



The Garden Spray

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

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

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That is my wish and the wish of the entire MGC Board for you. AND, may it not only be happy but also healthy, and prosperous, and fulfilling. What better way to make it fulfilling than to involve yourself actively in the Men's Garden Club?

One of the first jobs facing a new president is the assigning committee chairmanships and committee memberships. At the January meeting we will pass out a sheet listing the committees which will function throughout the year.

Being involved in a committee is an excellent way to meet and to get to know your fellow members. You also can influence the direction of YOUR club. You get out of an organization what you put into it. I encourage each one of you to sign up to work on the committee or committees of your choice.

On a different subject: Everyone seemed to enjoy the Christmas party. As you know the awards traditionally given at the Christmas party will be presented at the January meeting. Any comments on this change?

--Bob Gage

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FIRST MGCM MEETING OF THE NEW YEAR

(And you haven't received your catalogs yet. Or have you?)

6 p.m. TUESDAY EVENING JANUARY 9th, 1979. Dinner \$3.50
at Mount Olivet Lutheran Church, 50th St. at Knox Ave., S.

AWARDS, AWARDS, AWARDS. This is 1978 AWARDS night.
Rookie of the Year Bronze Medal
Lehman Trophy Past President's Pin
WILL THERE BE GREEN THUMBS? Come and See.

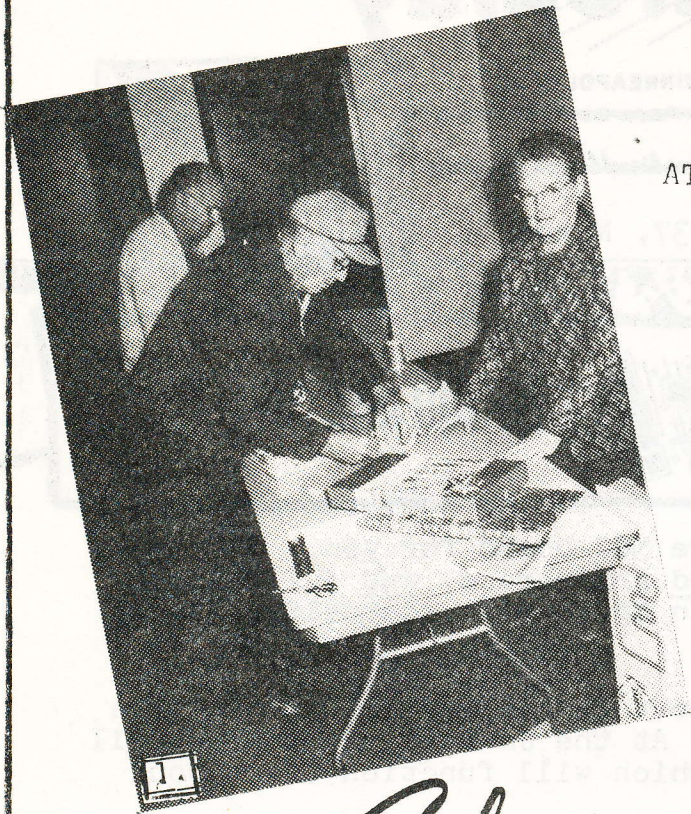
SLIDES OF MEMBERS' GARDENS

Provided by Chet Groger and the Photography Committee

Short Program on Gardening to Follow

GET YOUR RESERVATION CARD IN IMMEDIATELY

BEHIND THE SCENES



1.

AT THE



2.

Christmas Party



3.



4.



5.

BEHIND THE SCENES

We thought we'd find out what makes the MGCM Christmas Party tick so we went over to Mount Olivet church about noon on December 4. Five members of the party committee plus three of the wives were already there--had been since 9:30. Harry and Margaret Sova and Erle Tornstrom were wrapping presents (1, opposite). The Stehlys, Dick and Martha, and Bob Gage were setting up Santa's Workshop while Alicia and Julie played with the gnomes (2, opposite). Barbara Gage was assembling mice for the Christmas tree (4, opposite). Dean Schneider was decorating the tree (5, opposite).

A host of women from Mount Olivet's Tabor Circle were in the kitchen preparing the fruit salad, the rolls to go into the oven, the various other foods which with the turkey would go to make up the evening meal. At a table near the serving counter Edith Ulrich and Lucille Beckman were getting lettuce ready to go under the salad (3, opposite).

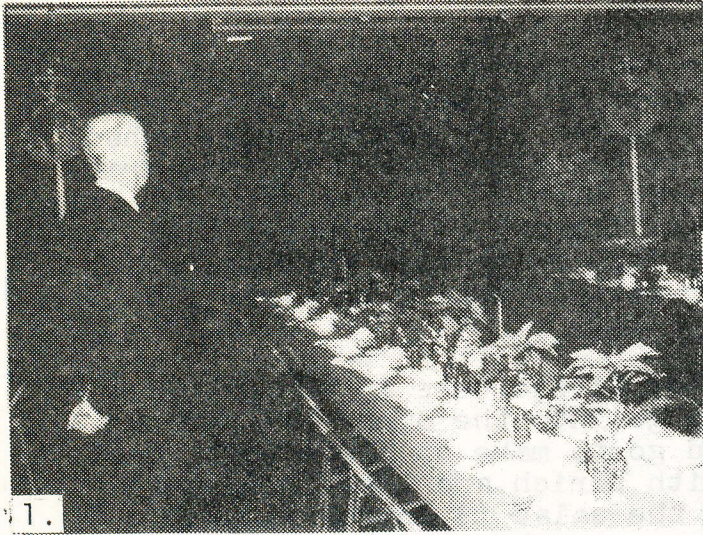
Other women from the circle were in the dining room ready to work on the long rows of tables each seating 14. Well before the guests arrived the tables would be covered with green or red paper cloths. Tiny poinsettia plants would grace the center line of each table; red on the green cloths; white on the red. Candles would be ready to light; plates and silver would be in place. In recognition of these services, at awards time that evening, Agnes Ostlund representing the circle was given the wreath from the lectern together with a box of candy to be shared by those who helped prepare and serve the dinner.

THE TRIBUTE TO DECEASED MEMBERS BY REV. HULBERT

Having lived in seven houses in 25 years, we were looking for permanence and security when we bought our present home 20 years ago. Naturally we were greatly attracted by the huge oak tree in the back yard. Its girth of over ten feet told us it had stood there since the beginning of our nation. The giant tree spread its protecting branches over the house and most of the back yard and we fell passionately in love with it. But unobserved by our unpracticed eye, the tree had started to die before we moved in. A near tornado that swept away a great branch, a couple of dry summers and some excavation brought the end and we had to order it cut down. One cold winter day we came home from work and found only some chips and in the patio a large hole where the emperor once reigned. Spring added to our sadness. I thought of filling the hole with earth and laying in matching flag stones, but instead planted tall, red cannas with border plants. We reasoned it would be better not to conceal that emptiness, but to revere a most happy remembrance with living green and red--green for an immortal faith and hope; and red for an undying love. These, too, are the colors of Christmas and in the place of those we miss, Bob Bryant, P. W. Young, George Germain, they do console us.

THE INVOCATION

Gracious God, as gardeners we gather about these tables, men and women who revere the works of your hands in the beauty and abundance of nature. We sense ourselves to be especially blessed, for we are commissioned to increase this beauty and nourishment for the benefit of men. Help us partake, then, of this feast with grateful hearts, in love, peace and harmony.



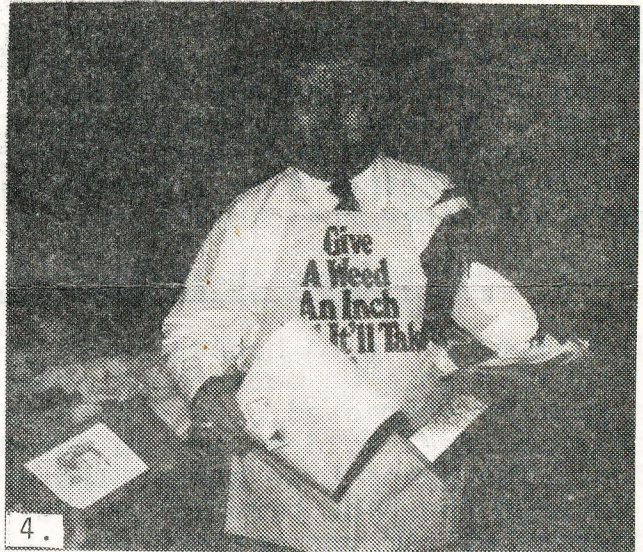
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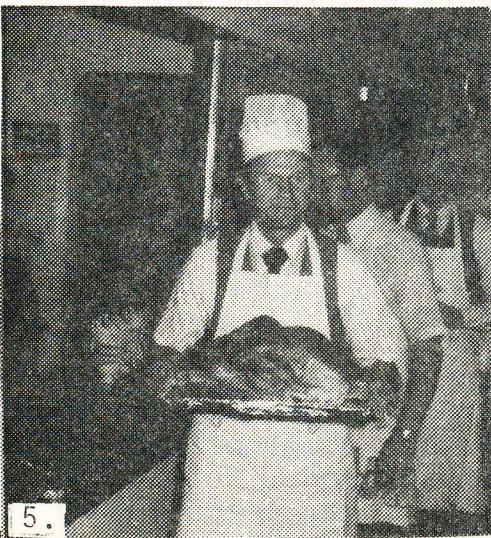
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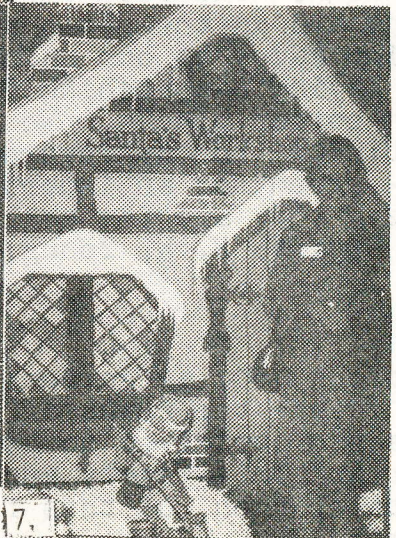
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5.



6.



7.



WELCOME indeed! This poster beside the busily shovelling snowman greeted us as we entered. It set the tone for the evening. The program differed from that of previous years. The emphasis was on fun and food-- or, rather, on fun, food, and fun. Knowing that we had places assured, thanks to the reservation forms on the tables, we socialized around the punchbowl longer than usual. For those who tired of socializing or just plain wanted to review the summer a succession of slides taken in members' gardens or on summer tours was flashed on a translucent screen by an automatic projector back stage. Chet Groger gets credit for this set-up which permitted us to backtrack for a half hour. We seemed almost reluctant to heed the call to be seated.

When Dick Stehly called the crowd to order one table lacked a carver. Volunteers were requested. First a hushed silence; then new member James Norton rose. He was quickly outfitted with apron and tools and lined up with the other carvers for the Parade of Turkeys. Once again the photographer was frustrated in his efforts to get the picture he wanted. The roasted turkeys, encased in foil and boxed in cardboard, delivered hot at the last minute from Byerlys were rushed to the serving window and immediately covered with white cloths.

Margaret Sova struck up a march on the piano and the parade was on. Some carvers picked up a turkey and were off. Others broke ranks and went directly to their tables. Old hands like Bob Smith and Dwight Stone, less hurried, marched around the room holding their turkeys aloft for all to admire.

Soon carvers Floyd Ashley, Lloyd Bachman, Stan Crist, James Dock, Walter Flumerfelt, Fred Glasoe, Bill Hull, Paul Lindstedt, Jim Mayerle, John Mondati, James Norton, Charles Robbins, Dean Schneider, Jerry Shannon, Juel Shefland, Bob Smith, Phil Smith, Dwight Stone and Dick Victor were hard at work and we were filling our plates. We don't know how well the promised privilege of carrying the leftover turkey home worked out for the carvers. We saw Charley Proctor carrying something away in a plastic bag but if Floyd Ashley at our table had anything left it must have been only the skeleton. However, we understand that that remainder if hung by a cord from a tree makes a fine treat for the birds.

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PICTURES, PAGE 4

1. Leonard Nelson surveyed the stage before dinner.
2. Henry Bachman sits opposite his great-granddaughter, Sara Bachman, at the Bachman family table.
3. Walter and Louise Menzel and Mrs. Frank Janes enjoyed the punch.
4. Fred Glasoe campaigns against weeds.
5. Bob Smith, Jerry Shannon, Dean Schneider line up for turkeys.
6. Ed Culbert receives President's Cup from Dick Hulbert.
7. Mrs. Frank Janes waited outside Santa's Workshop.



Joyce Arlene

Arlene's finger pointing tirade.

There were only three awards. This year the donation to the arboretum was held for presentation at the party. Dr. Francis de Vos in his acceptance told of the arboretum's strengths and merits and of changes and innovations to come.

The Industrial Landscape Award went to Honeywell, Inc. for it's newly developed plaza in front of its national headquarters at 4th Avenue South and 28th Street. Walter Schularick, Vice-President for Building Management Services, accepted the award. In doing so he made special mention of the services of Paul Friberg and Bachmans in the design and planting of the area.

2 The President's Cup went to GARDEN SPRAY editor, Ed Culbert. Ed who was running around taking pictures when his name was called first ignored the calls saying, "I've already got your picture." In his presentation talk Dick Hulbert indicated that he wasn't quite certain whether Ed had been a major help or a major irritant but vouched for the inevitability of Ed's telephone calls for copy.

3 *was the third the Bronze medal? to whom?*
The program ended with a marvelous presentation by the Metropolitan Boys Choir, Bea Speed director. Dick Hulbert was invited to direct one number--"Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer". He proved to be no novice at directing so during the next number one of the boys from the choir stepped down from the stage and placed a paper crown on Dick's head. We all joined in the final Christmas carol numbers after which the boys marched out down the aisles shaking hands as they went.

And, just in case you wanted to know, during the evening 51 lucky party goers whose numbers were called found wrapped presents under the Christmas tree. Every lady was privileged to take home the poinsettia in front of her place at the table. Every party goer, 228 all told, when leaving plucked a mouse from the Christmas tree as a souvenir.

A BRIEF INTRODUCTION TO THE OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS SERVING MGCM IN 1979
by Vinton Bouslough

Robert Gage, President

Bob joined MGCM in 1972. His occupation is that of manufacturers' representative. His main gardening interest is vegetables. Bob previously has served MGC as vice president in 1978, as a director, and as Christmas party chairman for three years. As a club, he feels we should present programs that stress learning.

Archie Caple, Vice President

Archie joined MGCM in 1975. He is employed as Director of Internal Security and Safety for Northwest Orient Airlines. He has a varied interest in general gardening which includes flowers, vegetables and dwarf fruit trees. He was a director in 1978, has served on both the Fragrance Garden planting committee and the camera committee. Archie has been certified as a Master Gardener (1977 and 1978) by the University of Minnesota Agricultural Extension Services, having successfully completed the requirements of the Master Gardener Program. As members of a garden club, he believes we can be helpful by passing on to our neighbors and friends our knowledge of gardening as well as by helping them with their gardening or planting problems.

Richard Victor, Secretary

Dick joined MGCM in 1974. He is employed as Director of Engineering for the Minneapolis Housing and Redevelopment Authority. His chief gardening interest is annuals, especially zinnias and dianthus. Dick was secretary in 1978, director in 1977, chairman of the plant auction in 1976, assisted with the 1977 flower show and the 1975 plant auction. Dick believes it is important for more members to take an active role in the club and its activities, especially the flower show. He said, "We've all been to many fine gardens filled with prize-winning specimens which never show up at the show."

Charles Robbins, Treasurer

Charles became a member in 1975. He is a Project Analyst for Northwestern National Bank. As a gardener, he has an interest in roses, annuals and vegetables that fit an overall landscape pattern. He was treasurer in 1978, a board member in 1977, on the auction committee in 1975, 1976, and 1977, and worked at the flower shows in 1976 and 1977. As members of a garden club he believes we should help new gardeners and assist all who have questions about gardening. In addition, he believes we should attempt to make ourselves more "known" to the City of Minneapolis.

Jerold Shannon, Director

Jerry joined MGCM in 1976. He is an elementary school principal. His gardening interests are general floriculture and vegetable gardening. His specialties are dahlias and orchids. In the past Jerry has served on the garden tour committee and on the advisory committee for vegetables and flowers. Jerry believes garden clubs and their members should work by education and example toward beautifying the State through horticulture.

Richard Stehly, Director

Dick joined MGCM in 1975. He is a civil engineer. As a gardener he has varied interests in vegetables, roses and annuals. He has served as co-chairman of the Christmas party and as chairman of the awards committee for two years. Dick feels that garden clubs should create the kind of atmosphere where garden ideas can be exchanged. Also, he feels we should strive more to be of service to the public by developing additional public related projects.

NOVEMBER MEETING HIGHLIGHTS (TALKS BY BARBARA GAGE, DOROTHY JOHNSON)

Carts and lights were emphasized since they offer a decorative feature and spotlighting is feasible...A controlled environment and controlled light makes it possible to grow interesting plants not feasible otherwise...Lights offer a better start for seedlings, better success when propagating cuttings...There is no magic fluorescent tube. They use a combination of one cool white, one warm white, one old, one new. Changing both tubes annually isn't necessary...A mirror on the inside to reflect light back helps...A cheap timer is adequate...Furnace screen or wire window screen makes a good substitute for charads in the bottom of pots...Plastic lattice provides an admirable device on which to stand plants over water.

GAGE'S POTTING MIXTURE: 6 qts. sphagnum peat; 4 qts. vermiculite*; 4 qts. perlite*; 3 qts. sterilized soil; 2 tbs. limestone*; 5 to 6 oz. charcoal.
* = horticultural grade.

BOOKS RECOMMENDED

COMPLETE BOOK OF GARDENING UNDER LIGHTS, Elvin McDonald (Popular Library); COMPLETE BOOK OF HOUSEPLANTS UNDER LIGHTS, Marden Filch (Hawthorn); FUN WITH GROWING ODD AND CURIOUS HOUSE PLANTS, Virginia and George Elbert (Crown); INDOOR LIGHT GARDENING BOOK, George Elbert (Crown); LITTLE PLANTS FOR SMALL SPACES, Elvin McDonald (Evans); MIRACLE HOUSEPLANTS, Virginia and George Elbert (Crown); PLANTS THAT REALLY BLOOM INDOORS, George and Virginia Elbert (Simon and Shuster).

ADVERTISEMENT I have loads of plastic pots, plant flats, markers. All clean. Anyone interested in any of these items get in touch.

--Charles Proctor

Return to
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MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.

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