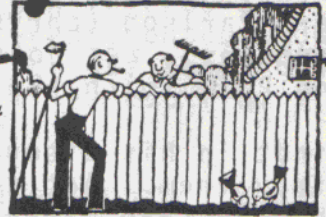




The Garden Spray

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



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

ANNUAL CONVENTION REPORT ISSUE

August 1977, Volume 35, Number 8

FARIBAULT-NORTHFIELD TOUR -- FOR WIVES, FAMILIES, FRIENDS -- SUNDAY AUGUST
(By Reservation Only. Use Form at Bottom of Page.)

MEET AT MOUNT OLIVET CHURCH PARKING LOT (50th St. and Knox Av. S.)

AT 1:20 P.M. Buses will leave at 1:30.

For complete details read THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I must admit to all of you that it made me very happy to stand at the garden gate and welcome the garden club gang as they poured out of the big buses into the back yard. Everyone was full of smiles and overflowing compliments which made me feel that the effort was really worth it. It seemed that the entire tour had an aura of good feeling. The sun stayed away to keep things cool and the lovely, carefully tended yards were such a pleasure to behold. There was such an array of gardening ideas that we came away with new possibilities for creating our own back yard scenes of beauty.

I quote our rose grower, Ted LeBoutillier, who came up to me and said, "Fred, this group has impressed me so much that I would like to join the club." All I can say is "Welcome! I'm often impressed by our great members also." Thanks to all of the growers, the bus arrangers, the food arrangers, and our wonderful group of over 120 tour participants, many of whom pitched right in where help was needed. Another thank you goes to everyone because the actual turn-out matched the reservation count.

There was so much enthusiasm when I made the announcement about the August 14 trip to Faribault that some of the members had their money out and were ready to start right after the ribs and apple pie. I hope the enthusiasm remains so that we have a good turnout for the long-awaited trip to the Koopman's Garden. All who have seen it claim that it has to be one of the very best in the state. We also plan to visit the mum garden and greenhouse, Dick Lehman's, and the St. Mary's and Shattuck School grounds.

(Continued on page 4)

RESERVATION(S) FOR MGCM TOUR SUNDAY AUGUST 14

(Return this form with your check, payable to MGCM, to Fred Glasoe,
618 E. 58th St., Mpls., 55417 by Friday August 5.)

I plan to attend. Reserve _____ places for me. (\$9.00 each.)

Check for \$ _____ enclosed.

JUNE MEETING A PRELIMINARY TO FLOWER SHOW

Program chairman Dick Hulbert cited the objective of the meeting to be "to encourage as many members as possible to get into the exhibit business" before introducing speaker Gus Sindt. Sindt was backed up by MGCM members Vern Carlson (chrysanthemums), Fred Glasoe (dahlias), Henry Halvorson (peonies), Les Johnson (lilies), Chuck King (annuals), Jerry Olson (roses) and Phil Smith (delphiniums).

Sindt in his discussion stated, "You must follow the rules of the show. Study them. Act accordingly." He noted that some varieties are better for showing than others which may be better for garden display. His advice re preparation of items for show was:

- .Keep plants free from insects and disease prior to exhibition.
- .The latest time to cut is the night before the show.
- .Cut, clean, wrap (not in plastic) and put in refrigerator.
- .At the show leave space for others to work.
- .Cut the stem in proportion to the size of the flower.
- .Leave leaves on if they are attached to the stem. Generally there should be at least one set of leaves before the flowers. Make sure the leaves are perfect.
- .If several specimens are called for all should be the same size, shape, color and stage of maturity.
- .In setting up try to overcome any deficiencies of the specimen. Prop it up to show off best. "The rules don't say the stem must reach the bottom of the bottle."

The panel added the following to Sindt's list:

- .The show starts when the first seed catalog comes out. Get on as many catalog lists as you can. Get your order in early to get a good early start.
- .Come early with your specimens. The worst thing you can do is to come among the very last.
- .A little make-up artistry helps exhibition flowers as well as women. Present the specimen in the container so it "hits the eye".
- .Re roses: Be sure to give plenty of water the week before the show.... Don't dust or spray that week....Pick early in the morning. Put in the refrigerator, temperature 34^o-35^o, in a plastic bag. Take fruit out first for the ethylene gas given off by fruit will hasten the development of the flower.
- .Judge against others in the show, not against perfection.

Summarizing: The objectives of the show are:

- (1) Education--so label properly;
- (2) Promotion of pride in produce grown in the neighborhood;
- (3) To inspire to improve. "Even if you don't bring home a ribbon, you're a winner because you have learned something."

The dues reminder for the Houston, Texas, MGC adds, "The only extra charge is a dime for not wearing a flower at your monthly meetings. Refreshment every meeting. New trowels for the new members. The Plant Exchange is always interesting, for 50 cents you get refreshments and a pick from the vast collection of plants, you get some real bargains. For all of this you really get to be with the finest fellows you ever knew, just plain gardeners. Think about it and mail your check today. We will take cash

CONVENTION REPORT
by Sherm Pinkham

The National Convention of the Men's Garden Clubs held at Raleigh, N. C. was a success. It brought together people from all parts of the country who have a common interest and who enjoy meeting old garden friends and making new ones. Clubs throughout the country were well represented. One man came from a point north of Seattle. Total registration was about 600. The headquarters was The Royal Villa Motel, about seven miles out from downtown Raleigh. It is principally a convention center.

Business and entertainment were mixed throughout the convention. I will try to give you some of the highlights. Detailed information will appear in the next issue of The Gardener. Ed Culbert will also have writeups in this issue of the SPRAY.

First as to business. The cost of operations is the key factor in any enterprise. Our organization is no exception. The cost of materials, printing of THE GARDENER, postage, etc., have all increased. National dues will have to be increased a nominal amount in order to keep us on a sound basis. Some of the well-to-do clubs subsidize part of the National dues. Individual clubs have to determine whether they want to do that.

The usual workshops were held. I attended one on vegetables which was very good. There were various choices such as Plants in Containers, Plant Propagation, Insecticides and How to Use Them, Fungicides, Herbicides, etc.

Much of my time was spent at meetings of The Endowment and Investment Committee. From a small start two years ago the assets of this Committee are over \$37,000 and gaining monthly. Funds come from Life Memberships, Memorials, Bequests and Gifts. In 1970 there was one Life Member. Today there are 285. By the way, the cost of a Life Membership in National will remain at \$100. This Committee has a great potential. If it had been organized 40 years ago, the income therefrom would go a long way toward supporting our National organization and could probably cut dues in half and double our membership.

All officers were advanced one notch and a new 3rd V.P. was elected. Jef Collier of Jacksonville, N. C. won over Dean McCoy of St. Louis by 9 votes. Both are good men.

The next convention will be held July 23-26, 1978 at Akron, Ohio. Several of the top clubs are in that vicinity and they will cooperate. Akron is centrally located and should attract a large crowd. Miami will be the host city in 1979. A Directors' meeting will be held in Austin, Texas this November.

Interesting excerpts from Executive Secretary Lyman Duncan's report included:

1. In 1977 there were 507 new subscribers to THE GARDENER.
2. There are 63 Spade Club members, men who have brought in at least two new members.
3. Plant sales are held by 83% of the clubs, with average income of \$504.
4. One-third of the clubs sponsor Youth Gardening Education.
5. Seven clubs participate in "Gardening from the Heart", working with handicapped youngsters. This is gaining and has fine National leaders

(continued over)

6. Seventy percent of the clubs participate in some type of community planting.
7. Sixty-five percent have Flower and Garden shows.

Several fine gardens were visited on tour. Past President Jim Cooper has probably the finest collection of daylilies in the country. They were at their peak. Jim is a bachelor and he is a great guy to have on our side.

The ladies were well entertained. Their highlight was a tour of the Governor's Mansion, said to be the finest in the U. S.

The food poisoning thing has been pretty well publicized through National T.V. and radio. A fine buffet luncheon was held at Meredith College for Girls, with about 500 in attendance. At about 4 PM people began getting sick and by six close to 200 were taken to hospitals. Most were released by 10 PM. Mrs. Pinkham was the only one in the Minnesota group that was affected. She ate the chicken salad and I did not. It has been definitely determined that was the cause. The chicken had not been properly cooled before being used in the salad. The affair was well managed by local gard members, motel employees, police, Red Cross, ambulances, and hospital peop

The South lived up to its reputation for hospitality. The spirit of friendliness was outstanding. One of their members said that he had such a good time at the Minneapolis convention that he would swear that there were some Southerners transplanted up here. For example, Mr. and Mrs. O. D. Fleming picked us up and drove us around Raleigh for two hours, then took us to lunch and to the bus depot. Mrs. Groger take note--Mrs. Fleming is a National Judge of African violets. We went by bus to Williamsburg for two days, then to Norfolk and flew home. It was a week well spent. I urge you all to plan to go to Akron in 1978.

(PRESIDENT continued)

We will leave Faribault and drive through the Nearstrand Woods State Park and through the valley to the little village of Dennison, past the farm of Representative Al Quie and into Northfield, Minnesota, "the city of cows, colleges, and contentment", as the sign reads. We will drive through the Carleton College Arboretum and visit the new Japanese Garden on the campus.

We reboard the bus to cross the Cannon River via the same bridge used by Jesse James and drive up to Manitou Heights, the home of St. Olaf College. We will drive through that campus of "castles and gardens" before enjoying the famous cuisine for which the King's Dining Room is so well known. We will have time to digest the day and the food during the bus trip back to Minneapolis and the Mount Olivet parking lot. All of this sounds good to me. How about it, fellows?

The most important thing is getting your money and reservations in as fast as you are able (or faster). We cannot afford a half full bus, so if we do not receive enough reservations to fill a third one, we will have to limit the number going on the trip. I will number the reservations I receive as I get them, and we will use the "first come, first served" method. We surely should be able to fill two buses. These will be air-conditioned and comfortable, and I hope we will have to order a third. Let's all get to the mailbox fast for those low reservation numbers.

Isn't it hot these days? Whew! I hope it cools off for August. The blooms come and go so fast one hardly gets to view the results of his garden work. I do go out every night and sit back by the fountain and take in as much as I can, knowing that it all lasts such a short time and that fall and raking are just around the corner. Yes, boys, enjoy it while it lasts, and plan to be with us for the August 14 tour. Don't forget to start participating in the Flower and Vegetable Show. Participatin

THEY WERE READY FOR US

by Ed Culbert

We never knew an MGCA convention could be looked upon as a disaster--a Legion convention maybe--a Shrine convention, maybe. But an MGCA convention? Never! Yet there it was in big black letters, DISASTER PLAN GETS REAL TEST. And, the lengthy text of the article went on to prove it.

"The dozen ambulances and city buses that pulled under the concrete portico of the Royal Villa Motel Thursday to whisk 132 sick conventioners to four area hospitals didn't arrive there by chance. They were part of a well-rehearsed and complex disaster plan developed by the Wake Emergency Preparedness office...."

"Within minutes after the plan was put into effect....ambulances from the Cary, Garner, Wendell, Six Forks Road, Clayton, and Furquay Road rescue squads, the Raleigh Fire Department Rescue Squad, the Wake Emergency Medical Service....doctors and nurses and swarms of policemen descended on the motel....(Even so) doctors unfamiliar with the plan (unnecessarily) sent some patients to N. C. Memorial Hospital in Chapel Hill and Durham County General Hospital in Durham...."

"Rescue workers went door-to-door at the 312 room motel to rouse guests who they feared might not be able to get help". (They missed us so we missed all the excitement. Our room was in the farthest corner of the fourth (top) floor of the rear wing. The elevator to that section operated so slowly that walking up and down stairs was far quicker than waiting.)

"Then a triage team, designed to give a quick evaluation of each person's condition and decide what treatment was needed was set up in the motel's mock-Spanish lobby. The most severely afflicted persons and the oldest were sent to hospitals first. Then the ones left were divided into groups of persons expected to get better without attention and those who needed only minor first aid."

"Doctors and a team of nurses, technicians and secretaries....moved the third group to the Royal Villa's Mexican Atmosfair Room. There 16 stretchers provided by the EMS, bag of intravenous fluids, packets of anti-nausea medicine turned the lounge into an on-the-spot emergency room...."

"Wake Medical Center....hospital authorities summoned 50 off-duty employees to swell the hospital's regular night-time staff to 300. Other employees were pulled off their regular duties and sent to the emergency room. Others were sent to join the Royal Villa triage team...."

"At Rex Hospital....ten nurses and four doctors were summoned to beef up the regular staff. Hospital employees swept stretchers, extra blankets and supplies into the emergency room and lined the halls with chairs from the hospital cafeteria...."

"Available beds at Dorothea Dix Hospital and Wake's five suburban hospitals weren't used. Neither was a list of private contractors and city Utility Department workers who can be called if persons need to be removed from wreckage in a major disaster."

Well, it was a relief to learn we weren't considered a major disaster!

There is no general purpose herbicide. Know the type of weed you wish to control.

Get ready for the Flower and Vegetable Show.

RALEIGH GARDENS VISITED

Daylilies here, daylilies there, daylilies everywhere. If you want to see masses of daylilies--both new and old--from all parts of the country, visit Jim Cooper's four level city garden. The hybridizers represented are a Who's Who in the hemerocallis world.

While the daylilies are the focal point of Jim's garden, there are many other intriguing and interesting horticultural specimens: the purple smoke tree, the redwood tree, the cork-screw willow, the two river birches. In the back of the house is Jim's wildflower garden.

Throughout the garden, the daylilies are accented by lovely borders and lirioppe, ferns, hostas, and wildflowers. Hydrangeas, both the blue variety and the oak leaf variety, add beauty to the back part of the garden. There is even an old stump covered by a creeping variegated euonymous.

Eighteen years ago this site was barren with just red clay and rocks--no trees, shrubs or plants.

Innovative and attractive best describes the work Joe and Vena Hendricks have done in their city-lot garden just a short walk from Jim Cooper's. The first sight to greet you is the plantings on either side of the drive around their mailbox. The black mailbox with a circular bed of daylilies and red and white begonias really says "Welcome".

In front of the Hendricks' brick and white home, a bed of begonias, rocks sedums, sempervivums, lirioppe and other sun plants sparkles along a flagstone walk.

As you turn the corner of the house, you see a split-rail fence bordering the Hendricks' prize spot--their wildflower garden. Solomon seal, trout lilies, twin-leaf ginger, variegated ginger, birds foot violets and nine kinds of fern are all here.

The Hendricks' daylily collection is small but increasing yearly. You find them on the second-level in the back in neat, narrow beds. Fine companion plants complement the daylilies, especially the hosta and lirioppe. A corkscrew willow adds interest.

Dr. Frank Poole's garden is predominately a spring garden with azaleas, RHODODENDRONS, camellias and spring flowering trees, but it is also a quiet spot to enjoy at any time. The winding brick paths and the little stream welcome you to explore the garden. You find many interesting plants growing along these paths. In the side yard is a cutting garden and vegetable all extremely well grown. If you have the time Frank will show you his greenhouse which he built himself.

The WRAL TV garden is a big commercial type garden located on a large plot of ground just behind the TV station. Mr. A. J. Fletcher purchased a nursery to get the plants to fill this garden.

We also passed Pullen Park and saw part of the 10,000 daylilies planted there.

Many of our activities adversely affect the well-being of plants. It is a perverse paradox that we damage plant life most where we need it most, around our burgeoning population centers.

INSECTIVOROUS PLANTS OF THE N. C. BOTANICAL GARDEN
(From the talk by J. Kenneth Moore, Superintendent)

North Carolina's insectivorous plants are plants especially adapted for capturing insects by means of ingenious pitfalls and traps, and then subjecting them to the decomposing action of digestive enzymes, bacteria, or both. They can also manufacture food from the raw materials of sunlight, water and carbon dioxide. Since these plants usually live in nitrogen poor soil, it is assumed that their insectivorous habit had evolved in response to this condition.

To capture their prey these plants exhibit 3 different trap styles. The most familiar is the active trap, typified by the Venus Fly Trap and the Bladderwort. Another mode is the semi-active trap which uses movement of gland stalks or leaf margins as a supplement to the adhesive secretion that captures the insect. Sundews and Butterworts are in this category. The passive traps are characterized by trumpet and pitcher plants which rely entirely on ingenious design to capture prey.

Active Trap--Most exciting is the Venus Fly Trap. The spiked, joined leaf capture insects in their traps and utilize these insect nutrients. When two of the trigger hairs are brushed the trap closes very rapidly on the victim. Once trapped, the insect succumbs to digestive juices produced on the inner surface of the leaf trap. These juices can dissolve all but the exoskeleton in one to two weeks. Then the trap opens and the remains fall out or are blown away. Any one leaf will capture and digest no more than 2 to 3 times before dying.

Passive Trap--Pitcher Plants. Insects are attracted to the mouth of the pitcher by a trail of nectar secreting glands. In Sarracenia purpurea, the lip is provided with stiff downward pointing hairs. Insects attempting to gather nectar here are forced to walk in the direction the hairs are pointing, toward the trap. Just below the lip, in the steepest part of the throat, is a highly polished area without hairs. Like a greased slide, this zone sends the insect tumbling into the water below, which has a ready wetting agent so that insects quickly become submerged and drown.

S. rubra, S. flava, S. minor have evolved to prevent rainwater from accumulating in the modified leaf by providing it with a hood. Insects attracted to these plants find it easy to enter, but a combination of the steeply narrowing leaf walls and confusion in re-discovering the entrance prevent their escape and the insect finally drops to the bottom from exhaustion and is decomposed by bacteria and enzymatic action. The end products are absorbed by the leaves and the indigestible exoskeleton of the insects accumulates at the bottom until the leaf dies.

Ants, beetles, flies and especially moths are the most likely to fall prey to the pitcher plants' clever passive traps.

Sundews typify the semi-active mode of entrapment. The surface of the modified leaf is covered with two kinds of glands. The leaf margin is ringed with longer stalked glands used primarily in capturing prey. In the center of the leaf are shorter stalked or sessile glands whose function is to adhere insects and digest their soft body parts. These stalked and sessile glands are reddish in color and secrete a glistening sticky drop which attracts insects. When a bug is stuck to one of these glands its struggling stimulates other glands to bend in toward the prey and press it to the leaf surface. Gnats, mosquitoes and small flies are typical prey.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR. SATURDAY and SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 10 and 11.

These are the dates for the MGCM Annual Flower and Vegetable Show at the Arboretum. We expect and hope every member will become a real exhibitor. President Glasoe wrote in the May issue of the SPRAY, "Garden show time can be a highlight of the year for each member if he will become a part of the event by contributing. One flower or one vegetable, no matter how small will get you started. Try it! You'll like it!"

Enter specimens in show competition 8:30 - 11:00 Saturday. Show your Arboretum membership card or let the gateman know you are a MGCM member for free admission. Our regular monthly meeting will be held at the Arboretum at 1 PM that same Saturday.

--Walter Schmidt

NEW MEMBERS

(Clip and paste in your roster.)

Jim Bullock 870-8154
230 Oak Grove Street 55403

John Mondati 825-7718
3049 Hennepin Av. 55408

D. L. Hart 926-6731
6001 Drew Av. S. 55410

William F. Proetz 935-5772
21 Homedale Rd. Hopkins 55343

Harold H. Witter 869-5107
6932-3rd Av. S. 55423 469-2102

- 8 -

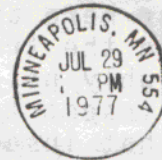
Return to
THE GARDEN SPRAY of MGCM, INC.
Edwin C. Culbert, Editor
5315 Portland Avenue
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55417

* * * * *

MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.

CLUB OFFICERS:

President: FRED GLASOE
618 E. 58 St., Mpls., 55417
Vice President: RICHARD HULBERT
3422 Xerxes Avenue N., Mpls. 55412
Secretary: JAMES E. MIELKE
Rt. 5, Box 228, Excelsior, 55331
Treasurer: ROBERT GAGE
16145 Hillcrest La., Eden Prairie, 55343
Past President: DR. LEON C. SNYDER
Rt. 1, Box 573E, Excelsior, 55331
Director: CHARLES H. ROBBINS
7112 Park Ave., Mpls., 55423
Director: RICHARD G. VICTOR
4358 Metcalf Dr., Eagan, 55122



FIRST CLASS

To

William H. Hull
6833 Creston Road
Edina, MN 55435