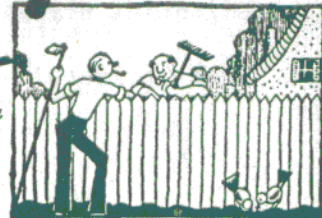




The Garden Spray

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

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



W. H. HULL, LONG-TIME SPRAY EDITOR, HONORED AT BANQUET



Bill Hull received a Special Award for his 18 years of devoted service as editor of the Garden Spray at the Men's Garden Club annual banquet. Mr. Hull is shown at the left accepting the presentation from Phil Smith. The text of the medal appears below.

MEN'S GARDEN CLUB
OF MINNEAPOLIS

SPECIAL AWARD
PRESENTED TO WILLIAM H. HULL
DECEMBER 8, 1970

IN RECOGNITION
OF LONG SERVICES AS EDITOR OF
THE GARDEN SPRAY

P. H. SMITH, PRESIDENT

JANUARY MEETING

January 12, 6 PM, Mount Olivet Lutheran Church. Dinner \$2.

We usher in 1971 with talks by two of our own members after the business of receiving annual reports from 1970 officers.

PROGRAM

Bruce Johnstone - "The New Annuals for 1971."
(This talk accompanied by slides showing the new flowers expected to become generally available is eagerly awaited by our members each year.)

Cliff Brisco - "Care of House Plants."
(Because of the Women's Liberation Movement the distaff side may hereafter decline to handle this chore so get with it fellows. Here's where you learn how to show 'er up.)

REMINDER: In case you are one of the few who haven't paid 1971 dues yet, get your \$15 to Cliff Brisco, treasurer, at once.

THE GARDEN SPRAY, January 1971, Volume 29, Number 1.

Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc., Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Edwin C. Culbert, editor, 5315 Portland Avenue, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55417.

Editorial Staff: Bill Hull, Art Johnson, Bob Smith, Phil Smith.

Club Officers: President - Dave Johnson Vice President - Roger Anderson
Secretary - John Lillibridge Treasurer - Cliff Brisco
Immediate Past President - Phil Smith
Directors - Carl Holst and Art Johnson
North Star Region Delegates - Verner Carlson and Dale Durst

DEADLINE: The SPRAY should be in your hands not later than the Saturday preceding our monthly meeting. Preferably it should go into the mails the Tuesday preceding the monthly meeting. That means typist and printer must receive copy two weeks or more before our meeting. The editor starts work on a new issue the day following each meeting but can't decide where to put what until the last minute. That last minute, the DEADLINE for receipt by the editor of material for any given issue of the SPRAY is the 22nd OF EACH MONTH.

A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Fellow Gardeners: Most of you've been used to the best for as far back as your membership runs. But there's only one Bill Hull and his mantle hasn't really descended upon yours truly. I do not have Bill's background for the job, nor his contacts with the gardening field. Even if I hold off Father Time as successfully as has P. W. Young, I haven't enough years ahead of me to challenge Bill's tenure in office. Hence, this must be an interim appointment until a younger prospect can take over.

So, you fellows will have to help carry the ball, too, or I'll be like Joe Kapp now is and the new Spray vs. the old Spray will look like the Boston Patriots vs. the Vikings. Several have already agreed to help (see the masthead) but that's not half enough to provide copy for the kind and size of monthly publication you've been getting. Bill asked for help time and again in the Spray and got slight response. This time you'd better heed the plea. Bill's personal resources in the field served when you didn't. The situation is different now.

- Ed Culbert

DRIFT FROM THE SPRAYER

We hear that we may have a presentation of the Eckbo proposal for updating the Minneapolis park system at our March meeting. Good! Discussion at our November business meeting showed we had a lot of opinions but little information on the subject.

* * * *

The Phil Smiths are again a one house family. Their former home on Coolidge has finally been sold! Hear that sigh of relief?

* * * *

In Memoriam

FRED HOLZMAN ... 1895-1970

We were all saddened to learn of the passing of our fellow member, Fred Holzman, on November 30. He died suddenly of a heart attack. Fred joined the Men's Garden Club in 1958 and was a very active worker. We will long remember his interest in his roses whose production record he kept just as a dairy farmer keeps that of his cows; his enthusiasm for gardening and his cheerful friendliness in all his associations.

Thoughts from the Terraces

- by Dave Johnson

Hats off to Dwight Stone for the revival of the turkey parade and biggest turnout in our history for the Christmas Party. Congratulations to Vic Lowrie for the quickest knife of the west (or should I say the breast). We missed Archie and Ruth Flack but surely enjoyed the beautiful slides of his border.

My terraces look very cold, white and lumpy from the twenty bales of hay piled on them. I had over 200 large light bulbs formed in the shape of a Christmas tree extending some 40 feet in the air on the oak tree. People have told me they could see it up to five miles away.

At our December board meeting an important planning committee was formed resulting from a written request of the Minneapolis Park Board (see page 6) to assist them in the following ways:

1. Improvement and maintenance of existing Park Board Gardens.
2. Expansion of Park Board Gardens.
3. Long-range planning (emphasis on Minneapolis Municipal Rose Garden of Lake Harriet).

The committee appointed to work with the Park Board staff personnel was Dwight Stone, chairman, Roger Anderson, Cliff Brisco, Jack Kolb, Dr. Leon Snyder, Bob Voigt and Dave Johnson.

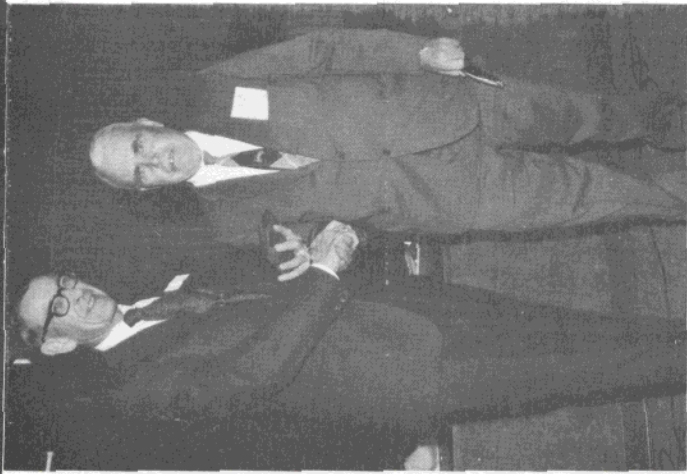
Thanks to all you members who gave short talks on your gardens during the past year. It made our programs most interesting and surely made my job easier. Roger Anderson will be looking for more of the same.

Gone is the fresh pine smell in most homes during the holiday season. Seems as if everyone is going to the artificial tree. Most tree lots were overstocked including the Y's Men tree lot I work at. Many people feel it is a shame Christmas trees are cut, but there wouldn't be millions of trees growing on submarginal land if it were not for the industry.

I would like to see two important goals accomplished by our club this year. One is the installation and completion of the Fragrance Garden Project for the blind. It will require donations from all of us, monetary and spade work to complete this fine community project. The other goal is to increase our membership by at least 15 members. This should be an easy task as our club with so many knowledgeable members has much to offer anyone interested in gardening.



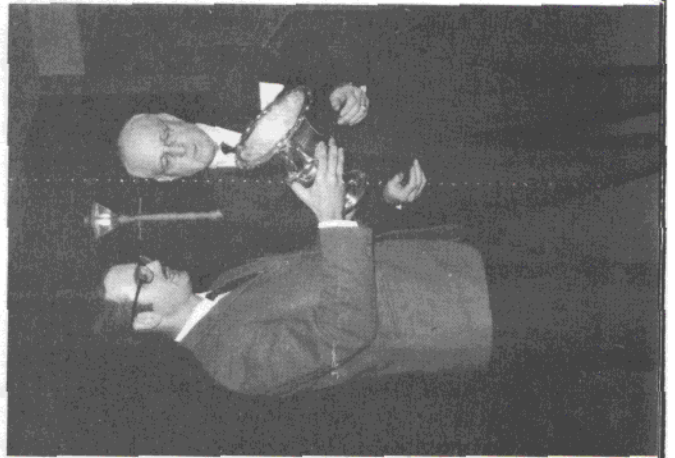
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2.



3.



4.



6.

WINNERS

AWARD

MT. OLIVET MEETING A SUCCESS

Thanks to Dwight Stone, chairman, the annual banquet on December 8 had a homey atmosphere lacking at the motels where we have met in recent years. Those tables with a volunteer, or conscript, carver bravely attacking his turkey before 16 hungry mouths -- this year with the added challenge of a whistle blowing opponent -- were welcome sights again. The parade of turkeys led by Phil Smith carrying his platter aloft with the gay insouciance of a skilled waiter lacked only the white chef's caps and aprons of yore.

Our honorary members were well represented. Henry Bachman was there beaming as well he might. He had a family group to fill his table -- raised his own carver, too. P. W. Young (with cigar) was there in fine form as were Walter Menzel and Walter Quist. We missed Archie Flack and Harold Kaufman whose health didn't permit them to attend.

Entertainment was provided by "WE FOLK TRIO", two boys and a girl from Washburn High School who played guitar and sang folk songs. They ended with Silent Night and familiar carols as we sang along.

Following dinner the new officers were called forward to be recognized. Then the "green thumb" folk received their accolade for perfect attendance.

Cliff Brisco received the President's Cup for being the member most helpful to President Phil Smith during 1970.

The Lehman Gardens Trophy for greatest garden improvement during 1970 went to Art Johnson. Les Johnson made the presentation for the committee.

The Bronze Medal Award for outstanding service over a period of years was given Charles Proctor. Al Nelson made this presentation.

Bill Hull, editor of the GARDEN SPRAY since 1952, received a Special Award plaque in recognition of his contribution to M.G.C. Mpls. In presenting the award President Phil spoke of Bill's many and meritorious years of service and of the numerous national honors which have been earned by the SPRAY under Bill.

Nate Siegel pinned the Past President's Pin on Phil Smith who then called upon Les Johnson for a 45-minute narrated showing of slides of members' gardens.

175 persons attended the banquet - 22 of them from the North Suburban Club.

GREEN THUMB RECIPIENTS

One year: Bill Cowcill Carl Holst Dale Durst Harry Sova
Two years: Cliff Brisco Dave Johnson
Three years: Paul Burt
Four years: Sherm Pinkham Jack Peter
Five years: Nate Siegel
Six years: Evald Johnson
Nine years: Bill Swanson

Pictures on page 4: 1. Art Johnson receives Lehman Gardens Trophy from Les Johnson.
2. Charley Proctor accepts Bronze Medal Award from Al Nelson
3. Phil Smith admires Past President's Pin given him by Nate Siegel.

PHIL SMITH REPORTS ON NEW COMMITTEE FOR MINNEAPOLIS PARKS

Your 1970 President and Bob Ruhe, Club Member and Superintendent of the Minneapolis Park Board, have met on several recent occasions to discuss improvements in the Minneapolis Parks from a gardening and landscaping perspective. These discussions and meetings took place prior to our Club's recent general disapproval of the much publicized Eckbo Consultant's Plan, and I am sincerely convinced of the strong desire of the Park Board staff to improve the parks in area of floriculture and horticulture generally.

On December 1, Superintendent Ruhe wrote the following letter to me.

"Thank you for meeting with me in recent days over numerous matters regarding Minneapolis Parks, in general, and gardens in particular.

"Three particular areas were discussed including the Rose Garden, the decline of some of our gardens due to highway encroachment and long range and interim plans in the area of horticulture and floriculture.

"I am writing to inquire of judgments of the Garden Club over the Rose Garden and the subject of gardens as to what we can do to place them in their best light and make improvements. Further, our discussion also included the possibility of a committee of your organization to discuss the areas and also react and recommend on the subject of long range planning.

"I will await your response."

To be a little more specific, I outlined for Mr. Ruhe two areas of possible garden improvement which I know have become of increasing concern to our member First, I know that many of our members have expressed disappointment with the decline in the quality of maintenance of the Lake Harriet Gardens over the last couple of years. Also, many of us are concerned with an apparent decrease in the number of gardens or garden areas throughout the Minneapolis Park system as a result of highway construction or whatever. We feel there must also have been a decline in the number of man hours budgeted for planting and general care of the gardens in all of the parks.

Bob Ruhe and I also discussed, as a third major item, the development of a possible plan for the construction of some type of garden center building at the Lake Harriet Garden area. Our Club promoted such a building several years ago. Superintendent Ruhe noted that a conservatory type of building could perhaps be designed to serve a variety of needs and could be economically feasible within a few years. A multi-use conservatory type of building could serve as a meeting place for groups interested in the Lake Harriet Garden and Bird Refuge areas, could include much needed and improved storage facilities for the equipment for maintenance of the area, could be of immense interest throughout our long winters and could also serve as a terrific location for Park Board and other flower shows.

In commenting on the general feeling of a decline in the maintenance of the garden areas, I wish to emphasize that our job is not to have a critical attitude but to work cooperatively and constructively towards improvement of the gardens for the enjoyment of the community as a whole. If we can be of any help in sensing community needs, reacting to possible plans and contributing constructive recommendations, I feel that we have a firm obligation to cooperate in every way possible in keeping with the primary purpose of our Club.

OUR NEW BOARD - DIVERSE, REPRESENTATIVE

The men who will direct M.G.C. Mpls. in 1971 are a truly representative group. Four are native Minnesotans; the other three look like permanent transplants. They've been members from three to fifteen years and represent various walks of life, years of discretion and catholicity of garden interest.

Our President, Dave Johnson, who has previously served as treasurer and as vice president has been a member for a decade. He claims roses are his special interest though he grows annuals and vegetables well. Dave is a native of Forest Lake, Minnesota, a graduate of Gustavus Adolphus College and a senior internal accountant for Northern States Power Company.

Vice President, Roger Anderson, a member for three years has also served as director and as secretary. His major interest is perennials and dahlias. A University of Minnesota graduate hailing from Windom, Minnesota, he is a teacher and coach in the St. Louis Park school system.

John Lillibridge, our secretary, another three-year member comes from Bismark, North Dakota, where he attended junior college. He is a service representative for Monroe Calculator Company. He says his gardening interests haven't stabilized yet but are wider than the time available to practice them.

Treasurer Cliff Brisco, a native of Greene, Iowa, has a yen for lilies and roses. Clif has been a member seven years and served as director in 1970. Now retired he has been an automobile dealer and a manufacturer.

Director Art Johnson's major gardening interest is flowers. A Lake City, Minnesota native, a graduate of Beloit College he served in the personnel division of the Pillsbury Milling Company prior to retirement. He joined M.G.C. Mpls. four years ago.

Carl Holst, a professional member and a director since 1970, is the senior member of the team with 15 years M.G.C. Mpls. membership to his credit. A native of Blue Earth, Minnesota, a graduate of Iowa State University, he is supervisor of Horticulture, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Department and specializes in roses.

Past President Phil Smith who continues on the board has during his ten years in the club served as secretary, vice president and president. A native of Hartford City, Indiana he holds degrees from Purdue University and Indiana University. He practices trade mark law as a partner in the firm of Merchant and Gould. He also makes time for a gardening specialty - delphiniums.

BACKWARD TURN BACKWARD, OH TIME....

September found me perusing old magazines. My find was a much battered bound volume of the twelve 1859 copies of "GODEY'S LADIES BOOK AND MAGAZINE." Everything the better class young wife needed to know was covered, including gardening, flower arranging and houseplants. The merit of overwintering geraniums barerooted in the basement was already being debated and -- Shades of George Luxton -- stale beer was advised for slugs. The section headed "Receipts" required a magnifier to read but contained some gems I plan to share with you from time to time. Watch for the first gem in our next issue.