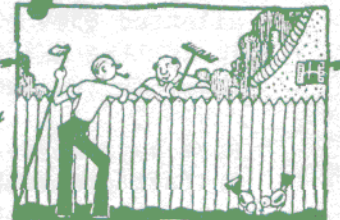




# The Garden Spray

BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS

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



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William H. Hull, editor, 7017 Dublin Road, Edina, Minnesota 55435

Ed Culbert, asst. editor. Charlie Proctor and Phil Smith, associates.

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

## ANNUAL PLANT AUCTION THIS MONTH

May 12 is the date but the place is changed: The Park Board Greenhouse at 38th and Bryant. The time remains at 6 PM with the usual fine \$2 dinner being served.

Cliff Brisco, chairman, assures us of a good sale, providing the members also bring as many perennials and other plants as possible. We know there will be at least 100 packs of assorted annuals such as coleus and petunias, but we'll need as much as possible.

A Country store will be open before the meeting. Cliff says "We hope to have enough good material to make the store possible, but come early anyhow, to browse and to meet with the fellows."

Guests are welcome, whether they eat dinner or not. Always a good idea to call and notify the officers if you plan to bring extra guests.

REMEMBER: 38th and Bryant - Park Greenhouse - May 12 - six o'clock or earlier.

## LES JOHNSON RECUPERATING

At this writing we learn that Les Johnson is coming along as well as can be expected and we are all continuing to pull for his speedy recovery. Wife "Kate" says she is convinced that the many prayers of friends have been of real value in this situation. Your editors know that Les's many friends are all wishing him good health and back into the garden as soon as possible.



### FRAGRANCE GARDEN MOVES AHEAD

Nate Siegel, chairman of the fragrance garden project said recently that he is pleased with the way the enterprise is moving ahead. The estimates for the project came in since our last meeting and they were much beyond the club's allotted \$500 and, even though plans have to be reduced considerably, it still looks like a \$2500 project. A big cost item was caused by the raised beds and the work involved in building them.

Nate says several people have come forward to guarantee the necessary money. In fact one member has agreed to advance the club \$2000 to \$2500 toward the expenses, but there are additional signatures to be on that advance. Individuals within and without of our club are to be approached for donations to meet the necessary expenses but the committee feels there will be no problem in meeting it. The club, of course, is committed only for the \$500 so authorized.

The correct name of the enterprise is the Fragrance Garden Project of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis.

Sounds like a fine committee and we feel it should be commended for moving ahead toward a fruitful completion of the activity.

### FLOWER SHOW COMING UP

That's right. We don't have many details at this time but we understand it will be in the Hardware Mutual Insurance Company building and that it is to be an activity of the NORTH STAR REGION, with several clubs participating. The last word the editor heard was that there were to be four clubs participating. Sounds great. The date is August 15 and 16.

### ARE YOU A TYPICAL MEMBER?

Men's Garden Clubs of America people made a small survey recently and they pictured a typical member as being somewhat like the following: He is apt to be over 50 years old, own his own home, has one other person in his household (family of two), makes between \$10,000 and \$15,000 a year, is employed rather than being self-employed, has between  $\frac{1}{4}$  and  $\frac{1}{2}$  an acre of land used for gardening, is a college graduate, and does not participate in an annual flower or vegetable show, (53% do not participate). As their main horticultural interest, 29% say flowers, 26% say lawns, 25% say shrubs and trees, 15% vegetables and 5% other. Sounds like a pretty nice group of fellows.

### A BONER

Yep, the Editor did. And he might as well admit it. He forgot the meeting night! No kidding. I was home working on some jobs at my desk and Lorraine Durst called my wife Carol. When I answered the telephone, she said "What are you doing home?" I thought "Gosh, I know I travel some but is it so bad that when a friend calls she thinks I should be out of town?" Then she told me it was meeting night--and it was 8:30 and too late to go. I just plain forgot I'll be in Bermuda at a sales meeting in May so will miss that one too but my thoughts will be with you fellows.



## BUGS FOR 'THE GARDEN SPRAY'

by Phil Smith

There have been several recent "happenings" which have given me fresh enthusiasm for our club, and I sense a vitality and spirit which make me have continued faith in the genuineness of our organization.

At our last meeting I reported a decision of the Board to recommend a club contribution of \$35 to the Friends of the Eloise Butler Wildflower Garden. It was also noted that for a contribution of \$85 we could provide a matching bench to help furnish the new \$25,000 building which the wildflower organization of about 175 members recently completed. After the Board's recommendation was accepted, Larry Corbett suggested that we pass the hat for additional contributions. The "hat" produced \$87, which indicates the interest of our club in worthwhile projects. Larry Corbett again showed that a little seed money can go a long way. The table and matching benches are on order from Frontier Furniture in Chanhassen, and are scheduled for delivery to the Eloise Butler Garden in mid-May. The benches will be inscribed with the names of Kenwood Garden Club, Minneapolis Audubon Society, Minnetonka Garden Club, Minneapolis Bird Club, Woman's Club of Minneapolis, as well as our club.

I am pleased to report that Les Johnson is recovering well (as this is written) from his severe heart attack and even hopes to be at our May meeting. On Saturday morning, April 18, ten members of our club worked approximately 2½ hours and gave Les's garden a good spring cleanup. I know Les appreciated this boost (and the fellows enjoyed Mrs. Johnson's coffee and peanut-butter cookies), and it gave us all a warm feeling to see so many members show up for a work session at such a busy time of year. I was tempted to make a few calls ahead of time to remind some fellows to show up at Les's, but I never got one call made. The fact that ten men gladly showed up anyway indicates the warm and helpful spirit of our members toward one another. There is certainly no finer reason for our club to exist than to be of assistance in times of need.

Plans seem to be progressing well on our Fragrance Garden project. Several members have indicated a desire to contribute to this project in one way or another. Some members have said that they would like to donate particular shrubs or plants or even a specimen tree, while several members have indicated that they intend to make a financial contribution to the project in general. Of course, we are already indebted to Bachman's, Inc. (and particularly Larry Bachman and Walter Niehaus) for considerable time and thought put into the preparation of a general plan. Nate and I met with the directors of the Society for the Blind last week (April 23), and they seem willing to provide considerable assistance.

The above-noted involvements of our members make me feel more than ever that our club can rise to any occasion and succeed at any endeavor or project which is in tune with our corporate purpose and commitment.



## I MISS THE DEAR OLD BARREL BURNER

by Bill Hull

Furthermore, I can't afford to lose any more weight.

You see, it all started this way. I have long been feeling guilty about burning things in the old fashioned barrel burner we've had for years. Of course, I don't burn compost or leaves because those are truly saved for the garden. We don't burn garbage because that goes in our two huge garbage cans. But we did burn paper.

Then as we became more aware of the inversions, bad air, polluted water, and the whole filthy mess civilization has made of things, we decided the good old barrel burner had to go. So we've been awaiting the thaw of spring to take it away - but it hasn't been used for months.

The problem is, though, how do we dispose of all the paper we accumulate.

It isn't easy. First, let me say there are only two of us at our home these days. And we probably get a little more mail than most people. We only subscribe to one daily paper, a weekly, and a Sunday supplement, plus a fairly normal amount of magazines. And we both eat lightly because we have been taking off weight. But where does all this paper come from?

For months we have been fighting a losing battle against the garbage can method of disposal. With once a week collection, our two cans are always filled to the brim and one or two extra sacks of paper awaiting the next pickup. At first it was just one sack. Now it's running two or three and maybe a boxfull of paper besides. The garbage is collected on Wednesdays and by Friday noon the two cans are full. And I mean full. That's where my weight loss has become a problem. I've dropped from 204 to 187. That means 17 pounds less weight to compress the garbage. You see, I stand in the cans and jump up and down to compress the total bulk, hoping to get a couple of more sacks therein. Now I notice the difference with 17 pounds less heft.

This week we started emptying wastebaskets on Thursday morning. We quickly filled seven huge sacks with compressed paper. These were large grocery sacks into which any amateur supermarket check-out boy can put \$20 or \$30 worth of groceries. Two of the sacks were fifty pound water softener sacks. We added that and the garbage to the garbage cans and -- presto---they are full. Now in addition we have a box in which my wife just received 48 compactly packed pieces of china, two other boxes, 20 inches square or so, that appeared from some mysterious place, and we have two more wastebaskets that we have nothing to use to empty them into.

I've gotten so I take the old magazines to the office for the girls coffee lounge. They get a chance to peruse them and I can avoid the problem of how to get rid of them. When the coffee table there overflows, someone throws them into the office mail. I'm even accumulating my plastic cigar wrappers because they're getting to be such a problem. At night I'm seriously considering doing what my neighbors sometimes do (I think)--leaving them a few surprise bundles for them to dispose of.

This isn't funny anymore. We're seriously concerned. We both edit garden publications. Both are active in gardening state-wide and nationally. I'm

on a state committee to KEEP MINNESOTA CLEAN AND SCENIC, was until recently a member of the board of directors of KEEP AMERICA BEAUTIFUL. I attended the President's White House Invitational Conference on Natural Beauty. So we're involved and concerned.

But what do we do with all this stuff? I'm in publishing. I like magazines and newspapers. I don't resent the direct mail that comes to my house because it is a legitimate form of business and isn't as much an eyesore to me as road-side signs, or doesn't force itself down my gullet as strongly as television or radio commercials.

We also like trees. We have many on our nearly three acres. And every time I stand atop the garbage cans pushing the paper deeper and deeper, I wonder how many trees had to be cut down to create this mass of newspapers, magazines, cigar wrappers, direct mail pieces, grocery wrappers and boxes, salt sacks, frozen food boxes, ad infinitum.

I ask you conservationists? Where does all the paper go?

Really where and how do I personally get rid of it?

ENTRIES DUE FOR LEHMAN  
TROPHY COMPETITION

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. To enter the competition, please contact either Archie Flock or Les Johnson. Over the years persistence has paid off, and most winners have entered their gardens several times before winning this nice clock-trophy.

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.

A FEW NOTES ON WEATHER IN THE MINNEAPOLIS AREA

The following has been taken from two sources (1) The University of Minnesota Agriculture Experiment Station Bulletin No. 243 and (2) U. S. Weather Bureau records.



A climatological prediction as to the probability of a temperature of 32° occurring in the spring and fall is based on past temperature records. A prediction of this type is valid over a number of years but not necessarily true for any given year. Its best use is in planning general activities for a period of years.

It should be borne in mind that dates given are averages. In some years a frost will come earlier and in some years later.

The average date of the last temperature of 32° in the spring is April 29. The average date of the first temperature of 32° in the fall is October 13. This gives us an average growing season of 166 days.

Percent probability that a temperature of 32° or lower will occur on or after a given date are as follows:

<u>Spring</u>	<u>Fall</u>
10% or 1 yr in 10...after May 13	10% or 1 yr in 10...Sept. 28
20% or 2 yrs in 10...after May 8	20% or 2 yrs in 10...Oct. 3
30% or 3 yrs in 10...after May 5	30% or 3 yrs in 10...Oct. 7
40% or 4 yrs in 10...after May 2	40% or 4 yrs in 10...Oct. 10
50% or 5 yrs in 10...after April 29	50% or 5 yrs in 10...Oct. 13
60% or 6 yrs in 10...after April 20	60% or 6 yrs in 10...Oct. 16
70% or 7 yrs in 10...after April 23	70% or 7 yrs in 10...Oct. 19

#### TEMPERATURE

Weather Bureau temperature observations are taken from thermometers that are exposed in a shelter about 5 feet above the ground. Forecasts of temperature are also related to this thermometer height. It should be remembered that temperatures at ground level can frequently be 5 to 10 degrees lower than the forecast shelter temperatures.

#### RAINFALL

During the period May through September we normally get 16.07 inches or approximately 65% of the normal annual precipitation.

Average rainfall by months in inches:

April 1.85	July 3.27
May 3.19	August 2.18
June 4.00	Sept. 2.43

Averages are derived from 30 years of past records.

V. R. Bouslough