

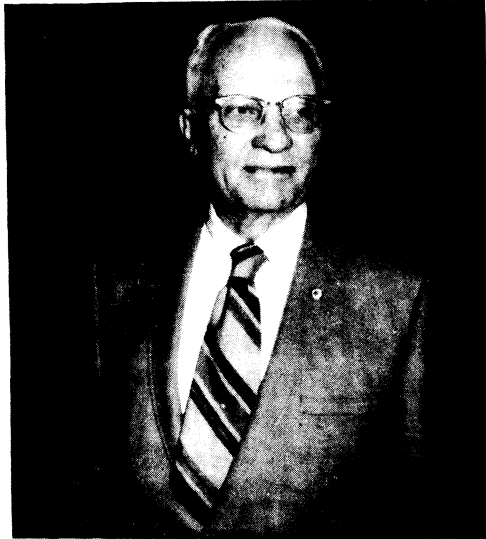
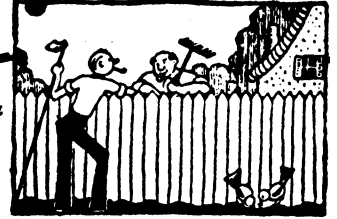


The Garden Spray

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

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

- ANNUAL CONVENTION REPORT ISSUE -
November 1975, Volume 33, Number 11



NATIONAL PRESIDENT AT OCTOBER MEETING

70 persons including member Bill Brooks, Apache Jct., Arizona, heard Harold J. Parnham (in picture to left), MGCA President at our October 14th meeting.

Parnham speaking of our lack of appreciation of our native trees quoted the visitor who upon first seeing the lush growth in the midwestern river valley queried, "Who made this planting?"

He noted that the number 1 tree varies area to area according to what grows well there, noted how many elms we still had
(continued on page 2)

NEXT MEETING, Tuesday November 11, ELECTION of OFFICERS for 1976.
(We also vote on the recommended increase in dues.)

MOUNT OLIVET LUTHERAN CHURCH, 50th St. at Knox Ave. S.

Dinner at 6:00

Price \$3.00

MGCM SPEAKER

GLENN H. RAY will discuss "SELECTION and CARE of HOUSE PLANTS." Mr. Ray is executive secretary of the Minnesota State Horticultural Society. His articles on house plants appear regularly in the MINNESOTA HORTICULTURE

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IN THE OFFING

Friday evening, November 28th, our garden club members and wives are invited to Klier's Nursery, 5901 Nicollet, to actually make holiday decorations. Come early. We will have help in making wreaths, centerpieces wall hangings and various other items. Materials are available at very nominal prices and we pay nothing for all the help from the Kliers. It is also an opportunity to see their large display of craft items for sale. There is a lot of good fellowship as well as a chance to be creative. The Kliers are great hosts. Let's have a big turn out.

Monday evening, December 15th, Christmas party (see page 7): Bob Gage

(PARNHAM continued from page 1)

in Minneapolis whereas Des Moines had lost all of its and warned that solid plantings of one tree inevitably spell disaster. He compared two college campuses: one, all elms and denuded; the other (Ames) every kind of native tree where the loss of 1400 elms was not even noticeable. He was hopeful that since diseased areas can be spotted from the air we could move in quickly if remedies become available.

Speaking of the development of trees, he said, "Most of the good new varieties are crosses by nature" which man has exploited. Using apples as an illustration he stated that Mackintosh, Baldwin and Delicious are the only apples which will grow on their own roots--all others must be budded or grafted on wild crabapple roots.

A basket of choice apples of several varieties from Bob Smith's garden each individually labelled as to variety, together with a cash contribution for the national from members who had bid on the apples was presented to Parnham following his talk.

The evening concluded with a panel "on Winterizing". Items: Dahlia tubers for next year should be very good for slow cooling and shorter days create bigger and hardier tubers.....Cold storage is needed for any tubers with a lot of moisture in them.....Rot starts near the stem of dahlias. Dust with terrachlor and store in vermiculite for best results.....Stick to metal or stoneware containers. Many plastics give off fumes deleterious to tubers, bulbs, etc.....There is little use in storing tubers of Unwin type dahlias. Little seed plants produce more flowers than do the tubers....

Make a pH test on your garden soils in the fall and apply the appropriate fertilizer.....Keep ornamentals irrigated. Go into the winter moist... Don't plant daffodils and tulips together. Daffodils give off something highly toxic to tulips.....Tie up but don't trim your roses before burying. Spray; dust won't adhere.....Dormant lime-sulphur is as good as any spray when you uncover roses.....If you use rose cones and there isn't a hole in them by March your roses just won't come through.

LEON SNYDER JR. SPEAKS AT K.C.

We heartily agree and we couldn't say it any better so we quote John Burger reporting in the Minnetonka MGC bulletin:

"Best speech: Leon Snyder, Jr., of the Horticulture Department of the University of Missouri, at Columbia, told of his extensive work with miniature landscapes. Using severe pruning and growth retardant chemicals and techniques, young Leon, son of Minnesota's Arboretum expert of the same name, grows miniature plants of all kinds in miniature settings constructed to look like large natural areas he and his students see while they are on weekend field trips in the back woods and mountains of Missouri. A breath-taking display at the convention of about 20 of a large collection of over 400 of these creations, which Snyder has in his 40' x 75' city lot backyard, almost made you want to take off right now on the two hour drive from Kansas City to Columbia to see the whole collection. Snyder's easy, conversational speaking style, good sense of humor and friendly, sincere enthusiasm for his work and telling about it made him a favorite of the crowd, which included his wife and parent on the evening when he spoke."

THE GARDEN SPRAY - The Bulletin of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis

November 1975, Volume 33, Number 11.
Editor: Edwin C. Culbert
5315 Portland Ave., Minneapolis, Mn.
Deadline for material: the 15th
OF EACH MONTH.



W. W. Brooks

THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Our last meeting's "Double Feature" was a complete success. It was nice to meet MGCA President Harold Parnham and his talk was excellent. Harold joined our panel of experts--Carl Holst, Les Johnson and Fred Glasoe for a lively question and answer period.

W. W. Brooks, MGCM President in 1958, who later moved to Arizona was in town and, as always, made it a point to attend the meeting. By coincidence, Bill was present at the October 1973 meeting when MGCA executive secretary, Lyman Duncan spoke. Nice timing, Bill! For that you get to have your picture run first ahead of all the other past presidents whose pictures Ed. Culbert plans to run in the SPRAY.

The resolution introduced by Larry Corbett for the club to provide a bench at the Arboretum in memory of Cortis Rice would be a fine gesture on our part. I have received several checks in the mail this week. If you wish to contribute to this fund, send your check to me and I'll see that the Arboretum receives it.

A few minutes ago I completed the ballot in the October-November HORTICULTURIST and voted for the 1976 officers of the Minnesota State Horticultural Society. Club member Nate Siegel is running for the office of First Vice-President. To vote for Nate cut out the ballot from the last page of the HORTICULTURIST and mail it in. Ballots must be received by Tuesday, November 11th.

I was very happy to see the large number of members signed up for the fall clean-up at the Community Garden on Saturday November 1st. Let's all try to pitch in at 9:00 A.M. and put our club garden to sleep for the winter.

We owe our thanks to Bob Smith and Jim Mielke for the display of apples at our October meeting. These were beautifully grown apples and the auction of them along with the lilies brought by Les Johnson was very profitable for the club. Les brought left-over bulbs from the North Star Lily Society's sale and, also, generously donated some choice bulbs from his own garden.

--Bob Livingston

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Heard at K.C. The American Nurserymen's Association had been trying for years to develop an interest in planting without much luck when along came Lady Bird Johnson with her beautification program. Eureka!

FIVE STORY INTERIOR ROCK GARDEN SETS STAGE FOR
MGCA CONVENTION

by Bill Hull

The Crown Center hotel at Kansas City was a magnificent setting for this convention. At one end of the lobby was a five-story rock garden with trees towering almost that high. Made possible by a natural bluff, up against which the hotel was built, this lovely sight was complete with waterfall, cypripediums, a top to bottom staircase through the trees, and a lounge at the base.

In the adjoining building there were about a hundred fascinating shops which were good for browsing and buying. The entire area, at the south edge of the Kansas City loop, is a \$200 million dollar activity to house 50,000 daytime residents, many of which will live in condominiums being built behind the Crown Center hotel -- on the hill. Owned by Hallmark card people, the hotel is operated by Western hotels.

For top quality hotels, the rooms were reasonably priced, ranging from \$29 single to \$42 double. However, there was some feeling that some registrants would have preferred to pay less, which would have meant more Spartan quarters. My single at \$29 was luxurious. A much better buy than the \$36 I paid in Chicago three nights later for a very small room with wire hangers in the closet, an old mattress and a room that smelled.

Highlights for me were the business sessions, which I understand Sherm Pinkham will report on as our other director (I am still a director by virtue of being a past national president) ...and also the awards banquet. As MGCA Awards chairman, I know how hard this group had worked to make selections.

The Silver Medal went to Leland Fetzer of Rockford, Illinois, whom many of you know. Lee has contributed greatly to MGCA. Since his presidency in 1960, he has remained very active, currently chairing the conventions committee; this continued activity helped him win the award. Incidentally, he was ill and unable to attend.

The Gold medal for horticultural achievement went to Wheelock Wilson of Marshalltown, Iowa. Mr. Wilson, a member of the Marshalltown MGC, was present to accept the award. His achievements are numerous.

It was a pleasure to have Dr. Leon Snyder present at this awards banquet, so we could present him as the 1963 winner of the Gold Medal. In fact, I was privileged to make that award to Leon, just a couple of years before I received the Silver Medal. Leon and Vera were there partly to hear son Lee's excellent talk. Lee came over from the University of Missouri to be the banquet speaker. I believe Pink, or Ed Culbert, or Paul Lindstedt will report specifically on Lee's talk.

That's enough from me. Even though the rooms were more expensive than at other meetings, I will long remember that huge lobby, the five-story rock garden, the excellent food and so many friends. After all, it's been twenty years since I started attending MGCA conventions.

VEGETABLES WORKSHOP
Reported by Paul Lindstedt

This was one of 3 workshops held simultaneously on Sunday afternoon at the Crown Center Hotel. Charles Holtz and Corwin Hicks from Indianola, Ia., led the discussion to get new ideas on gardening in general.

A couple from Albany, N. Y. were enthused about raising and eating soy beans. The beans are a boon especially to vegetarians, since they are the only complete protein food from the vegetable kingdom. Be sure to plant the horticultural kind--Iowa State U at Ames lists at least 16 different varieties. The beans can be blanched, frozen or eaten fresh like lima beans. When the beans are frozen they don't get mushy. Soybeans are self-fertilized the same as the tomato.

Concern was expressed about losing the battle to the insects, as they are becoming immune to poisons. The Eastern hardwood stands are being denuded by insects--as well as our elm trees. Even the mice are thriving on poison in St. Paul.

Gleanings: To kill millipedes and centipedes use malathion.....Slugs can be controlled by Buggeta or day old beer. Wood ashes also are a good deterrent.....Use Thuricide or DitreI for cabbage loopers.....To keep cabbage heads from bursting pull them to one side and cut half way through the stalk.....Discourage Japanese beetles by applying Sevin on the ground to kill the larva.....Blossom end rot can be prevented by throwing a handful of slaked lime in the bottom of the hole when planting--calcium added to the soil seems to help.....Ground moles can be controlled by chlordane. One organic farmer places dog dung in the tunnels to foul them up.....To keep coons out of the corn spray fuel oil and kerosene on a path six inches wide to greet the fastidious beasts. Plant the outer rows later to throw them off the track.

LECTURE on SOILS AND VEGETABLES

(With especial emphasis on tomatoes says Paul Lindstedt)

The speaker, Dr. R. A. Schroeder, was Chairman of the Horticulture Dept., University of Missouri at Columbia. Dr. Schroeder has done research on the influence of soil fertility on the growth and nutritive quality of vegetable crops.

The first thing to do is to look at the soil and the plants you want to grow. Study the roots and the requirements for growth. Soils have three basic components: sand, silt, and clay. Sand is important for the texture of the soil; silt is formed by wind and water action; while clay is the medium that holds the nutrients for the roots. Organic matter makes up less than five percent of the volume of most soils; the addition of this material is beneficial in many ways to the growth of the plant. Compost may be added. Likewise, green crops may be turned under. A handful of loam from the garden holds more living organisms than there are human beings on this earth. Water cannot be absorbed into the roots if no air is present. When the soil is damp the clay and organic materials form a colloidal solution or soup to feed the plant roots.

A novel way to remember some essential elements for plant growth is to think of Dr. HOPKINS: H is for hydrogen, O is for oxygen, P is for phosphorus, K is for potassium, N is for nitrogen, S is for sulfur, and

causes goiter. Go to the CAFE for calcium and iron. The three numerals on the fertilizer bag stand for N, K and P: nitrogen is for foliage, phosphorus is for flowers and fruit while potash is for root development. Soil samples sent in show salt concentrations take place when lots of commercial fertilizers have been used. Of the principal trace elements boron, chloride, copper, iron, manganese, zinc and molybdenum iron is the most commonly in short supply.

The tomato is an herbacious perennial plant. Tomato plants have been kept growing for over five years and to a length of over 100 feet. Tomatoes develop vegetative and reproductive growth at the same time. They have perfect flowers that deliver pollen onto a stigma that is covered with a sticky fluid. There are over 8,000 stomata (pores in the leaves) per square inch on the top side of the leaf, while the bottom side has over 80,000 stomata per square inch.

The dictionary describes the tomato as a South American herb of the nightshade family--no wonder the love apple was considered poisonous for many years.

BUSINESS AT KANSAS CITY Reported by Sherm Pinkham

Increase in Dues. There has been no increase in National dues for five years. In the meantime costs of operation have skyrocketed as you all know. Print paper for the GARDENER has almost doubled. Detailed increase in costs is available for those who wish them. The matter was discussed thoroughly by the delegates. A motion was made to increase National dues to \$7.50. There were 163 votes for and 4 against. Sixteen plant societies presently exceed our national dues of \$5.00. Eight of them are \$10.00 or more. The increase must be approved by the majority vote of all clubs. We will vote on the matter at the November meeting.

Convention Sites. Next year we will go back to Fort Collins, Colorado the last week in July. A warm invitation from their delegation was extended and accepted. We will sleep and eat at Colorado State College as before. They promise that costs will be kept reasonably low. It will also be the one hundredth year of Colorado statehood. Hawaii was cancelled for 1977. They were unable to come up with definite arrangements. It was also a little expensive for us poor folks. Miami will consider advancing to 1977 and Akron, Ohio is a likely site for 1978.

Officers. Present officers were advanced. See list in the GARDENER. Luther (Jim) Cooper of Raleigh, N. C. will lead us in 1976. You will all like Jim. Go to Fort Collins and meet him. The new Third Vice President is Earl Starr of Miami. He has a good background and appears to be an excellent choice.

Endowment and Investment Committee. A full report was made by this committee. It was originated a year ago to help insure the perpetuation of MGCA. Receipts from life memberships, memorials and bequests go into the Endowment Fund. The income only is used for MGCA operations. Investments are presently made exclusively in U. S. Treasury Notes and they are held by the Treasurer of the Committee, Ray Tillman of Jackson, Miss. He is fully bonded. The cost of a life membership will remain at \$100.00 up until January 1, 1976, when it will go to \$150.00. Anyone can now pay \$25.00 per year for four years. Considering the tax deductible feature a life membership is a good investment, especially

for those who pay Federal and State income taxes. The yield should be over 10%. There are now over 100 life members and the number is growing. Albert Nelson of our club is one of the latest names to be added to the list.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY



Please join your fellow members with your wives and friends for an evening of companionship at this year's annual Christmas Party featuring:

Parade of Turkeys
Traditional Dinner with All the Trimmings
Strolling Carolers
Annual Awards Program
The Mount Olivet Chorales
Door Prizes

Place: Mount Olivet Church
50th and Knox S.

When: Monday, December 15

Time: 6:00 Social Hour
6:45 Dinner

Price: \$6.00 per person

Reservations must be made by December 1.

RESERVATION FORM

Please make _____ reservations for me for the
MGCM Christmas Party Monday, December 15. Enclosed is
my check for \$_____. I will carve a turkey:
_____ yes _____ no.

Mail to: Dean Schneider
2520 Dresden Lane
Minneapolis, MN 55422

Make checks payable to:
Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis

Signed _____

Address _____

NOTE: The assessment for 1976 dues will be decided upon at the November meeting so fill out the form on the back of this page and bring it