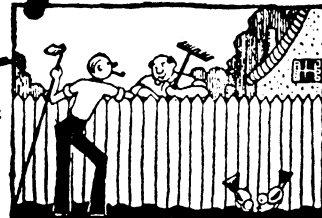




The Garden Spray

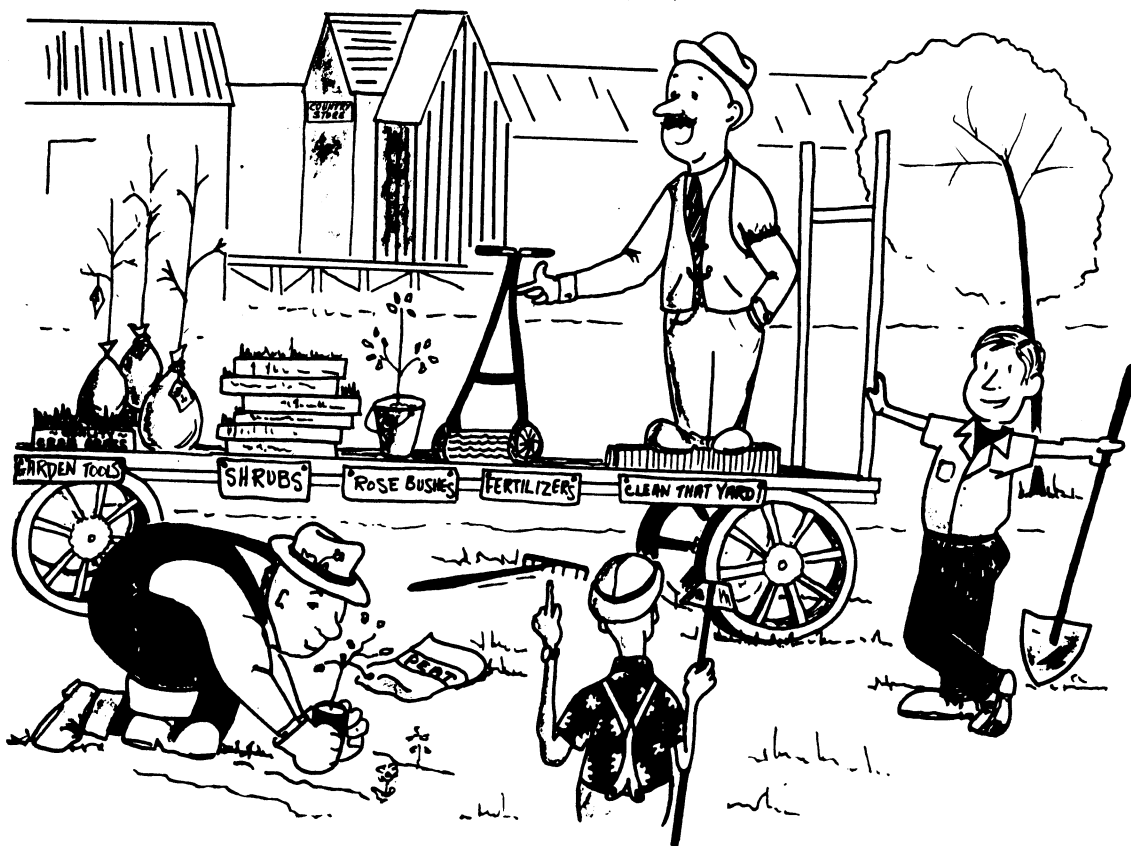
BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.

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



May 1973, Volume 31, Number 5

YE OLDE COUNTRY STORE & AUCTION



Tuesday - May 8, 1973
Pearl Field - Diamond Lake Rd. & Portland
Enter at 414 Diamond Lake Rd.

Bring Your Guests & Come Early!!

5:30 PM - Country Store
6:00 PM - Country Fried Chicken - Price \$2.50
7:00 PM - Grand Olde Auction

Come & See Dwight, Ev, & Julius In Action

LUCKY BUCKS!

LUCKY DRAWINGS!

LUCKY YOU!

THE APRIL MEETING

Despite the last minute change in date and the change in speaker, we had 57 members out in March and a good meeting. Dwight Stone auctioned off Twins baseball tickets to Sherm Pinkham and Bill Cowcill; Dave Goddard took orders for a bargain buy on plastic troughs; Bill Hull gave away seeds; and Carl Holst distributed huge pussy willows with the admonition, "They'll keep better if you don't put them in water."

G. Rolph Svendsen, a former teacher currently employed by the Center for Community Action, told of the work done by the Youth Corps in the Lucy Wilder Morris Park area below the Pillsbury A Mill on the east bank of the Mississippi. His proudly displayed slides showed the transformation of the area from an illegal dump to a secluded park with rustic bridges and steps, cobblestoned council rings and seldom seen views of the stone arch bridge. A high log and tie barrier now prevents further dumping but there still is no satisfactory solution for the motor bike problem, he said.

DRIFT FROM THE SPRAYER

In April for the second (or is it the third?) time since we have been editor, *THE GARDEN SPRAY* failed to reach you before the monthly meeting. We can't remember this ever having happened during the many years Bill Hull was responsible for getting it out. We apologize.

In our estimation the primary purposes of a club bulletin are: First, To notify the members as to time and nature of forthcoming meetings. Second, To report on club business. Third, To boost club activities and encourage participation therein. Everything else is secondary. A meeting notice received after the meeting negates the entire reason for mailing even though one or more worthwhile articles are included. The article would keep and the telephone committee would have done all the notifying.

Bill Hull contributed the article "Growing From Seed the Easy Way" in the April issue. We pencilled his name in at the end of the article but it didn't pick up well. Sorry Bill.

Otto Erickson after reading our comments (April issue) re weather reacted by air mail, "If the Editor of the Garden Spray is left with considerable doubt as to what attraction this area of Arizona has to offer Minnesota retirees, one may also properly question what attraction Minnesota has to offer Arizona retirees."

Touché, Otto, but have you so soon forgotten "Minnesota, the Theatre of the Seasons"?

And, Otto, in answer to your question, translate "beer and skittles" as fun. There are several old Cornish sayings one of which is, "They go together like beer and skittles" I was tempted to quote my brother again who said, "I don't know what skittles are but if they go with beer they must be good." Actually skittles is the game of nine-pins and the beer quaffed when playing adds to the enjoyment of the occasion.

Bulbs Need Fertilizer: Don't forget to fertilize all spring flowering bulbs after the bloom. Also nip off old faded flowers and flower stalks.

Usually bulb foliage remains green for eight weeks after flowering to mature and to provide food for bulbs. Healthy green foliage must be present if applied plant nutrients are to be turned into usable plant foods.

Of all the complete chemical fertilizers available those containing a high amount of available potassium are best for bulb fertilization. Use those with formula of 5-20-25-10-10, 9-7-17, and the like.

GARDEN CLIPPINGS

Right now the April showers are white flakes being driven by a brisk north wind. However, May flowers will arrive and so will our May plant sale. Chairman Dave Johns is looking for lots of plant material, so bring your extras. Also bring some green money so you can buy some of the interesting things that will be offered. It will make your garden more varied and also help the club. We will have our usual delicious catered meal.

Another of our projects is the neighborhood garden at 19th and Bryant South. This garden has been enjoyed by many people and our club received a commendation from the Committee on Urban Environment. John Lillebridge is chairman this year. He is lining up a group that will be able to complete the planting on one Saturday. He has the plants and he needs manpower to get the project going again. During the summer some maintenance will be needed. He will prepare a schedule and no one will need to put in a lot of time.

Our club has made many contributions to beautifying our community. Many of our members are active in improving the environment, and we can all set an example in our own yard and garden. Neighbors do notice and they become a little more critical of their own yard. Instead of keeping up with the Joneses better keep up with a MMGC member.

--Carl J. Holst

AUCTION NEWS

Come one, come all for the best buys on the latest varieties of all types of flowers! Bring a friend or two for the fellowship, and help make this auction the greatest ever. Pearl Field at Diamond Lake Road and Portland is the location.

Members, be sure to bring plant material for the sale. If you don't raise plants under lights, split some of your favorite perennials and pot them up for the sale.

Several of the garden stores have promised generous donations of plant material and garden equipment. Some of these valuable items will be given away at our big raffle.

Spend 5 bucks and get 6 dollars of lucky bucks if purchased before the auction.

We are negotiating with the dancing girls and contract terms should be closed in time for the auction.

See you there for a full evening of fun and some finger-licking good chicken plus fresh cherry pie.

Thanks to the following members who volunteered to set up the auction - Be there by 2:00 p.m. if possible, to help.

Rollie Anderson
Bob Bryant
Struan Complin
Dave Goddard
Carl Holst

Evald Johnson
Paul Lindstedt
Vic Lowrie
Jim Mielke
Al Nelson

Russ Perry
Charlie Proctor
Bob Smith
Norm Stewart
Tommy Thomas

* * * * *

WE WELCOME new member Glenn E. Bartsch. a statistician. associate professor of Biomet

MINIATURE ROSES, PART 2, SINCE 1920

by Jerry Olson

The history of miniature roses can be divided roughly into those in existence prior to the 1920's which was covered in Part 1 and the rediscovery by Dr. Roulet of a miniature rose growing in Switzerland around 1918. The chance discovery of this rose by Dr. Roulet was the beginning of many happy events for rose growers. It was introduced to rosarians in 1922 by M. Correvon who had named the plant Rosa Rouletti in honor of the discoverer. This was the beginning of a new era of popularity for miniature roses both in Europe and in the U.S.A. However, shortly after the introduction of Rosa Rouletti, Peter Lambert of Trier, Germany, found it to be the same as his old plants of Pompon de Paris, a finding to which Kordes agreed. In view of this development the name Rouletti is treated as a synonym of Pompon de Paris.

During the 1930's two giants in the Rose World, Jan de Vink in Holland and Pedro Dot in Spain were busy trying to develop new miniatures for our pleasure. Jan de Vink worked with Rouletti and finally produced Peon whose background was cloudy. Some authorities claim Peon to be the results of Rouletti selfed, but de Vink claims he used pollen from four different roses. The hybridizer believes it was the pollen from G Mundi which made the take. In view of this confusion I believe it safe to say that was the child of open pollination.

This little rose so impressed Robert Pyle who was traveling in Europe in 1933 that he persuaded de Vink to allow him to introduce it into the U.S.A. Mr. Pyle was a clever businessman who realized that something as revolutionary as Peon would need tremendous publicity and perhaps a new catchy name. Thus in April 1934 Peon became Tom Thumb in memory of Charles Sherwood Stratton, the famous dwarf (1838-83). This little gem proved to be so popular that the supply was completely sold out. Mr. Pyle urged de Vink to introduce more varieties which soon came forth in likes of Pixie, Midget, Sweet Fairy, Red Elf, Red Imp, Bo Peep, and Cinderella.

Still no yellow miniature was available until the great rose man of Spain gave us B Gold Star. During the war Pedro Dot's nursery fields were needed for food production so he entered the field of miniature rose hybridizing to provide enjoyment for his grandchildren. Soon beauties like Bambino, Coralin, Granadina, Perla de Alcanada, de Montserrat, Pixie Gold, Pixie Rose, Presumida, and Robin were the talk of the miniature world. Other great rose men of Europe have given us Baby Masquerade by Tantau, Dwarf King, and Dwarf Queen by Kordes, and Cri Cri, and Scarlet Gem by the Meilland.

Today in our country tremendous work is being done by Ralph Moore in Visalia, California. He has produced many new varieties such as Bit O'Sunshine, Candleflame, Dian, Easter Morning, Eleanor, Jackie, Little Buckaroo, Pink Cameo, Yellow Bantan, and many more. However, many of his crosses are with floribundas and the flowers are usually somewhat larger than true miniatures.

MGCM HELPED LANDSCAPE NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

The beauty of the grounds surrounding the National headquarters has been greatly enhanced by plantings made possible by the contributions of clubs and members throughout the country.

The one color spot on the grounds will be a bed of 600 tulips planted directly under the large rustic outdoor sign.

Several score ornamentals and evergreens were planted late in the fall when the funds were made available and all seem to have survived the Iowa winter.

Members driving through Des Moines on Interstate 80 are invited to stop and visit +

BORDER BEARDED IRIS
by Julius Wadekamper

The Border Bearded irises are, by definition, plants from 15 to 28 inches tall which bloom with the tall bearded iris. This bloom season in the Minneapolis area is from May 28th to June 15th. The BB iris have branched stalks which are stiff and erect. The leaves are shorter than the bloom stalks. The blooms are larger than the blooms of the miniature tall bearded iris. Usually they have heavier substance than the miniature tall bearded iris. An important aspect of this group of irises is proportion. The flowers should be in proportion to the size of the plants. Large flowers on small plants are not pleasing in this class of iris.

In recent years the Border Bearded class of irises has come into its own. New cultivars are of very high quality and excellent proportion. Since they bloom at the same time as the tall bearded iris they are excellent foreground plants. Color schemes can be very effectively worked out with BB iris and tall bearded iris. The Border Bearded Iris, being small, are also very effective in small gardens where there is not enough room for tall bearded iris.

The culture of Border Bearded iris is similar to other bearded irises. The rhizomes should be planted at ground level or a little below, the roots extended along a V mound of soil. They should be grown in full sun.

Iris borers are a problem with all bearded irises. They over-winter in debris and in the spring the young larvae make their way to the leaves of the young iris. Chewed edges and a slimy appearance in the leaf folds as they are spread apart is a sure indication of borers. The larvae chew down to the rhizome where they grow to a 1 or 1-1/2 inch fat wormlike larvae. They leave the rhizome, boring their way through and pupate in the soil.

Rot often results from borer damage and bloom stalks are invariably ruined. Borers can be controlled by a thorough spring clean-up of debris and by spraying the plants early with a contact or systemic insecticide.

Some good selections according to color are:

White - CRYSTAL BAY, BRIDES PEARLS

Yellow - ELLEN Q., MEXICALI, LACE VALENTINE, TULARE

Orange - MOLTEN GLASS

Pink - DRESDEN FRILLS, NATIVE DAUGHTER, PINK DARLING

Orchid - FRENCH

Violet - TIMMIE TOO

Blue - MISS RUFFLES, BLUE MILLER, BOTANY BAY, PEBBLES, JUNIOR PROM

Tan - OLIVE COCKTAIL

Brown - JUNGLE SHADOWS, CARNIVAL GLASS, BOY SCOUT, BAYADERE, BROWNIE SCOUT

Broad spectrum insecticide--one that kills more insects and birds and fish and pets than a selective insecticide does. -- GREEN THUMB, Dallas MGC.

