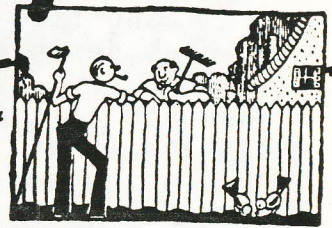




The Garden Spray

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



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

February 1979, Volume 37, Number 2

ARBORETUM DIRECTOR FIRST TO BE INDUCTED IN 1979



At the January meeting Dr. Francis de Vos, director of the University of Minnesota's Landscape Arboretum officially became the first new MGCM member for the year. In February he will also be the first featured speaker for the year. Dwight Stone introduced Dr. de Vos to the members present, delineated the responsibilities of membership and presented de Vos with a copy of GARDEN LESSONS WE'VE LEARNED, a club publication.

Following this the Board recommended that Si Rutherford and Sherman Pinkham be elevated to honorary membership status. The members quickly approved unanimously

and settled themselves to view the slides Bob Churilla had selected as examples of north area 1978 summer gardens.

At the close of the meeting president Gage expressed concern re the degree of participation in club activities by members. There was animated discussion pro and con relative to requirements for joining MGCM, responsibilities thereafter, the effect of aging on activities and the continuing of some practices. ("I've got a drawer full of ribbons now. There's no more place to put 'em.") Missed entirely was the club by-law providing for active and associate memberships which would relegate those who came irregularly to associate status and could, by extension, enable those who wished to be less active to request associate status.

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NEXT MEN'S GARDEN CLUB of MINNEAPOLIS MEETING TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13th

MOUNT OLIVET LUTHERAN CHURCH, 50th Street & Knox Avenue South

DINNER, \$3.50, at 6 PM. PROGRAM AS FOLLOWS:

7:00 Mini-Program: Panel of Gardening Experts to answer all questions on your 1978 gardening problems. Have your questions ready. Slips to be filled out during the meal will be available at each table.

7:30 Main Program: "ARBORETUMS of the WORLD" to be presented by Dr. Francis de Vos, Director, Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. (Questions to follow.)

GET THAT RESERVATION CARD IN PROMPTLY

OVER THE GARDEN FENCE

I was sitting in my house a few days ago, looking out at the snow and subzero weather, feeling very warm and cozy when I remembered that this is the best time to prune your oak trees. Normally my thoughts turn to tree pruning about the same time spring fever arrives. But spring is the wrong time of year to prune oaks, therefore, my oaks go another year without desired pruning.

When you attempt winter pruning it's hard to tell which branches hang too low when laden with leaves during the summer. To remedy that I made my pruning selection late last fall. I marked the limbs to be cut with black electrical tape. The black tape isn't noticeable to the casual observer even with most of the leaves off the tree. Now all that's left for me to do is to bundle up, get my pruning shears, and look for my tape markers. Brrr! Working in the greenhouse sounds like more fun.

Speaking of greenhouses, we have one under construction. The basic plan was taken from an article in the MASSACHUSETTS HORTICULTURIST. All the glass area is double glazed. The gas space heater will be assisted by a passive solar system. On sunny days when the greenhouse temperature can get well above 75° the surplus heat will be pumped into the house heating system rather than exhausted to the outside. The humidity will be welcome in the house. I also hope to get some of that wonderful greenhouse odor, too. Further, we will vent our dryer into the greenhouse so heat and humidity will not be lost. So far it's been fun. We sure have learned a lot.

I was pleased with the discussion at the last meeting. I also appreciate the input (and corrections) from those who called me at home. Open discussion of our problems will make our club stronger. The Board will make specific recommendations as soon as we feel we have the proper solution. In the meantime your input is desired. See you at the February meeting.

--Bob Gage

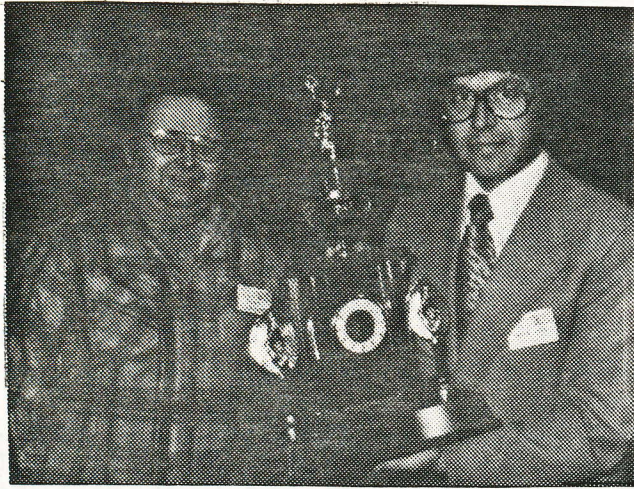
Bob, I use that marking system in reverse. When I conclude that large spring flowering shrubs like lilacs or tatarian honeysuckle need attention I study the shrub in winter; decide which stems/branches can be cut out without spoiling the over all appearance; then tie half inch wide strips of rag at the appropriate places. When flowering season is over I prune off the marked limbs.

A good way to be sure not to forget to winter prune is to settle upon a date which is sure to be called to your attention. Because school people were off on Washington's or Lincoln's birthday I, years ago, started to observe the day by pruning my fruit trees. I'm still continuing the practice ten years after retirement. Interestingly enough the genesis of the idea had no relation to gardening.

Years ago my landlady, a widow, had a many windowed three story house. She frequently did me unsolicited favors like washing my stuff from time to time with hers. One Armistice Day, noting her busily washing storm windows, I dragged out the ladders, took down the screens and hung the storms. I repeated the project each Armistice Day thereafter until I married. When I got a home of my own I kept up the ritual there and expanded it to tree trimming.

--Ed Culbert

BRING A PROSPECTIVE NEW MEMBER TO THE NEXT MEETING.



Marlin Rosin receives the Lehman Trophy from Fred Glasow, left. This trophy is awarded to the MGCM member adjudged to have the best garden seen on the summer tours.



Dick Hulbert is inducted into the Past Presidents group by his predecessor, Fred Glasoe. Life membership in MGCA accompanies the Past President's pin.



Verner Carlson receives the Bronze Medal for 1978, the highest award given by MGCM. Dave Johnson, left, makes the presentation.

TWENTY YEARS OF GREEN THUMB AWARDS
by Bill Hull, Historian

Recently someone asked me how long we have been presenting the Green Thumb awards. The answer emphasizes that we've just passed a milestone - 20 years.

I started the Green Thumb tradition after having been initiated into this group as a gag, at an MGCA convention in Portland, Oregon. In 1959 we, here, made our first awards to eight people and haven't missed a year since.

In the early years my wife, Carol, sometimes made green felt thumbs which I presented; some years we gave white gloves with dyed fingers and thumbs to indicate the proper number of years of perfect attendance; some years we used our early style certificate. In 1970 we had Verner Carlson hand letter us our "new" certificate which we have printed twice and used since. Every year from 1970 to date, Verner has hand lettered in true calligraphy the recipients' name on his certificate, along with the years involved. Verner has hand lettered 136 of these, which is an outstanding job demanding much patience and great skill. We owe him much for this contribution.

Altogether, we have presented two hundred and seventy-six (276) awards for perfect attendance, many, of course, to the same people. To bring the record up to date, here are the actual number for each year. It is great to see that 1978, our twentieth year, had our largest number, although our total membership is greater than the 100 at which it was kept for many years.

(continued over)

1959 - 8	1964 - 16	1969 - 14	1974 - 14
1960 - 7	1965 - 15	1970 - 13	1975 - 14
1961 - 16	1966 - 14	1971 - 17	1976 - 15
1962 - 13	1967 - 16	1972 - 9	1977 - 17
1963 - 8	1968 - 13	1973 - 13	1978 - 24

Total: 276

It has been a rewarding activity at practically no cost to the club. We have furthered attendance and each year at Christmas, until this year, we have acknowledged our loyal members. All time records go to Evald Johnson who achieved 14 consecutive years, followed by Jack Peterson with 11 years and now Dale Durst with 9 years. I hope I haven't missed anyone.

1978 winners were: One year: Bob Churilla, Bill Frederick, Bob Gage, Chet Groger, Henry Halvorson, Art Johnson, Evald Johnson, Bob Livingston, Walter Menzel, Maurice Moorman, Len Nelson, Art Olson and Cameron Smith.

Two years: Archie Caple, Burton Deane, Walt Flumerfelt, Clarence Knoblauch, Sherm Pinkham, Marlin Rosin and Erle Tornstrom.

The longer records are: Fred Glasoe, three years; Verner Carlson, four years; Ed Culbert, six years; and Dale Durst, nine years.

MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS PROPOSED BUDGET - 1979

RECEIPTS

Dues.....	\$2,700
Plant Auction.....	1,150
Interest on Savings (\$87.99 Quarter).....	352
Miscellaneous.....	58
Sale of Tickets	
- 8 Dinner Meetings..	1,960
- July Tour.....	840
- August Tour.....	840
- Christmas Party....	1,875
	<u>\$9,775</u>

EXPENSES

Garden Spray.....	\$ 950
Plant Auction.....	350
Flower Show & Flower Show Prizes.....	200
Christmas Party.....	1,875
Arboretum Project (Board).....	350
Minnesota Horticultural Society Dues..	720
MGCA Dues.....	1,200
Awards (Trophy and Awards).....	75
Remembrances (Sunshine).....	70
Convention Delegates (Board).....	200
Tours and Dinner Shortages (General)..	25
Honoraria (Program).....	100
Miscellaneous (Board).....	100
Life Membership for President (Board).	100
July Tour.....	840
August Tour.....	840
Dinners for 8 Meetings (General).....	1,680
Directory (Publication).....	100
	<u>\$9,775</u>

Dick Hulbert's OVER THE GARDEN FENCE column of August 1978 was briefed and reprinted in the CORT-LAND SOD BUSTERS issue for January 1979.

WE WELCOME AS NEW MEMBERS

Francis de Vos (Martha)	474-7908	Tom Jones (Marilyn)	474-9536
5925 Woodend Shores	443-2778	Rt. 1, Box 573 D	
Mound, 55364		Excelsior, 55331	

Members added now get the full year's benefit of our meetings.
Do you have a name to suggest?

SMALL CLUB PUTS US TO SHAME

"When Linc Aldritt was President of our club, he approached the Excelsior Chamber of Commerce with a proposal for beautification of an area in Excelsior. The Chamber looked favorably on Linc's proposal and provided \$250 to use in planting a flower bed in the area known as the Dr. Arey Memorial. From this beginning has grown a beautification project which now covers three locations in Excelsior. The first greets the visitor to Excelsior while driving by the Post Office corner. Another flower bed is located by the Police Station, and of course, the original planting is still being maintained.

"The project has now been underwritten by the Excelsior Village. Watering the beds used to be a time consuming project.... However, the past year, automatic sprinkling equipment was added.... Last month,...the Lyman Lumber Co. gave a gift of \$200 to the club in appreciation of the project. In addition to this, Lyman's also contributed to the cost of the sprinkler installation.

"While this has always been referred to as a club project, in all fairness it must be pointed out that this project has been carried out in its entirety by eight members who live in the Excelsior vicinity."

--Bulletin Minnetonka Men's Garden Club, Stan Crist, editor.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

Once a year we give each member an opportunity to plan an important part in the operation of our club. Committees which plan and advise the Board on major functions and responsibilities of our club are formed by the members volunteering to serve for a one year period. New members are encouraged to join one of the committees as one method of getting to know the other club members and to better understand the operations of the club. We have listed each committee which is needed below and ask that you place a check mark next to the committee on which you intend to serve. Also, please indicate if you would like to be Chairman of one of the committees. Thanks for your help and cooperation.

If you didn't fill out a sheet at the January meeting, use the one below and mail it to Bob Gage, 16145 Hillcrest Lane, Eden Prairie, Mn. 55344 today.

--The Minneapolis Men's Garden Club Board

Yes, I'll help in the management of the club by serving on the following committees: (Please limit yourselves to two committees)

- | | | |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Auditing | <input type="checkbox"/> Garden Tours | <input type="checkbox"/> Publications |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Christmas Party | <input type="checkbox"/> Plant Auction | <input type="checkbox"/> Flower Show |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Garden | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Sunshine |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality | <input type="checkbox"/> Photography | <input type="checkbox"/> Awards |

Signed _____

Phone _____

Suggestions for programs _____

COMING...On Monday, December 3, the M Christmas Party. Don't say you didn't hear about it in ti

1979 JUST HAS TO BE BETTER

Few had a good word to say for 1978. Stan Crist and Dick Victor called it the "Year of the Rabbit". Bill Hull said, "The mosquitoes were out-breeding the rabbits and the weeds were thumping their noses at me. The peas were shot, the apples ripped off the tree by squirrels and downpours, the corn strangled by vines, the peppers overwhelmed and buried by the creeping squash, the tomatoes overshadowed by the neighbors hedge and by my asparagus."

Cotton Lynch (Houston, Texas) reported, "It had to be the worst garden I've raised or didn't raise. First it was very dry; then the aphids attacked. Also there was some insect that looked like a very small slender fly. Asparagus, tomatoes and strawberries were about 50% of normal. Corn: quite a few seeds did not germinate or the plants died when very small. One good harvest from beans and egg plant then the beans were through. Carrots, radishes and dill were complete failures except I had some dill that came up wild. Cucumbers, peppers and squash were mini fruit; the zucchini failed entirely."

Dr. Baumgart (Kansas City) wrote, "A bitterly harsh winter, colder and longer than anyone seems to remember, put a lot of marginal plants in stress and cost me a few choice plants. One would have thought such a winter would have destroyed the insects; but, the insects came on stronger than ever. We had a plague of grasshoppers reminiscent to the Thirties. Apparently the winter destroyed predator insects, while the evil-doers survived. Spring was sullen and soggy. Everyone who tried to grow plants had a bad time. To top it off, it turned hot and dry."

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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: ROBERT GAGE
16145 Hillcrest La., Eden Prairie, 55344
Vice President: ARCHIE CAPLE
7221 - 15 Ave. S., Richfield, 55423
Secretary: RICHARD G. VICTOR
4358 Metcalf Dr., Eagan, 55122
Treasurer: CHARLES H. ROBBINS
7112 Park Ave., Richfield, 55423
Past President: RICHARD HULBERT
3422 Xerxes Ave. N., Mpls., 55412
Director: JEROLD R. SHANNON
1847 Eleanor Ave., St. Paul, 55116
Director: RICHARD D. STEHLY
5500 Fremont Ave. S., Mpls., 55419

FIRST CLASS

To

William H. Hull
6833 Creston Road
Edina, MN 55435

**A HAPPENING
MIAMI MAY 4-7**