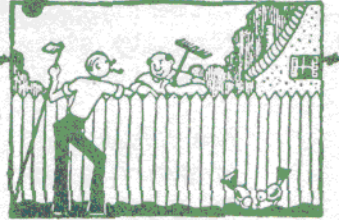




# The Garden Spray

BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS



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

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c Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Minnesota

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Ed Culbert, asst. editor. Charlie Proctor and Phil Smith, associates.

Club Officers:    President - Phil Smith            Vice Pres. - Dave Johnson  
                          Secretary - Roger Anderson    Treasurer - Vern Roufs  
                          Directors - Clif Brisco and Manly Jackson  
                          North Star Region Delegates - Verner Carlson, Dale Durst

## FEBRUARY 10 MEETING

Chairman Dave Johnson is pleased to inform you of a great evening with four of our members who are going to talk about their own gardens. The exact subjects are a little hush-hush because these fellows are so very versatile they can't pinpoint the subjects yet. But you know with Vern Carlson, Floyd Ashley, Vinton Bouslough and Les Johnson all set to go, it will be an excellent and varied program. We know that Les will show his slide lecture on hardy Minnesota perennials. So come out, fellows.

We'll see you at the Mount Olivet Lutheran church at 6 PM, on Tuesday February 10. The usual \$2.00. Come greet these 14 Green Thumbers:



Read in this issue: 1970 Plans - committees, Special Interest groups.  
New Civic Garden Project planned by the Board.  
News of MGCA's Annual Business Meeting in St. Louis.  
Vic Lowrie's Greenhouse Experiences.  
Minnesota Natural Beauty Council formed.  
A Special Quiz: A Horticultural Romance.

## OVER THE GARDEN GATE

by Bill Hull

It is now official. Andrew A. Duncan, horticultural professor at Oregon State University in Corvallis, has been named head of the Department of Horticulture, University of Minnesota, replacing our own Dr. Leon Snyder, who has served in that capacity since 1953 and who has been named director of the University's Landscape Arboretum. We will be carrying more on Leon's plans in a future issue.

President Phil Smith announces a CIVIC GARDEN PROJECT. The board of the club has approved a new project directed toward beautification of one of the many freeway entrance areas around the city, most of which are in great need of some relief from the concrete and steel motif. There is a possibility we might get approval for a location near the Lyndale-Franklin avenue area, said Phil recently. "We're thinking of a fragrance garden which will have a multiple appeal. We hope to have a specific proposal at our next meeting. Come prepared to express your interest. Nate Siegel will be chairman this project."

A friend says old gardeners are a great help around his children's home. He helps out, for example, by taking the baby's nap for him.

The Men's Garden Clubs of America Big Pumpkin Contest will be going strong again this year--for the seventh year. Last year was a difficult one due to pumpkin seed crop failure, but clubs and regions are asked to help make this successful again this year. There has never been an MGCA project which has involved more people or benefitted more youth, with thousands a year participating all over the country. Men like Dale Durst have done a lot with this in our region.

JUDGING HANDBOOK. MGCA's Official Judging Handbook has been proclaimed the top handbook in the western hemisphere. This fact will soon be published in a national garden journal which made the study independently of our group.

As a past president of MGCA, I recently attended the annual business meeting in St. Louis, Missouri and I'd like to report on this to the club. Perhaps the office can give me a few minutes very soon to update the members on some events which occurred and which you should know about. The Business Affairs committee of MGCA says "Things are now running smoothly and we should be happy about it." Retiring President Earl Cook says, "We have a group of business men in Des Moines--a banker, a businessman, accountant, etc., who are working closely with the acting executive secretary."

Fellows like Dwight Stone and others of us who worked hard on our MGCA Minneapolis Convention will be pleased to know that the MGCA CONVENTION MANUAL has now been dated and is of value to conventions. We felt it was not of much value to us at the time of our 1967 convention. The AWARDS committee is also issuing a new booklet to help local clubs know what awards are available for their use.

Anybody planning to be near Williamsburg in March? Attend the 24th Annual Williamsburg Garden Symposium, March 15-20. Sponsored by the American Horticultural Society. Write: Mrs. Trudy S. Schalk, Box C, Williamsburg, Va. 23185.

It sure takes concentration for a man to look a woman in the eye, in these days of bikinis, mini-skirts and low-cut gowns.

## BUGS FOR 'THE GARDEN SPRAY'

by Phil Smith

Your new officers for 1970 have been now sworn in (at). It is hoped that we can live up to the good job done by Past-Pres. Nate. Thanks sincerely, Nate, for your past year of service to the club.

Had Vern Carlson been able to attend our January meeting, he would have received the formal presentment of two nice trophies for his flower show work during 1969. Vern won both the Blackburn Sweepstakes Trophy, as well as the Foley Cup for Queen of Show.

There were many favorable comments on Larry Corbett's talk on Hybridizing and Modern Trends in Horticulture. Although most hybridizers are searching for new varieties having desired characteristics (such as color, shape, maturity date, ease of handling or shipping, etc.), Larry also noted that someone is always looking for new novelty type introductions which have a new marketing appeal. Many such plants are found as sports or mutants of older varieties, so you had better keep your eye open for that different looking plant that may pop up in your own backyard. Seriously, I once had a carrot that was a much darker (almost reddish) color than any carrot I have ever seen. Also, a couple years ago, one of my snapdragon seedlings displayed a definite tendency to vine. Of course, I threw it into the compost. Maybe I missed a real chance to select a new vining snapdragon which would have been great for window boxes. Sounds almost like a climbing strawberry story, doesn't it?

The short talks last month by members Art Johnson, Harold Papermaster and Jim Perrin were most interesting. If you missed the meeting, Art told of his plans for laying out his flower border for this year and Dr. Papermaster entertained us with his story of a new greenhouse and the medical equipment which he has inventively employed to automate some of the greenhouse chores. Sounds like he needs a patent attorney. Jim Perrin mentioned some of the unusual plant containers which he has devised and told of his efforts in obtaining and locating them.

We welcome new professional member Mervin Eisel of the Landscape Arboretum staff. Merv was approved for membership at the January Board meeting and we hope we will all profit from his association with our club. As most of you probably know, Merv has some tremendous collections of lilies and hostas (see last month's SPRAY).

We also acknowledge the election of Carl Holst as a new Director of the club. Carl will replace Manly Jackson who found it necessary to resign. Carl is the first Professional Member to serve as a club officer and we certainly appreciate his willingness to give his leadership to this important office. Carl has served as President of the Rose Society, as well as the Minnesota State Horticulture Society, and works as City Horticulturist for the Minneapolis Park Board.

## OFFICIAL REPORTS FOR YEAR 1969

... have been filed with the secretary. As editor, we have the embarrassing problem of deciding whether to include them all or not. Since so many, if not all of the items, have been repeated in THE GARDEN SPRAY we are assuming you will not object if we try to hit a few high spots and save perhaps three or four pages of space.

Twelve new members joined us this year: Kenneth A. Burger, Norman E. Johnson, J. Robert Kelley, John E. Lillibridge, Paul W. Lindstedt, Dr. Ralph Papermaster, George W. Smith, Harry Sava, John Stuhlfeier, Bruce Warner, Thomas E. Warth and Robert E. Willow, plus D. R. Gage who starts as of January 1, 1970. We welcome these men again.

The secretary, Ed Culbert, also prepared a most interesting report of meeting attendance from 1959 through 1969--eleven years. Average attendance at meetings during the first half of this span ran from 55 to 58. There were then four years when members' attendance at the December meeting was not recorded and now, in the past two years, the attendance has been 48 and 50, average monthly attendance. Hence we are down.

The editor does not have a Treasurer's report.

The past president has expressed thanks for fond memories and appreciation of your great help. See the last SPRAY.

### SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS BEING ESTABLISHED

Al Nelson, general chairman, says: "Each of us may have a greater interest in some special phase of gardening--annuals, perennials, dahlias, shrubs, etc. Some years ago the special interest groups were formed to supply an opportunity for more detailed study of these specialties than is suitable for the membership in general. Although the Men's Garden Clubs of America also has special interest groups in each of the categories we study, Al correctly and carefully points out that "the usual growing instructions are seldom entirely satisfactory for best results in our area. It is hoped that our groups will work with other groups over the nation in an exchange of ideas.

Al says that meeting dates and places are set by agreement among the members of each group, and that one is not limited to just one group. The groups that have been formed and the chairmen are:

Delphiniums	- P. W. Young
Gardening Under Lights	- Otto Nelson
Perennials	- Bruce Warner
Roses	- Fred Holzman
Vegetables	- Charles Proctor

Other groups that could be organized if there is sufficient interest to make it worthwhile (at least four members) could be: annuals, photography, patio, dahlias, soils and fertilizers.

Al solicits your assistance and asks you to contact him by telephone or see him at the meeting.

## WE ARE THE POLLUTERS

by Bill Hull

"We citizens must realize that we are the polluters. Over 62 percent of all air pollution is caused by autos. Over 40 percent of all water pollution is caused by municipalities. It's not the other guy. It's us. We need a total commitment by all segments of society to act effectively and responsibly to eliminate pollution."

So said Lawrence F. Koll, Special Assistant to the Governor of Minnesota at the annual meeting of the Minnesota Natural Beauty Council (formerly, Keep Minnesota Clean and Scenic, Inc.).

This group, of which I am one of 36 Directors, includes representatives of conservation units, state government, garden and youth groups, with industry contributing seven of the 36 directors. One of the purposes of the Council is to attempt to coordinate/inform the activities of many separate groups.

Bob Naegele, Jr., Naegele Outdoor Advertising, is the 1970 president of the Minnesota Natural Beauty Council. Naegele spoke on bringing the pollution problem down to the individual and how it affects him personally. He spoke of building a home on Lake Minnetonka and how he has seen the Lake Minnetonka Conservation District formed and the work it is doing. (The LMCD involves 15 communities in the Lake Minnetonka Watershed District.) And he emphasized how this is an example of how we are great crises fighters, such an activity as the LMCD of necessity needing involvement of all the people concerned to be successful.

Naegele said that we are all trained polluters today--most of us as adults. He stated that when a child sees us throw paper from an auto, for example, we have now trained that child to the same slovenly habit and that we have created an entire new generation of polluters, a child being fairly well "formed" by the time he is seven.

"The short term goals," said Naegele, are the things that you and I as individual can accomplish. We must not lose the individual, his interest, his support. The long term solution takes money, professional minds, and the chemists, the bio-chemists, the hydrologists, etc., will show us the way but in the meantime, the individual will lose interest and we all lose ground--unless we can keep him participating in the short term goals. It is good that we are crises fighters."

I'll try to keep you informed on other developments from time to time.

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Are you cognizant of the activities of any organization involved in anti-pollution (pure water, clean air, industrial and human waste disposal), conservation, or beautification? If so, will you give your editor a call? Let's hear about these groups. What is going on?

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## A HORTICULTURAL ROMANCE

Blank spaces are to be filled in with the names of trees and flowers. Remember that "sap" isn't a tree....but is not applicable to this story. Two points off for anyone that answers "sap." One point for each correct answer and one point off for mistakes.

This romance began on a hike one day. It is true that he had met her once before down at the \_\_\_\_\_, where he was a life saver, but they had not been formally introduced until the day of the hike. Her name was \_\_\_\_\_ Budd, while his name was \_\_\_\_\_ Wood.

She was very \_\_\_\_\_ with all the boys. In fact, \_\_\_\_\_ of them hung around her home. Her \_\_\_\_\_ was afraid she would wed some ne'er-do-well. He wanted her to \_\_\_\_\_ so that she could have all of the comforts and luxuries she wanted. She had always said, however, that anyone was \_\_\_\_\_ crazy who married for anything but love.

\_\_\_\_\_ Wood thought that she was a \_\_\_\_\_ and he fell in love with her at first sight. The hike gave him an opportunity to tell her about it. "\_\_\_\_\_ are a real \_\_\_\_\_ beauty. \_\_\_\_\_ are the \_\_\_\_\_ of my eye." Thereupon he \_\_\_\_\_ to marry him.

She loved him but she pretended to doubt his faithfulness. "What \_\_\_\_\_ slipper did I see in your possession the other day?" she queried. "Oh, that belonged to my brother, \_\_\_\_\_ William. It was his wife's" he replied earnestly. "Oh, \_\_\_\_\_ me or I'll have a \_\_\_\_\_." It is near to breaking now. If you only knew how I \_\_\_\_\_ for you."

Just then her little brother, Johnny, fell down. He continued to lie where he had fallen and sure did \_\_\_\_\_. His big sis called to him. "\_\_\_\_\_, you're not hurt." "Oh, Sis," he yelled back at her, "How can you \_\_\_\_\_ that?"

\_\_\_\_\_ Wood resumed his courting, falling back on a little French that he had learned in his four years at college. "Mon \_\_\_\_\_, je t'aime." As that was all the French he could remember, he fell back on English. "Let me press your \_\_\_\_\_ to mine." Johnny thought he was a big \_\_\_\_\_ but she thought he was wonderful. "You're a dream," she said, as she cuddled in his arms. "We will be married at \_\_\_\_\_ tomorrow."

So \_\_\_\_\_ performed the ceremony, and all of their days were blessed with \_\_\_\_\_.

(We don't know the author or source, but would like to credit our good friends at the Sioux Valley Men's Garden Club for this little beauty, which was a part of the program at that club's annual meeting this January.)

1970 COMMITTEES  
MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS

TELEPHONE COMMITTEE - Purpose: To phone all the members of the club regarding meeting attendance or upon special occasions as authorized by the President.  
Chrmn: ART JOHNSON.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Purpose: To make nominations for the club's officers and directors for the following year and to fill any vacancies during the current year.  
Chrmn: LES JOHNSON. Members: C. Proctor, J. Peterson, Nate Siegel, and Bob Smith.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE - Purpose: To plan and arrange for programs for meetings and to determine or judge the desires of members concerning program topics.  
Chrmn: DAVE JOHNSON. Members: Les Johnson, A. Flack, Cliff Briscoe, P. Smith.

PAST PRES. ADVISORY COMMITTEE: To periodically review the long range objectives and goals of the club; to determine the desires of the members and past presidents of the club about the foregoing, and to represent and make recommendations to the Board whenever the committee believes the same to be desirable.  
Members: LES JOHNSON, A. FLACK.

MEMBERSHIP APPROVAL COMMITTEE - Purpose: To visit the gardens or homes of men who have applied for membership and determine his interest in gardening and desirability as a member prior to making a recommendation to the Board for membership approval.  
Chrmn: VERN CARLSON.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE - Purpose: To develop means for attracting good new members as vacancies become available and to prepare guidelines for membership qualification to be followed by the Membership Approval Committee and the Board in approving applicants for membership.  
Members: Past-Pres. Advisory Committee and the Board of the Club.

THE GARDEN SPRAY - Purpose: To publish the monthly bulletin of the club.  
Editor: BILL HULL. Assistant Editor: ED CULBERT.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS - Purpose: To determine the interests of members in various genera, gardening specialties or topics; to encourage the development and organization of special interest groups; and to obtain a chairman or leader for each such group.  
General Chrmn: AL NELSON.

CHRISTMAS PARTY COMMITTEE - Purpose: To plan and make all arrangements for the club's annual Christmas party, in consultation with the Board of the Club.  
Chrmn: DWIGHT STONE.

CHEER OR CONCERN COMMITTEE - Purpose: To keep in touch with members who are hospitalized or ill; to seek information from other club members concerning such members; and to inform the club concerning their progress.  
Chrmn: BILL SWANSON.

LEHMAN TROPHY JUDGES COMMITTEE - Purpose: To determine any revisions in the rules for competition; to publicize and record entries for the award; to handle the actual judging; and to make the award.

Members: A. FLACK and LES JOHNSON.

CIVIC BEAUTIFICATION AWARDS COMMITTEE - Purpose: To determine rules for competition for an award(s) to be given to business, industrial or civic organization for landscaping projects of extraordinary merit; to organize the development and promotion of entries; to arrange for the judging of the entries; and to publicize the entry procedures and awards to winners so as to gain publicity for the club as well as the entrants.

Chrmn: To be appointed.

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE - Purpose: To develop and promote an atmosphere and opportunities for fellowship among all club members and at all club functions and to develop means for insuring that new members and old members become acquainted and are active in club activities.

Chrmn: DWIGHT STONE.

TOURS COMMITTEE - Purpose: To determine means for selection of the gardens to be toured during our summer meetings; to select and visit ahead of time the garden to be toured; and to make arrangements for bus transportation and other special requirements for our tour meetings.

Chrmn: BERT ZATS.

FLOWER SHOW COMMITTEE - Purpose: To plan, supervise and make arrangements for club's flower show activities for the year.

Chrmn: DALE DURST.

NORTH STAR REGION DELEGATES - Purpose: To represent our club in regional activities or planning with other area clubs.

Delegates: NATE SIEGEL, OTTO NELSON.

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE - Purpose: To publicize club meetings, activities and projects and to work with other committees in writing and obtaining publicity which may be desired.

Chrmn: HENRY HALVORSON.

HIGHWAY BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT COMMITTEE - Purpose: To plan, develop and organize a highway beautification project to be undertaken by our club at a location(s) to be chosen in cooperation with the State Highway Department.

Chrmn: NATE SIEGEL.



## WINTRY DAYS BRING GREENHOUSE THOUGHTS

by Vic Lowrie

As an owner of a very small one (8' x 12'), I must say it's a great idea. There is nothing in gardening quite like pattering around with growing plants in a nice warm greenhouse, while everything that grows out-of-doors in this climate, is frozen dormant.

To walk into a greenhouse in the middle of winter, when the ground is covered with umpteen feet of snow, to smell plants growing and inhale the fragrance of those blooming, is really a thrill; besides you can get so much enjoyment and usually with so much less work than is needed outdoors because of your limited growing area.

But before you go too far with those cheering greenhouse thoughts, you had better ponder over what you want to grow in it and what is involved in building and operating.

If you want a greenhouse to extend the blooming period of your outdoor plants by bringing them into the house before the first killing frost; or to grow annuals in the house from seed to provide blooms all winter long; or to get a jump on spring by having seedlings of your favorite plants ready to pop into the cold frame in late April or early May, then your problem is a fairly simple one since if you are frozen out or even baked through you haven't a seriously expensive replacement problem.

Should you on the other hand have in mind growing tropical plants such as orchids, camellias, bougainvillea, bromeliads and the like, now you had better provide constant warmth, good ventilation and rather high humidity which means almost daily care, unless you have automatic controls built into your greenhouse to provide those necessities. A freeze-out in this case could prove to be costly.

There are a number of other things you must consider before you come to the conclusion that you simply have to have a greenhouse to play in next winter!

Problem 1 - a prerequisite: who is going to attend to the greenhouse during your absence--your wife, members of your family, your neighbors, who? Are you sure you and your family are willing to give up a winter vacation? Unless you can find someone who will be willing and able to take charge or have all the automatic devices installed to do the job for you, you had better give up the thought.

Problem 2 - what kind of a greenhouse do you want: a lean-to or a free-standing house? A lean-to has its limitations as to light and sometimes size, but it is usually less expensive to build.

Problem 3 - where can you locate a lean-to for good light with a desirable access from the house? The ideal location would be one facing southeast, although mine faces northeast and everything seems to do quite well. Access from the house to the greenhouse should be where you will not be tramping mud and water throughout your home. A porch or garage entrance would seem most desirable.

Problem 4 - can water, electricity and heat be made readily available? With a lean-to water and electricity usually present no problems, but more so with a detached house where water lines would need to be layed below the frost level and heating becomes a more important factor.

Providing heat, does present more serious problems. Rarely can one tap the heat from the house furnace unless the lean-to is small and located close to the furnace. Even then an auxiliary oil or gas range type heater will be needed during the below zero weather.

Ordinarily a separate heating unit in either type greenhouse is most desirable (hot water preferred) since you can then, by means of a thermostat, control the heat at the desired temperature regardless of the severity of the weather outdoors.

The larger the greenhouse the more difficult the heating problem, although even in a small one, like mine, you can get frozen out, should a power failure be unduly prolonged. As mentioned earlier, if what you are growing is difficult to replace or excessively expensive, then you had better get yourself an auxiliary heater--one that automatically comes on when the temperature of the greenhouse falls below 40 to 50 degrees. If you are heating your home with gas, your heating problems are few and the cost of heating is comparatively low. I'm sure mine does not average more than five dollars a month the year around.

In building a lean-to consider providing two doors--one leading into the home, the other to the outdoors where you can carry in soil and plants without aggravating your wife to distraction.

Sand, as a base for your floor, is also highly desirable since it can be watered down and provide the necessary humidity. Here again, if you are growing tropicals requiring constant humidity, there are a number of inexpensive humidifiers on the market that automatically control the desired level.

Automatic ventilation is also desirable and not too expensive. All plants tropical or otherwise like fresh air, particularly during hot days when there is danger of them baking. Even on cold days, some fresh air, if only supplied for a few minutes, will add strength to your plants.

Keep in mind that whatever you want to grow will determine the heat to be maintained in the greenhouse. Most plants you grow in your garden (non-tropicals) will do well and bloom in temperatures on the cool side between 45 and 55 degrees this would include, plus some tropicals:

Carnations	Nasturtium	Also such tropicals as:
Chrysanthemums	Pansy	Cattelya
Gladiolus	Primula	Cymbidium
Larkspur	Ranuncula	Cypripedium (plain leaf)
Marguerite	Snapdragon	Miltonia
Marigold	Stock	Oncidium
	Sweet Pea	

However, we do grow warm loving plants in our gardens and they do better in a moderate to warm greenhouse with temperatures averaging between 60 to 80 degrees; they include:

Amaryllis	Also such tropicals as:
Azalea	Bougainvillea
Begonia (fibrous rooted)	Christmas Cactus
Calla, white and yellow	Cypripedium (mottled leaf)
Coleus	Gardenia
Geranium	Phalaenopsis
Gloxinia	Poinsettia
Lilium (almost all)	Vandas
Roses	
Saintpaulina	

A word or two about maintenance.

Spray all plants before bringing them into the greenhouse.

You are working in a comparatively small area where disease spreads rapidly, so watch carefully for the first sign of infection and spray until it is completely cleared. Isolate or burn the highly infected ones.

Keep the greenhouse clean--floor, benches, shelves, yes, even the pots.

Watch the heat of the sun for burning--begin shading in early spring.

Clear everything out of the greenhouse by the end of June. Even tropicals benefit from being outdoors in the shade for a couple of months during the summer.

Completely clean the house when empty--wash thoroughly the glass, the walls, the shelves, the floor and then spray everything when you bring the plants back in.

For members who are seriously thinking of building a greenhouse, you may want to write to the Brooklyn Botanical Garden, Brooklyn, N. Y., 11225, and ask for a copy of their booklet entitled "Greenhouse Handbook for the Amateur." It is a good one, very helpful - price one dollar.