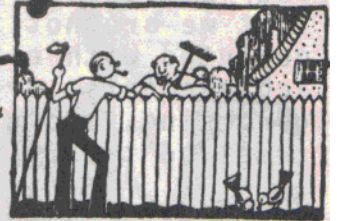




# The Garden Spray

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

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



February, 1978, Volume 36, Number 2

FEBRUARY THE 14th IS VALENTINES DAY.

So...What's New?

FEBRUARY THE 14th IS THE SECOND TUESDAY.

O.K. I'm Reminded,

"THE SECOND TUESDAY IS MEN'S GARDEN CLUB DAY."

You Can't Bring Your Valentine, But You Can BRING A MALE GUEST.

AND,

President Dick isn't too old for Valentines if the one you SEND IS THE RESERVATION CARD saying you're coming.

SAME TIME, PLACE, PRICE: 6 PM, Mt. Olivet Church, 50th & Knox S.; \$3.50

THE PROGRAM (Announced for January then Postponed.)

Selected Slides of Members Gardens

A Talk on African Violets by "Mel" Werner.

(Mr. Werner is a St. Paulite and a member of the African Violet Society.)

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## OVER THE GARDEN FENCE

An important regular event in the life of our club is the monthly meeting of the Board. Here most significant actions are initiated. We welcome input from the membership. We are working for you. Presently we meet the Tuesday following the regular meeting. Let me know of concerns you want presented or that you want to present in person.

As I promised in the last issue of the SPRAY, I presented the idea of a city-(or area) wide program to get more people to beautify their yards. The Board told me to go ahead but saw some problems. I will see about forming an interest group to investigate possibilities.

Nate Siegel has called my attention to the need for renewed effort on the Fragrance Garden. New members should know and older members be reminded that we have an ongoing commitment not only to keep the garden stocked but also to keep it watered and cultivated. We no longer can lean on Carl Holst to come up with fresh materials. Members are asked to think about it as they start their seeding and cutting. We will soon need to recruit and to organize our work force.

I am happy to announce that Dean Schneider will again edit the directory in the new format that has proven popular.

Vern Carlson will again be heading the Sunshine Committee. Please keep him informed.



37343

Fred Glasoe has offered to head up a program of garden demonstrations at members' homes. They will be beamed toward less experienced gardeners who could profit by them. The more experienced gardeners will be welcome to add their expertise.

Your officers are going to respond affirmatively to the deserved criticism that we are not integrating new members as we should by getting them acquainted with established members; recognizing them for their gardening achievements; or, on the other hand, helping them get better started in gardening, and giving them meaningful responsibilities. Last year we received twenty new members. We have a job, Folks.

You must be like me once in a while. I'll have a gardening problem or question and not know who to see for help. If you have such a need, jot it down on the dinner reservation card and we'll put out a call for help at the meeting.

The Board discussed the up-coming summer tours and unanimously support having two Sunday afternoon jaunts with the women-folk. Give your comments to one of the officers.

The mailed in dinner reservation system has worked well and we will continue. Last year we lost no money because we were short of the guaranteed number of diners that is required of us.

Did you notice that Sherm Pinkham and Bill Hull made the last "GARDENER"

See you Tuesday, the 14th,  
--Dick Hulbert

PROPOSED MGCM 1978 BUDGET

(To be voted on at the February meeting. Recommended by President and Directors)

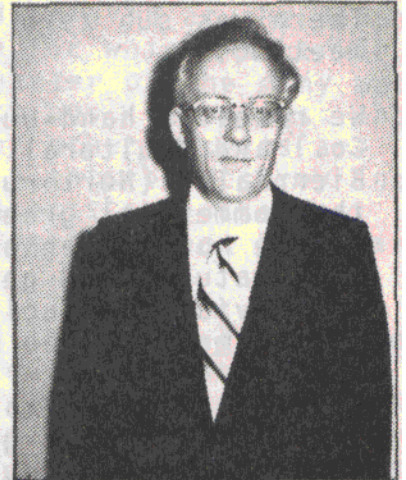
<u>Income Sources</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Dues .....	\$ 3375.00	Garden Spray .....	\$ 850.00
Plant Auction .....	1100.00	Plant Auction .....	350.00
Interest on Savings .....	352.00	Flower Show & Prizes .....	200.00
Miscellaneous .....	48.00	Christmas Party .....	1875.00
Dinners (8 Meetings) .....	2016.00	Arboretum .....	350.00
Tours (July, Aug.) .....	1680.00	Minn. Hort. Soc. Dues .....	675.00
Christmas Party .....	1875.00	MGCA Dues .....	1500.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$10446.00</b>	MGCA Life (President) .....	100.00
		Awards and Trophies .....	100.00
		Remembrances .....	70.00
		Honoraria (Program) .....	200.00
		1978 MGCA Conv. Del. ....	200.00
		Tours & Dinner Shortages .....	76.00
		Miscellaneous .....	200.00
		Tours (July, Aug.) .....	1680.00
		Dinners (8 Meetings) .....	1920.00
		Directory (Publication) .....	100.00
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$10446.00</b>

Last fall I decided to operate the greenhouse all winter but at a reduced temperature of 38-40 degrees. So far this has proven very successful. The greenhouse was first lined with 4 mil poly so as to create an air space. The total effect is a greenhouse within a greenhouse. The space is reduced by about 40% but this still allows suffi-



\* \* \* \*

MGCM PRESIDENTS: DAVID W. JOHNSON, 1971



Gardening is all downhill for Dave Johnson. In contrast to Otto Nelson's garden which goes up, Dave's garden goes down. Down to a varied garden of flowers and vegetables at the edge of a woods inhabited by ferocious and voracious woodchucks. This year it took nine trap settings to eliminate the varmints and save the garden from destruction. Dave says one woodchuck can completely eliminate several feet of green beans, plants and all, in one sitting.

Dave Johnson

The upper level by the Johnson house, which they built 21 years ago, is a show garden which has been on tours repeatedly. It features 100 roses, which were excellent last year, lantana trees, which Dave first saw in Niagara Falls and just had to have, and a variety of begonias including Schwabenlands. Each spring the Johnson basement gives birth to from 3000 to 5000 seedlings to supply 4 family gardens. They are all started under lights in a total space 6' by 6'. This gives Dave a tremendous variety from which to choose and leads to a beautiful and varied garden each year.

Dave grew up on a farm near Forest Lake and was a member of the Future Farmers of America. He would very much have liked to be a farmer and do maintain a vegetable garden near Forest Lake. After High School, Dave went to Gustavus Adolphus College and graduated with a degree in Business Administration. After some interim employment, including the U. S. Army and a tour of duty in Japan, Dave joined Northern States Power Company 2 years ago, where he now is a Senior Internal Auditor.

Through the influence of Dwight Stone and other members at Northern State Dave joined the MGCM and has been a more than active member for many years. He headed the National Convention Dinner Committee in 1967 and used his persuasive talents to obtain almost all of the food on the menu without cost from local producers. Again, 1971, when he was President of the Club he put the same talent to work in obtaining railroad ties, dirt and material for the Fragrance Garden as it was then known. This garden gives Dave his greatest feeling of accomplishment as a Club member.

In addition to working on all of the committee assignments in the MGCM, Dave manages to keep busy as a member of the Board of Management of the YMCA for the past 10 years, as a member of the Y's Men for the last 20 years and as an active member in his church and other civic groups. In his spare time he tells stories. He was named the NSP Citizen of the Year in 1971. Dave is the only MGCM member to be awarded the Lehman Trophy twice.

Dave and his family spent a month last summer driving through all four countries of the British Isles. As a gardener, he was very impressed by all of the beautiful private flower gardens and the size and vigor of the plants. It served to spur him on to even better gardening in the future.



## THE JANUARY MEETING

There was sub zero cold, a smaller crowd than usual, but a variety fill meeting.

We received hand-out sheets entitled "Geranium Seed Culture" (Ball Seed Co.) and "Cultural Information--Annuals; Cultural Information Perennial Biennials" (Northrup King Co.) Both sets presumably were developed with the commercial greenhouse grower in mind but would be readily adaptable to the home greenhouse or outdoor garden since they gave germination temperatures and germination time. There weren't enough copies left over to provide for inclusion with the SPRAY so--Be warned fellows. If you miss a meeting you may miss an added something worthwhile.

More slides of members' gardens were shown. Those who missed the summer tour to Faribault got a chance to see why Roger Koopman's garden was judged best seen on tour.--also an indication that we'd better visit Phil Smith next summer. This picture-taking program pushed by Chet Groger provided a fine regular addition to our winter meeting programs. A few slides at each meeting provide more enjoyment (and more opportunity to see gardens) than do a multiplicity of slides at Christmas only.

A movie (time lapse photography) on "Growth of Seeds" prepared us to listen attentively to member Harold Witter, chief grower of annuals for Bachmans. (He's been with them for 28 years.) Harold demonstrated sowing of tiny seeds such as begonias (2 million seeds to the ounce) and petunias (300 thousand seeds per ounce) by tapping the seed to the bottom of the packet adding fine perlite then tapping seed out gently in rows on grow mix. He says the transplanters object if he gets over 1000 plants per flat so he plans, and manages, to sow just a few under 1000.

His starting mix consists of equal parts of garden soil, peat moss and perlite. It is watered before seeding; covered with glass or plastic after seeding until germination. Fungicide is applied after the plants germinate.

He brought along some seedling begonias started in the greenhouse October 31 and now, January 10, ready to transplant with which to demonstrate removal from starter and transplanting to individual containers. (Sterilize containers with one ounce of Hilex per gallon of water. Then rinse.)

Comments from the floor: Tiny seed can also be planted by scattering on highly polished metal and then brushing off onto the seed bed with a fine brush....Only some seeds need light to germinate. Many require darkness....Germinate tomatoes warm....Germinate gloxinias at about 40° Fahrenheit

### NEW MEMBERS

(Clip and paste in your roster.)

Philip M. Peterson 6509 Knox Av. S.	869-3730 55423	Leonard E. Nelson 4901 Sunnyside Rd.	922-5965 55424
Craig Prestegord 10925 Hyland Ter. Eden Prairie	944-3823 55344	Tom Somers 1906 W. 54 St.	922-0190 55419

Get a new member.



BOOKS

Did you see the U.S.D.A. publication Archie Caple displayed at the Janua meeting--the one with all the color plates--the one for which member Bru Johnstone contributed a chapter? There's also a chapter on the many met of enjoying an herb garden propagated by seeds, cuttings, layerings, and divisions. Bees, lady bugs, praying mantis and many other insects are friends in the herb garden. They either pollinate plants or destroy ins enemies. Herbs are peculiarly resistant to most insects and diseases. When do you harvest herbs? Can you freeze them? Don't plan an herb gar until you learn the basic rules from this volume.

Archie got his copy of "Gardening for Food and Fun" the "1977 Yearbook o Agriculture" free by writing to his congressman. You may be able to do same. If not, a copy may be purchased for \$6.50 by sending a check or m order for that amount to the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Govt. Pr ing Office, Washington, D. C. 20402. (Stock number 001-000-03679-3 cata number A1-10:977)

We haven't noticed quite the gardener interest in wildflowers hereabouts that we noted while on tour in Raleigh, N. C., last summer. However, if you are interested and if you wish to try your hand at propagating wild-flowers, you may, since many wild plants are found nation wide. You may w to obtain a copy of the "North Carolina Native Plant Propagation Handboo compiled by the members of the North Carolina Wild Flower Preservation S ciety. This is a practical "how to" booklet on the propagation of nativ wildflowers and other plants. Price: \$3.50 postpaid. Make checks paya to the N. C. Wild Flower Preservation Society, and mail them to: Totten Center 457-A, UNC-CH, Chapel Hill, NC 27514.

To help even beginners enjoy spectacular results with annuals and perenn D. Bruce Johnstone and E. H. Brindle have written "America's Best Garden Flowers". Experts Johnstone and Brindle tell when to plant, how to plan what to plant. Burgess Publishing Co., 7108 Chas Lane, Minneapolis, Mn. 55435. Illustrated, paperbound \$4.95.

SIGN UP NOW

If you missed the January meeting or failed to turn in a committee choic slip, fill out the form below and bring it to our February 14th meeting mail it to Richard Hulbert, 3422 Xerxes Ave., N., Minneapolis 55412.

Please indicate in the appropriate place the committees which you desire serve on. Please limit the choices to a maximum of two committees. New members are urged to volunteer to serve on a committee to help them meet other club members.

<input type="checkbox"/> Christmas Party	<input type="checkbox"/> Horticulture:	<input type="checkbox"/> Photograph
<input type="checkbox"/> Community Garden	<input type="checkbox"/> Flowers	<input type="checkbox"/> Publicati
<input type="checkbox"/> Dinner & Hospitality	<input type="checkbox"/> Vegetables	<input type="checkbox"/> Flower Sh
<input type="checkbox"/> Garden Tours	<input type="checkbox"/> Trees & Shrubs	<input type="checkbox"/> Sunshine
<input type="checkbox"/> Plant Auction		<input type="checkbox"/> Awards



37943

RANDOM THOUGHTS

The month of May marks our 36th anniversary. The first meeting of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis was held on May 18, 1942. We immediately sought memberships in the Minnesota State Horticultural Society and in the Men's Garden Clubs of America. We were chartered by the latter on October 1, 1942.

GLENN G. VINCENT, our new MGCA national secretary is a gardener and a free lance gardener writer. He has worked for Park Seed Company in public relations and has written technical and cultural bulletins for them. And he is certainly on the ball. On October 20 our October GARDEN SPRAY brought a full page letter from him. We quote, in part:

...In going over your flower and vegetable show, I find this is typical in many areas depending on the year, the weather, and many other factors. However, I believe of the 28 exhibitors you certainly had a fine representation of flower and vegetable entries and we certainly commend you on that...

If there is anything I can help you with--bulletin-wise, horticulturally-wise, or club wise, please let me know. While I have you on the line, so to speak, please send me any information that you feel might be worthwhile for other club members that can be incorporated in The Gardener or in letters. Please send me any feedback you possibly can on negative or positive reactions to various things that National is doing--projects you'd like to see accomplished, and any suggestions, comments that you, your club members may have that would help us benefit even more. We want you to know that we're behind you 100 percent. I personally, am willing to help you with anything that I physically or mentally am able to do...

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

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MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.  
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Treasurer: CHARLES H. ROBBINS  
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618 E. 58 St., Mpls., 55417  
Director: ARCHIE CAPLE  
7721 - 15 Ave. S., Mpls., 55423  
Director: WILLIAM J. FREDERICK  
4034 Quentin Ave. S., Mpls., 55416



**FIRST CLASS**

To

William H. Hull  
6833 Creston Road  
Edina, MN 55435

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