

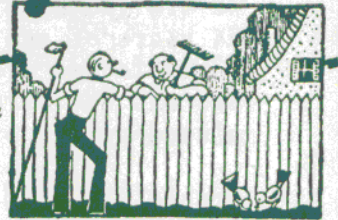


The Garden Spray

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

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

June 1971, Volume 29, Number 6.
Convention Number



THE 1971 FLOWER SHOW PLANS

The Men's Garden Club of Richfield is not going to co-sponsor a flower show with us this year.

Not many of our members have shown interest in exhibiting in a regular flower show. So, rather than discontinue having a show we will hold a show at each meeting. The exhibits will be judged the same as in a regular show. Points will be given for first, second and third prizes. At the end of the year the exhibitors with the most total points will get awards.

Everyone is encouraged to exhibit. With a show at summer meetings there is greater opportunity to exhibit in more classes. So let's have some fun. Everyone bring something. Bottles to hold the specimens will be furnished.

— Carl J. Holst, Show Chairman.

NEXT MEETING. Tuesday evening June 8, 6 PM. BACK TO OUR USUAL PLACE.

Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church, Knox and 50th St. South - for a LADIES AID DINNER at Two Dollars.

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FLOWER SHOW BEFORE THE MEETING

Got something you're proud of? Bring it!

Got something to show others? Bring it!

Just Got Something? Bring it!

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MEETING PROGRAM

Major Talk: What's New In Iris?

by Julius Wadekemper, president of the Twin City Iris Society, who has just returned from the convention of the National Iris Society.

Two Short Talks by MGC, Mpls. members.

1. MY EXPERIENCES WITH ORGANIC GARDENING.
by Bob Smith, who puts the professional vegetable growers to shame.
2. USE OF CHEMICAL SPRAYS AND FERTILIZERS FOR GENERAL GARDENING.
by Carl Holst, Supervisor of Horticulture, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board.

ARCHIE FLACK (1886-1971)

We are saddened to report the death of Archie Flack on May 22. Archie was 84 years of age and passed away after a lingering illness complicated by leukemia and a heart condition. He joined our club soon after its formation and was one of our most knowledgeable gardeners. His expert advice will be missed by all of us.

Archie was born in London in 1886, and after completing his secondary education, he was offered a scholarship for a horticulture course offered by the Royal Horticultural Society and was trained as a professional gardener. He studied at the R.H.S. headquarters in London and also trained at R.H.S. gardens in London, Kew and Edinburgh.

In 1906, Archie emigrated to the Pacific Northwest and worked in various phases of the orchard industry then developing in that area. He organized the first commercial fruit packing house in the country at Penticton, British Columbia. Archie later became Chief Fruit Inspector for Canada with headquarters in Winnipeg. From there, he found his way into the fruit and vegetable brokerage business in Minneapolis, a business with which he was associated until his retirement in 1957. He was once employed by Nash-Finch Company, and later owned his own brokerage firm. He was Vice President of E. Bernier & Sons brokerage house at his retirement.

Several years ago, Archie chaired a Special Interest Committee of our club on the subject of Hardy Trees and Shrubs. The committee purchased and tested various varieties, and from this beginning developed the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. Archie was quite instrumental in the initial development of the Arboretum, and for his contribution he was awarded the Bronze Medal of the Minnesota State Horticultural Society in 1958.

Archie was a knowledgeable botanist and an excellent plantsman. His closely planted flower borders always presented a colorful display which will be long remembered by members of our club. Archie was an Honorary Member of our club for many years, and he fulfilled that position in the truest sense of its meaning. I personally feel I have lost a close and committed friend and I'm sure many other members share my sentiments.

Phil Smith

NEW MEMBER

George A. Sweezy, 4375 Dart Avenue, Minneapolis 55424
Bus. Tel. 374-8289; Res. Tel. 926-7758

BACKWARD, TURN BACKWARD, OH TIME.....

".....if you live in a region where intermittent fever or any other fevers prevail, the sunflower has an influence on the atmospheres, and may prevent those fevers. Therefore, sunflowers must be planted around your dwellings and in the neighborhood of places that may infect the air that you nightly breathe."

THOUGHTS FROM THE TERRACES

by Dave Johnson

Our Community Garden has been completed. It's hard to believe that a weedy clay lot with a bed mattress in the middle has been transformed into a Garden of Eden in a period of eight weeks. A sincere thank you to everyone of you who put your time and effort in completing such a fine project. Our club can be proud of its accomplishment. Many compliments have come from the residents in the vicinity of the garden. These people have taken a real pride in the garden and have kept a watchful eye on it.

Our club owes many thanks to the companies who gave so generously toward the project in labor and materials. If it hadn't been for them, the garden would have cost approximately \$6,000 which excludes club labor and land. Of all the fund raising projects I've been in, this was the ultimate as the turndowns were few and far between. Actually, three nurseries promised plantings, but thanks to the Park Board their donations were not needed. The following donations were received:

Bachman's - Architectural planning, trees, shrubs, and black dirt.
Milsco Engineering - Automatic sprinkling system (Roger Nelson who gave so generously of his time).
Henry Lambert - Backhoe and day labor.
Piping Industry Development Council - \$310 on water meter pit and hookup to main.
Jack Neuman and Sons - 380 yards of sod.
Magnuson Sod Co. - 200 yards of sod.
Minneapolis Parkboard - Annual bedding plants.
Homedale Nursery - 10 Fitzer Junipers
Webster Lumber Co. - Railroad ties below cost.

Be sure to set aside Sunday, June 20, at 2 PM for dedication service of our Community Garden. Vic Lowrie is chairman and it should be a gala event. It is hoped that several civic dignitaries will be there. The Society for the Blind is sponsoring an open house in conjunction with the dedication. More details should be available at our June meeting.

It is time again to enter your garden for the annual competition for the Lehman Trophy which is awarded each year for greatest garden improvement. Contact Les Johnson or Phil Smith now as entries must be in by June 8. Over the years, persistence has paid off, as most winners had to enter several times. This was my case and I'm sure the competition made me strive that much harder.

Gardens are judged on a point basis according to the following schedule:

1. LANDSCAPE - Foundation plantings and general design.
2. SELECTION - Trees, shrubs and plants suitable for area and in the proper location.
3. LAWN - Freedom from weeds, general condition and maintenance.
4. MAINTENANCE - General, including pest control, except lawn.
5. BORDERS - Location, design, content and proper depth.
6. GENERAL IMPROVEMENT - Improvement over prior year, including structural additions.

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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.

Deadline for material the 22nd of Each Month.

Contributing editor, Bill Hull, provided the fact sheet on marihuana for this issue of the Spray.

We of MGC Mpls. are part of a great national organization, have had several national officers and have had the honor of holding two national conventions here. Between times, however, we seem to lose sight of this fact. We tend to ignore national programs, national appeals; perhaps because we are so self-sufficient; perhaps because we don't get around to attending the national conventions and fail to provide for reports from those few who do. Hopefully, the reports contained in this issue may give us new impetus.

THE ROANOKE CONVENTION - 1971

by Paul Lindstedt

Everywhere we were greeted with, "Oh, you are from Minneapolis! Best convention I ever went to was there." The 1968 convention was acclaimed many times. Then we heard good things about the one held in 1947.

On our way to the convention we stopped to see the big sunken gardens that are next to the highway in Rockford, Illinois. People from all over the world come to see these gardens--and they are going to be enlarged. C. Hal Nelson has been a member of the Rockford club for twenty years and is one of the vice presidents of the MGCA. He gave a talk on the Rockford garden club program.

Dr. Paul D. Sanders, executive director of Keep Virginia Beautiful, spoke on "The South of Today." He said that a rich soil creates a rich nation. Virginia has a program of reforestation and is the leading furniture producer in the nation. Family life thrives in the country; people tend to live on farms and work in factories more and more.

One of the workshops was led by Leo D. Priest, who is chairman of the photography committee. Slides were judged and rules for the contest were discussed. Men interested in submitting their slides next year should watch the M.G.C.A. publications for more information. Most of the prizes went to the eastern clubs because they had received more publicity.

Two mornings were devoted to garden tours and school busses were used for transportation. We looked forward to those big buffet breakfasts served early in the morning before the tours. On our bus we had the pleasure of being accompanied by H. C. Thompson, garden editor for Southern Living, (and his Nikon camera). The ladies enjoyed a tour by themselves on Wednesday morning. They visited the palatial homes that were open in Roanoke for "Historic Garden Week in Virginia" and were delighted by what they saw and the reception they were given.

Lots of door prizes were given and we Minnesotans were lucky in getting two of the big ones. At the banquet I was busy telling my neighbor about my trombone sprayer when I was nudged by Eleanor who told me that my number was up and that I was in the Bug House. The H. D. Hudson Mfg. Co. of Chicago presented me with two sprayers and a duster. Mrs. Pinkham presented Sherman with her prize, a nice new shiny compost grinder made in Winona.

Like the union says. "It Pays to Belong." I found that out on this. my first

YOU MISSED SOMETHING WORTHWHILE

by Sherm Pinkham

I have been asked by our editor to give a condensed report on the Roanoke Convention. Full details will appear, I am sure, in the next issue of our national magazine, The Gardener.

First of all, the trip to Virginia by car was most interesting, 1200 miles from our gate. Passing through Illinois, Ohio, Kentucky and West Virginia, dogwood and redbud lined the hillsides and provided a beautiful landscape. We arrived at the Hotel Roanoke on Sunday noon and found other "early birds" already registered. This hotel of 425 rooms, built in the early days by the Norfolk and Western R.R. is one of the showplaces of the South. Club members were on hand to welcome us and it was a pleasure to watch the arrival of gardeners from all parts of the country, many of whom are personal friends made during the past seven years.

The Convention itself, with 566 registered, was an outstanding success and well planned in every particular. Paul Agee, the General Chairman, deserves a lot of credit. Fred Craig of Findley, Ohio, our current president, presided at the business meetings. There were tours of five members' gardens, all very beautiful. Azelias were at their peak. Various workshops were held, all well conducted and informative.

I will attempt to give a few highlights. On Monday evening we enjoyed a program on "Roses", a lecture and slide show by C. H. "Pete" Lewis, a past president of the American Rose Society and a close friend of Carl Holst. Tuesday a fine talk was given by William Heard of Des Moines, president of the National Landscape Association. He said that gardeners come in all sizes and shapes and that the nation could use 20 million more men gardeners, especially for community service. The Virginia dinner on Tuesday night featured Virginia products. The Shrine Chanters provided a lively evening.

On Thursday evening at the annual banquet, George Gurr of the U. S. Dept. of Interior, spoke on the Johnny Horizon program. Johnny Horizon represents "the concerned citizen who wants to improve the environment." The program was started in eleven western states and some cleanup programs have involved 300,000 people. Burl Ives and Johnny Cash have held concerts aimed at the Johnny Horizon theme to reach high school and college students.

Concerning finances, the Board has approved a budget of \$40,000 for this year. Some clubs were lost due to the increase in dues but new clubs are being added monthly. Our Minneapolis club is the 6th in size. I believe that "National" needs and warrants our full support. The few bucks that we send to Des Moines help bring gardening to more people nationwide, far beyond our limited horizon. We have a group of high caliber men heading the national organization. Let's maintain harmony and above all, a solid front. Kim Roberts as vice president says, "Let's Go-Let's Grow." The goal is 25,000 members by "Big D (Dallas) in 73.

Many spoke of the Minneapolis Convention, asking about Dwight Stone, Bob Smith, Otto Nelson and others. One man said "I learned to winter roses in Minneapolis." Our fellows really made a lasting impression in 1968!

Try to go to Tucson next April. You will come home with a shot in the arm and renewed vigor and enthusiasm.

CONVENTION BUSINESS - AND FLORAL DISPLAYS

by Ed. Culbert

Delegates at the Roanoke Convention approved a bylaw change so that clubs now are represented by one delegate for the first 25 members or less and have one additional delegate for each additional 50 members in good standing. Previously each chartered club was entitled to two delegates to represent it. This action will reduce the total number of authorized delegates but not likely the total number of delegates in attendance for there are many small clubs. Judging from 1970 membership figures, 25 clubs, Minneapolis included, would continue on two delegate status and 5 clubs would have three or more authorized delegates.

The Men's Garden Club of Marietta, Georgia, became the first repeat winner of the highest award offered by MGCA. It received the coveted Woodson K. Jones award for outstanding activity for the second straight year with a long list of achievements including an educational garden, a hospital rose garden, an annual garden show, an anti-pollution drive and Big Pumpkin and Giant Sunflower contest.

At the same time the Akron, Ohio and Rockford, Illinois, clubs tied for the national special projects award presented by Better Homes and Gardens magazine. Beginning in 1971 this contest will be on a regional basis so as to give more clubs a chance. Let's enter our fragrance garden.

Two North Star Region bulletins were among the winners in their respective 1970 classes. Class 1, The Sioux Valley bulletin edited by Robert Waldoch (Waldoch was also a winner in the annual photography contest); Class 4, The Compost Pit of the North Suburban M.G.C. edited by James Smith.

"Green Fingers", Class 5, edited by William H. Bahrs, of Toledo, Ohio, was named the best all-around and most consistently good club publication among the 300 clubs in the nation. At dinner that night Mr. Bahrs confided that he had worked desperately for seven long years to "get ahead of Bill Hull" -- Just another example of what Bill has meant to our national and local organizations.

The profusion of pink, and white, dogwood and the many-colored azaleas made Roanoke a flower lover's paradise. Particularly impressive was the use of wild flowers the terraced garden of Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Kanode. Azaleas in brilliant hues were interlaced and edged with drifts of wild blue phlox *divaricata*. Clumps of white perennial canduft, *iberis*, and of yellow alyssum saxatile hanging randomly over two foot high dry-wall served to accentuate the effect. Elsewhere in the garden open spaces in front of and between the low shrubbery there were scatterings of native columbine, *acqualegia canadensis*; of cranesbill, *geranium maculatum*; of Virginia bluebells, *mertensia*; of trillium, mostly *grandiflora*; of obedience plant and of variegated hosta.

A gorgeous orchid display set up in a plastic greenhouse in the basement of Hotel Roanoke by three couples, members of the Blue Ridge Orchid Society would have delighted Bob Bryant. All specimens were labelled. Unfortunately, ropes kept me too far away to read the labels. Plans for the greenhouse, an attractive "Do It Yourself" project 12' x 15' and 7'6" high which some MGC, Mpls. member might like to try are available from two sources:

1. Virginia Tech. Extension Office, Roanoke County Courthouse, Salem, Virginia, 24153. Circular 892. V.P.I. Gothic Greenhouse.
2. Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Blacksburg, Virginia 24061. A Gothic Greenhouse for Town and Country Homes. Publication No. 892.

The man from Blacksburg said this was free as were two other bulletins in which