla in the YARDNER (Houston Texas MGC)--  
"Don't be too perfect in maintaining your garden. Allow some time for

MEN'S GARDEN CLUBS  
NORTH STAR REGION  
1975 FLOWER AND VEGETABLE SHOW  
SATURDAY AUGUST 16 AND SUNDAY AUGUST 17

Rules for Exhibitors

1. Exhibits may be entered and registered at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum Chaska, from 8:00 A.M. to 10:30 A.M., Saturday August 16. Judging will begin at 10:30 A.M.
2. Each club participating in the show will select one of its members as its representative.
3. No one will be permitted in the exhibition room during the judging except members of the judging committee and the representative of each club.
4. No exhibits may be removed until after 4:30 P.M. Sunday August 17, except by permission of the club representatives.
5. Identification of each competing entry will be by official registration tag upon which the name of the exhibitor will be concealed until after the judging.
6. Each exhibitor will be required to fill out a registration and scoring sheet to be delivered to the clerk in charge.
7. Exhibitors are not limited in the number of entries they may make in each class. Exhibitors may make more than one entry in each class provided that each entry is of a different variety and the name of the variety is specified on the entry tag as in Dahlias, Glads, Roses, etc. When varieties exist (unnamed) in color only, the color must be specified on the entry tag and an entry may be made in each color, as in Tuberous Begonias, Pansy, Phlox, Zinnias, etc. Additional class numbers will be assigned by the staging committee at the exhibit table as needed. In Miscellaneous Classes new numbers may be assigned if three or more entries of a species have been made and two or more are meritorious.
8. Judging will be strictly on the merits of the entry and more than one plant may be awarded to an exhibitor in a class provided that Rule 7 is complied with.
9. Awards will be made on the merits of the entries and if in any class there are no entries worthy of awards the judges may withhold any or all awards.
10. Section A entries will be exhibited in containers available at the Landscape Arboretum, or at the homes of Dale Durst, 6108 Oaklawn Ave., and Darwin Price, 6739 15th Ave. So. Container size is specified in the schedule.
11. Permanent awards will be made to the winner of the greatest number of points based on 3 for first, 2 for second, and 1 for third in Section A. A Sweepstakes Award will be made to the winner of the greatest number of points in Section B on the above basis. A Grand Champion Award will be made for each of the best exhibits in Sections A and B. The Blackburn Award will be made to the member of Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis attaining the greatest number of points in Section A and the Tom Foley Memorial Award will be made to the member attaining the greatest number of points in Section B.

## RULES FOR EXHIBITORS

12. Court of Honor Awards will be made to ten particularly meritorious exhibits, eight in Section A and two in Section B.
13. National Awards will be made to the particularly meritorious petun and tomato exhibits.
14. All exhibits must have been grown by the exhibitors.
15. The show will be open Saturday, August 16 from 2:30 P.M. to 4:30 P and Sunday, August 17 from 11:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Everything inc containers and personal property must be removed between 4:30 P.M. 5:30 P.M.

### IMPORTANT - READ CAREFULLY

1. Make a thorough study of both the "Schedule of Entries" and the "R for Exhibitors", particularly Rule 7.
2. The Registration and Scoring Sheet is your personal registration b Very important.
3. On the upper right corner of the Registration and Scoring Sheet ap your personal Exhibitor's Number which will be entered by the Regis Clerk. Print your name and the name of your club plainly undernea this number.
4. Indicate the number of actual entries in the "Check Entry" columns Class Number as per "Schedule of Entries".
5. File this sheet, when fully completed, with the Registration Clerk you enter your exhibits.
6. On each entry tag used print your personal "Exhibitor's Number" an name and the Class Number. Conceal your name by folding the tag a clipping under cutout.
7. When known print the name of the variety of specimen on the entry .
8. After your entries have been listed file the Registration Sheet wi Registration Clerk not later than 10:30 A.M. Saturday August 16. cooperation by not coming in right at the deadline will be greatly appreciated.

To make this the best possible show bring all kinds and colors of flow you possibly can spare and enter them under the Class Number shown on "Schedule of Entries". Your attention is again called to Rule 7. Pri judging the staging committee will subdivide classes where large numbe entered. Example: Class 2, Aster, could end up 2A Aster, red; 2B Ast white; 2C Aster, blue; 2D Aster, pink.

"GOOD LUCK "



MEN'S GARDEN CLUBS  
NORTH STAR REGION  
1975 FLOWER AND VEGETABLE SHOW

SCHEDULE OF ENTRIES  
SECTION A

CLASS NUMBER			
1	African Daisy	3 blooms	41 Pansy-not Viola* 3 blooms
2	Aster	3 blooms	42 Passion Vine 1 branch
3	Balsam	1 stalk	(Branch not over 36")
4	Begonia-Tuber-Rose*	1 Bloom	(Exhibitor to provide support)
5	Begonia-Tuber-Carnation*	1 bloom	43 Petunia- double multi-flora 1 branch
6	Begonia-Tuber-Others* (4,5,6, no leaves)	1 bloom	44 Petunia-double grandiflora 1 branch
7	Begonia-Fibrous	1 branch	45 Petunia-single, multi-flora 1 branch
8	Calliopsis*	5 blooms	46 Petunia-single, grandiflora 1 branch
9	Canna	1 spike	47 Phlox-Annual* 3 branches
10	Celosia-Plumed	1 stalk	48 Phlox-Perennial* 1 spike
11	Celosia-Crested	1 stalk	49 Rose-Hybrid Tea* 1 bloom
12	Chrysanthemum	1 spray	(Red, pink, or pink blend)
13	Chrysanthemum-Spoon or Quill	1 spray	50 Rose-Hybrid Tea* 1 bloom
14	Chrysanthemum-Exposition	1 bloom	(White, yellow, or cream)
15	Clematis (Branch not over 36") (Exhibitor to provide support)	1 branch	51 Rose-Floribunda-Poly-anthus* 1 spike
16	Cleome	1 stalk	52 Rose-Grandiflora* 1 spike
17	Coleus-foliage	1 stalk	53 Rose-Miniature* 1 stem
18	Coreopsis*	5 blooms	54 Rudbeckia-Gloriosa Daisy 3 blooms
19	Cosmos*	5 blooms	55 Salpiglossis 3 stems
20	Dahlia-A	1 bloom	56 Salvia-Annual 3 stalks
21	Dahlia-B	1 bloom	57 Salvia-Perennial 3 blooms
22	Dahlia-any other	3 blooms	58 Shasta Daisy* 3 blooms
23	Dahlia-Unwin Colt	3 blooms	59 Snapdragon 3 spikes
24	Delphinium	1 spike	60 Verbena* 3 branches
25	Dianthus-Pinks*	5 blooms	61 Veronica 3 stalks
26	Carnation-Garden*	3 blooms	62 Zinnia-Large Dahlia 3 blooms
27	Digitalis	1 stem	63 Zinnia-Cactus 3 blooms
28	Gaillardia*	3 blooms	64 Zinnia-any other 3 blooms
29	Gladiolus-400-500	1 spike	65 Miscellaneous Annual not listed elsewhere
30	Gladiolus-300	1 spike	66 Miscellaneous Perennial not listed elsewhere
31	Gladiolus-100-200	1 spike	67 Begonia-Fibrous Potted
32	Heliopsis*	3 blooms	68 Begonia-Tuberous Potted
33	Hibiscus (Furnish own container)	1 bloom	69 Begonia- Hanging Basket
34	Heuchera-Coral Bells*	3 stems	70 Caladium Potted
35	Sweet Pea*	5 stems	71 Chrysanthemum Potted
36	Liatris	1 stem	72 Fuchsia Potted
37	Lily	1 stalk	73 Geranium Potted
38	Lythryum*	3 stems	74 African Violet Potted
39	Marigold-2½" over	3 blooms	75 Miscellaneous Plants Potted
40	Marigold-under 2½"	3 blooms	

\* Denotes specimen to be shown in pint container.

SCHEDULE OF ENTRIES  
SECTION B

CLASS NUMBER	
101 Beans	8
102 Beets-table	5
103 Cabbage	1 head
104 Carrots	3
105 Corn-sweet	3 ears
106 Cucumber	3
107 Eggplant	1
108 Cantaloupe	1
109 Onion	3
110 Parsnips	3
111 Pepper-sweet green	3
112 Pepper-any other	3
113 Potato	5
114 Pumpkin	1
115 Squash	1
116 Tomato-red	3
117 Tomato-yellow	3
118 Watermelon	1
119 Any not listed	
120 Collections-more than 3 labeled specimens	
121 Apples	3
122 Grapes	2 bunches
123 Plums	6
124 Raspberries	$\frac{1}{2}$ pint
125 Strawberries	$\frac{1}{2}$ pint
126 Any not listed	
127 Collections-more than 3 labeled specimens	