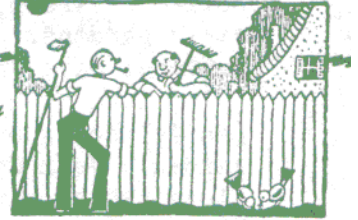




The Garden Spray

BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS

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



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Club Officers: President - Phil Smith Vice Pres. - Dave Johnson
Secretary - Roger Anderson Treasurer - Vern Roufs
Directors - Clif Brisco and Carl Holst
North Star Region Delegates - Verner Carlson, Dale Durst

MARCH 10 MEETING

"What's in the future for the Minneapolis Park System"

Al Wittman, Director of Planning and Research, Park Board.

Member talks by Harold Dickinson and Vinton Bouslough.

Two excellent talks. Vinton will supply us with some statistics covering planting in relation to the weather. As a weather bureau official what will he tell us about planting potatoes in relation to the moon?

Place, etc., Mount Olivet Lutheran Church
6 PM, \$2.00

Don't miss this meeting. Remember how great a meeting we had last month. With Les Johnson's fine featured talk on perennials and Floyd Ashley's dandy show-and-tell on bonsai.

NOTE: Twelve people made reservations for the last meeting and didn't appear. At least 60 made reservations and only 48 dinners were served. Obviously this cost the club \$24. If we continue the reservation idea, should we make it an obligation to appear or pay?

BUGS FOR 'THE GARDEN SPRAY'
by Phil Smith

WOW! That was quite a meeting we had last month. For you guys who missed it, we had an interesting discussion on a civic garden project after a pep talk by Edvard Peterson, President of the Loring-Nicollet council, and a promoter of civic gardens. Following approval of the intended project and other business matters, Dave Johnson presented an excellent program.

Les Johnson showed slides of about 60 perennials which he grows in his own garden. Vern Carlson told of his successful methods of growing begonias, and Floyd Ashley surprised us with his large collection of bonsai. Floyd shared his knowledge and demonstrated his success with a large display of nice specimens. I'm sure Dave did not know of Floyd's accomplishments or he would have been the main speaker at a future meeting. We had a dozen more reservations than members in attendance at the last meeting! Hope they were not all sick.

I was interested in Bill Hull's article last month on pollution and surprised to see that Bob Naegele, Jr., of the Naegele Outdoor Advertising Co. was the new president of the Minnesota Natural Beauty council. To many people billboards are one of the severe pollutants of our natural environment and landscape. A few years ago I represented our club, the North Star Region, the State Horticultural society, and the Nurserymen's association in an appearance before the Minneapolis city council in support of a billboard control ordinance to limit the size of signs along the city highways. Naegele was the most outspoken and bitter opponent of the ordinance and brought in all of the employees in uniform (and with families) ahead of the scheduled hearing time so as to jam the assembly room. Most members of the public had to stand in the hall and most did not even get in to speak. I wonder if Naegele may be changing its posture on pollution so that they may no longer contend that billboards are not unbeautiful or ugly. Maybe they will gradually phase out their billboard business in favor of other types of advertising. I hope so.

As a result of the action taken by the club's approval of the intended plan to develop a multipurpose garden at a site located at 19th and Aldrich Ave. So., I appeared at the park board meeting on the afternoon of February 18. The site is now owned by the Minnesota highway department and conveniently situated next to the Blind Society. The plan is to develop a fragrance garden for the blind, and which would also serve a freeway beautification purpose (the site is directly visible from freeway ramps), as well as a garden retreat for the many apartment dwellers in the area.

We have asked the Minneapolis park board to provide some watering service and minimal maintenance. At the February 18 meeting, our request was referred to the operations committee to consider the request and report back to the park board meeting on March 4. I will be there and should have more definite information on various aspects of the project at our next meeting. Coincidentally, our main speaker will be Al Wittman, the new planning director for the park board. You better be at the next meeting if you are interested in the future of our Minneapolis parks.



DOWN WITH SNOW !

UP WITH PETUNIAS !

All over the cities and suburbs petunias are struggling to come up through the snow. Will they make it? Of course they will. With the help of artificial lights, pure water, lots of humidity and some warmth, basement flowers will overpower the snow -- 2 or 3 months from now.

PRELIMINARY EVALUATION
OF HOSTAS

Compiled by M. C. Eisel
November 1969

HOSTAS WITH BLUE-GRAY FOLIAGE

'Blue Frost'
'Krossa Regal Hybrid'
nigrescens 'Elietier'
Sieboldiana
Sieboldiana 'Elegans'
tokudama

HOSTAS WITH GREEN AND WHITE FOLIAGE

decorata (Thomas Hogg')
fortunei 'Albomarginata'
'Crispula
helenoides
'Louisa'
Mackwood 22 (Green Gold)
undulata 'Albomarginata'
undulata 'Undulata'
undulata 'Univitatta'

HOSTAS WITH YELLOW-GREEN FOLIAGE

fortunei 'Areomarginata'
fortunei 'Creamy Edge'
'Frances Williams'
'Golden Circles'
lancifolia kabitan (clavata)
montana 'Aureomarginata'
tokudama 'Areo-nebuloca'
tokudama 'Flavo-planata'
'Viett's Yellowedge'

FOLIAGE YELLOW THROUGH THE ENTIRE GROWING SEASON

lancifolia subsrocea (tesana)
sieboldiana (Golden)
'Sunlight Sister'

FOLIAGE CHANGING YELLOW TO GREEN

'Chartreuse'
fortunei 'Aureo'
'Golden Anniversary'
'Lady Helen'

FOLIAGE YELLOW & GREEN CHANGING TO GREEN

fortunei 'Aureo maculata'
fortunei stenantha 'Aureo-marginata'
'Sharmon'
ventricosa 'Auremoaculata'

ESPECIALLY SHOWY FLOWERS

'Betsy King'
'Honeybells'
'June Beauty'
plantagenea
'Royal Standard'
'Sweet Susan' (vg)
trandiflora

PLANTS TO BE EVALUATED

'August Moon'
'Beatrice'
'Benjamin Harrison'
capitata
'Goliath'
'Gray Piecrust'
'Golden Plum'
'Green Ripples'
'Hollys Honey'
'July Gold'
'Lady Lou'
longipes
nakaimo
'Pale Gold'
'Purple Profusion'
'Rough Waters'
'Satin Flare'
'Snow Cream'
'Snow Mound'

VERY LARGE PLANTS

elata
'Honeybells'
sieboldiana 'Mira'

SMALL MATURE PLANTS (6" or less)

nakaiana (nakaimo)
venusta

HOSTAS THAT LOOK PROMISING

albomarginata 'Alba'
aoki
aoki variegata
'Beatrice'
'Bonanza'
cathayana (lancifolia)
'Crinkle Cup'
'Dorothy'
'Green Platter'
'Innovation'
'Lavender Lady'
'Leviathan'
'Ruffles'
'Silver Tips'
'Slim Polly'
'Snow Flakes'

PLANTS OF QUESTIONABLE VALUE

'Ros Hogh'
'Royal Lady'
'Sentinels'
'Silver Streak'
'Summer Gold'
'The Twister'
'Tinker Bells'

A HORTICULTURAL ROMANCE

Blank spaces are to be filled in with the names of trees and flowers. Remember that "sap" isn't a tree....but is not applicable to this story. Two points off for anyone that answers "sap." One point for each correct answer and one point off for mistakes.

This romance began on a hike one day. It is true that he had met her once before down at the BEECH, where he was a life saver, but they had not been formally introduced until the day of the hike. Her name was ROSE Budd, while his name was RED Wood.

She was very POPLAR with all the boys. In fact, PHLOX of them hung around her home. Her POPPY was afraid she would wed some ne'er-do-well. He wanted her to MARIGOLD so that she could have all of the comforts and luxuries she wanted. She had always said, however, that anyone was PLUM crazy who married for anything but love.

RED Wood thought that she was a PEACH and he fell in love with her at first sight. The hike gave him an opportunity to tell her about it. "YEW are a real AMERICAN beauty. YEW are the APPLE of my eye." Thereupon he ASTER to marry him.

She loved him but she pretended to doubt his faithfulness. "What LADY'S slipper did I see in your possession the other day?" she queried. "Oh, that belonged to my brother, SWEET William. It was his wife's" he replied earnestly. "Oh, ROSE MARRY me or I'll have a BLEEDING HEART. It is near to breaking now. If you only knew how I PINE for you."

Just then her little brother, Johnny, fell down. He continued to lie where he had fallen and sure did BALSAM. His big sis called to him. "OH, JOHNNY JUMP UP, you're not hurt." "Oh, Sis," he yelled back at her, "How can you LILAC that?"

RED Wood resumed his courting, falling back on a little French that he had learned in his four years at college. "Mon CHERRY, je t'aime." As that was all the French he could remember, he fell back on English. "Let me press your TULIPS to mine." Johnny thought he was a big PRUNE* but she thought he was wonderful. "You're a dream," she said, as she cuddled in his arms. "We will be married at 4 O'CLOCK tomorrow."

So JACK IN THE PULPIT performed the ceremony, and all of their days were blessed with SWEET PEAS.

(We don't know the author or source, but would like to credit our good friends at the Sioux Valley Men's Garden Club for this little beauty, which was a part of the program at that club's annual meeting this January.)

* NOT "SAP"

OVER THE GARDEN GATE
by Bill Hull

A special welcome to new member Bob (Robert S.) Voigt of 4934 Aldrich Avenue South, telephone 823-4934, office 373-3724. (Add to your roster.) Bob is an economist with the Upper Midwest Research and Development council, a non-profit organization said to be "loosely" connected with the University of Minnesota. Its activities comprise the collection, preparation and dissemination of planning information to all types of government units in the upper midwest area.

We also had as our guest, Andy Duncan, who replaces Leon Snyder as the new head of the Horticulture department at the University. We hope he will return many times as our gardening friend.

The North Suburban Men's Garden Club is the newest club in the North Star Region, started by the Region too; it meets the fourth Tuesday of the month. In fact, after this is written, your editor plans to visit them. We congratulate them for a good start and see they've just issued their first club bulletin, not yet named. We know they'd welcome a visit from any of us. Confirm (no dinner I believe) with President Harold Cragg, 5344 Perry Circle, Minneapolis, or Editor Jim Smith, 10796 7th St. N. E., Blaine.

The Sioux Valley Men's Garden Club is about three years old, also having been started by the North Star Region. President Norris Mikkelson says they would always welcome any of us for a visit. In February they have just visited the horticulture department at the university, going by Minnibus. They meet the second Monday of the month. Confirm and make any dinner reservations with President Norris Mikkelson, 1120 Valley High Drive, Bloomington, or Editor (of the Sioux Valley Gardener) Bob Waldoch, 10406 Harriet Avenue South, Bloomington.

Seedstrips look like an improvement to me. We've seen seed-impregnated paper for years but this writer has found them very unsatisfactory because the ones he planted had seeds in a hodge-podge pattern and also a hodge-podge collection. Also they didn't germinate too well. Now comes an attractive package called "Seedstrip" by Fredonia Seed Corp., Fredonia, N. Y., 14063. Two samples have been received. Early Scarlet Globe radish and Snow Cloth alyssum. The 100 or more seeds are imbedded in 15 feet of one-inch width tissue ribbon. This might be a winner. Anyway, it seems an improvement over the sheets of tissue we tried earlier.

I have a friend who remembers the "good old days" as not being so good. "When I was a kid," he says, "my folks were so poor we couldn't even afford electricity. I was the only boy on the block who played a kerosene guitar."

Rumors are flying that spring is about here. Our bird friends will be happy. We've fed cracked corn, along with other seeds, in quantities this year and have been well rewarded. On one Sunday we spotted in view at one time nine cardinals! Also lots of pheasant by our dining room window. Usually there is a mixture but on one day we counted nine different roosters, all there at the same time, and on another day, seven different hens--sixteen total. Lots of juncos, blue jays, squirrels, a couple of rabbits, ad infinitum.