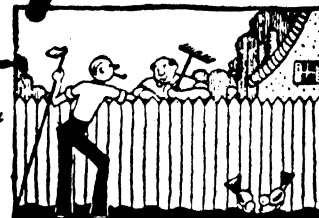




# The Garden Spray

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



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

October 1976, Volume 34, Number 10

THERE'S A CHILL IN THE AIR - WINTER MUST BE COMING  
SO

We're Going Back to Our Regular Meeting Place Again  
(Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church, Knox Ave. S. at 50th St., Mpls.)

for

Our OCTOBER MEETING, TUESDAY OCTOBER 12th, 1976

Dinner at 6 PM

\$3.00

Meeting at 7 PM

FALL GARDENING: Lilies, Julius Wadekamper; Tulips, Paul Bachman;  
Peonies, Dick Edblom, a representative from the  
American Peony Society.

COMING: The CHRISTMAS PARTY, Monday December 6. Mark your calendar.

## FIFTH DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY ORGANIZES

The only district of the Minnesota Horticultural Society not having an official organization was the Fifth District. (The Fifth District encompasses primarily Hennepin County and some of Anoka County.) This was changed with the recent establishment of an official executive body for the Fifth District.

The Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis is well represented in the new organization with Dwight Stone serving as its president.

Other members of the executive board are:

1st Vice President:	Mary McGuire	Secretary:	Gladys Olmsted
2nd Vice President:	Jim Seeden	Treasurer:	Fred Glasoe
Directors:	Stan Crist	Larry Corbett	Jim Perrin
	Charlotte Gregory	Hazel Sweeney	Nate Siegel
	Carl Holst	Vic Lowrie	Norma Olson
		Leon Snyder	

Glenn Ray, Executive Secretary of the Minnesota Horticultural Society is assisting with the organization. The first event to involve the 4,500 members of the Fifth District will be held November 6th at the Normandale Junior College. Details of this program will be sent to you at a later date.

Soon you will receive a questionnaire asking for your help to evaluate your interests. Please take a few minutes to fill in the blanks and return it to me. If the Fifth District is to become a successful venture the help of all will be needed. Please plan now to help and

## PRESIDENT'S NEWS LETTER

As summer draws to a close we can look back to a successful growing season in spite of the drought and hot weather. Gardens visited on our tours were certainly excellent with evidence of considerable watering.

The September meeting at the Lutheran Brotherhood building was well attended. In addition to seeing the beautiful gardens, a film was shown on pesticides that pointed out possible dangers from excessive use.

The arboretum has been especially busy this summer and fall. Attendance has been up every month with some months showing an increase of as much as 50 percent over last year. Fall color, a seasonal phenomenon, is early this year and because of the drought is not as good as in recent years. Contrary to popular belief, "Jack Frost" has little to do with fall color. Cool nights and sunny days provide the right conditions for good fall color. In addition to the native plants such as the sumacs and the maples, we have many introduced plants that add to our fall display such as the sour gum, sassafras, buckeyes and the American smoke-bush. Research is underway to select superior individual plants that produce an outstanding display of fall color every year. We are working on sugar and red maples and the white ash. We also have a selection of the painted buckeye that develops bright red leaves in the fall.

--Leon Snyder

### THE AUGUST TOUR

Reported by Vinton Bouslough

Sunday, August 29, was a day of garden touring, enhanced by the presence of the ladies. It was an ideal summer day to see the beautiful gardens and orchard on the tour.

First on the agenda was Nate Siegel's garden. Nate has ably demonstrated what can be done with a limited area. A small waterfall adds to the charm of a large variety of plants, notably roses, dahlias and a large bed of coleus of many patterns and shades.

James Bezat's garden was a wonderland of dahlias of all types and colors. Vegetables are of special interest to Jim and the produce attested to his skill.

At Charles Robbins' we saw carefully planned borders outlining his fine yard. Huge white plantain lilies were outstanding. A grapefruit-sized tomato was dubbed by Charlie as a "cherry tomato - Texas style".

Vern Carlson also has shown how to utilize every inch of growing space. His back lawn, in which is centered a well fruited apple tree, is edged with many fine flowers. Vern's hanging baskets of begonias and impatiens were an added attraction.

At the Fischer's Croix Farms near Point Douglas we were treated to ice cold cider, tasty blue plums and grapes, plus hot coffee. Should any of the large seed companies want photographs to illustrate their next year's catalog, they should visit Louis and Helen Fischer's beautiful gardens. They will find near perfection in gracefully curved beds, not only of prize petunias, impatiens and begonias, but also a fine selection

(continued page 5)

THE GARDEN SPRAY - Bulletin of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis In  
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Deadline: the 15th OF EACH MONTH.

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MGCM PRESIDENTS: ROGER J. ANDERSON, 1972

Roger Anderson is a busy man. Telephone his home and you'll talk to his wife, Mary. She will relay your message or, oftentimes, tell you what he's already done about your request or anticipated request.

Summers Roger runs a garden service.--Not strange. He was born on a farm near Spencer, Iowa. During his teens he moved to a farm northwest of Windom, Minnesota.

Winters Roger teaches special education in the St. Louis Park schools.--The master's degree in educational psychology explains that.

Likewise, he coaches baseball; has done so for 20 years in Owatonna and in St. Louis Park. But what really keeps him on the run are his jobs officiating at football and basketball games. His B.A. major at the University of Minnesota was physical education. There he lettered in baseball. Not surprisingly he played a year of professional baseball plus a number of years in the Minnesota semi-pro and amateur leagues.

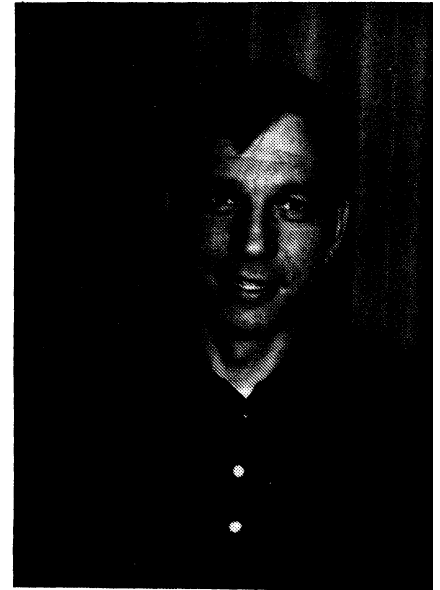
The garden club as a learning place is important to Roger so he tries hard to squeeze in time for the meetings. (He'd just left a game to hurry to an MGCM meeting when we snapped this picture.) Says he, "My gardening interests are largely due to my rural background where I learned and experienced the joys of growing and harvesting. (But) I have since become more interested in general flower gardening and in landscaping for beautification...(My) garden service business...has necessitated a keen interest in and a knowledge of plants and shrubs.

"My special interests in flower groups are not very specific. I enjoy and grow both a perennial border and an annual border. If I had to pick a couple of flowers that I admire and enjoy growing the most I'd select roses and dahlias."

THE AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER MEETINGS

In August Dr. Snyder came with branches freshly cut from more trees and shrubs than he was able to discuss in the time he allotted himself. (We'd have gladly stayed to let him finish.) In addition to displaying his samples he discussed the characteristics, qualities and merits of 23 of them. Of special interest were the following which may be introduced through local nurseries in the near future:

- . A hybrid Ohio buckeye, fall color red instead of yellow.
- . A hybrid corkscrew with bunches of berries like grapes.
- . An Eastern redbud, seed-grown from a local hardy specimen.
- . A cockspur hawthorne, white flowers, red fruit; immune to cedar-apple rust.
- . A winter hardy tulip tree



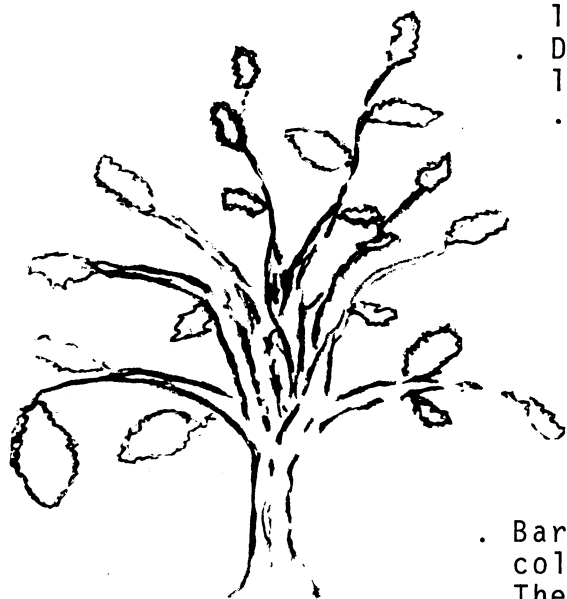
Rog. Anderson

## WHO SAYS THE KIDS AREN'T CONCERNED?

by Ed Culbert

May 5 I went to the Hiawatha School to talk to two first grades, to demonstrate and to help them transplant. I have been there before. It is always a joyful experience; but this time I saw something especially interesting in a corridor. It was a wall decoration between two doors-- a tree with huge elm-like leaves. It was a project telling the story of Dutch elm disease done, I was told, by the boys and girls in Mrs. Janice Nelson's sixth grade.

Each leaf bore in large readily read letters a sentence or two. Each leaf bore a complete statement of fact. All the leaves combined to tell the story of Dutch elm disease. Here is what I read leaf by leaf:



- . Dutch elm disease came to the U.S.A. in elm logs from the Netherlands.
- . Dutch elm disease was first found in Ohio in 1930.
- . DED is caused by a fungus that grows in the roots which supply water to the tree.
- . The DED fungus plugs up the tree's water supply.
- . DED plugs an elm's water conducting tubes.
- . The elm bark beetles spread the fungus from elm to elm.
- . Elm bark beetles lay eggs in dead or dieing elm wood.
- . The DED beetles come out about May 1st.
- . DED fungus is carried on the inside and outside of elm bark beetles.
- . Bark peeled off sick trees shows streaks of a color change.
- . The ends of young branches turn over producing a characteristic known as shepherd's crook.
- . As the disease spreads in the tree rapid wilting takes place.
- . Dutch elm disease is incurable.
- . Sick trees are cut down and chopped into tiny bits so beetles cannot lay eggs in them.
- . Park Board tree inspectors will remove diseased trees on park or boulevard property.
- . It costs owners of sick elms on private property \$100 to \$300 to remove them.
- . DED killed 235 trees in 1973 and 1000 in 1974.
- . Without trees Minneapolis would look cold, flat and barren.
- . To participate in the elm watch call 370-4030

### MEETINGS (from page 3)

September found us dining in the basement lunchroom in the Lutheran Brotherhood Building and looking out on lush green terraces backed by a multi-story wall of Boston ivy. In the foreground was a massive planting (over 3000) of coleus, geraniums and fibrous rooted begonias. Marvi Greer, head gardener, told us the courtyard gets but 3 to 3½ hours of sunlight per day so his choice of flowering plants is restricted. He gets his spectacular results by using lots of fertilizer, close planting and use of red fescue for heavily travelled areas.

## FLOWER AND VEGETABLE SHOW

Another flower and vegetable show is history. Was it worth the time and effort? I got an enthusiastic "Yes" from those I talked with. It was a good show in terms of quantity and quality of specimens entered and of the response of those visiting the show. How did it stack up with some of the shows in earlier years? 26 exhibitors responded with 584 entries (which included 56 from the June show) as compared with 591 entries from 28 exhibitors in 1964 and 791 entries from 34 exhibitors in 1962.

However, without the contributions from six exhibitors outside of our club, four of whom were among the top ten point getters, the show would not have been nearly as successful. With a joint show and meeting I had hoped for much greater participation than 20 of our members. Just think how great the show could have been if each member had brought at least one or two entries.

What does it take to put a show together? Here is a brief recap of the efforts of many people. Charlie Proctor, Les Johnson and Chuck King revised the show listing of eligible entries. Dale Durst, Darwin Price, Ray Marshall and Walter Schmidt took care of the staging. This included arranging for show place, setting up and taking down the show, making bottles available, ordering ribbons and many other jobs. Bud Christens handled the registration. Carl Holst, Fred Glasoe, Julius Wadekamper and Al Westerberg judged the flowers and Orrin Turnquist and Todd Bachman judged the vegetables.

Placing ribbons, recording and tallying points was done by Floyd Ashley, Bill Frederick, Jim Mielke, Don Hardesty and Charlie Proctor. Publicity and printing of posters and signs was handled by Dick Victor. Walter Schmidt prepared the brochure, had it printed and took care of the expense personally. Sherm Pinkham coordinated the hosts. Many of you assisted these men. More were involved in putting on the show than in entering specimens. My thanks to all who helped and exhibited and to the arboretum for providing the place and the viewing audience.

How about the youth competition? Five exhibitors is not very many. I would suggest that we drop youth competition in the future unless many of our club members will support it by a commitment to sponsor a youth gardener in the coming year and help and encourage these youths to successfully grow and enter in the show. What do you think?

--Bob Smith, Show Chairman

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### AUGUST TOUR (from page 2)

of other colorful plants. All of this is on a fine sloping lawn overlooking the St. Croix valley. Bird feeding is also of interest to the Fischers as evidenced by the numerous feeders outside the windows of their lovely home. A few early varieties of apples were available but the fall crop, yet to be picked, was still decorating long rows of carefully pruned trees with reds and yellows.

The tour concluded with the 140 attendees sitting down to a roast beef dinner at the Steamboat Inn in Prescott, Wisconsin. On bus #2, the homeward trip turned into a songfest with Harry Sova leading the group

CONVENTION S LIGHTS  
by Ed. Culbert

Albert Wilson who regularly appears on the convention program year after year giving away garden tools and booklets during his lecture/demonstrations had a new approach this year--slides. Still funny and informative he answered one question on pears as he snipped away furiously, "Cut the branch back to 4 or 5 buds to produce fruit spurs. The new end bud will produce new terminal growth. Repeat on new growth the following year." I was reminded of Archie Flack demonstrating on an apple tree in Rene' Dufourd's yard years ago.

Sample comments by Wilson: "Vegetables, they've got a lot of common sense. Forget about pH"...Re newspaper mulch: "The garbage they print there is the best fertilizer there is."

C. S. Evans, president of the Soil Conservation Society of America speaking at noon July 27th suggested cooperation in joint endeavors by Soil Conservation chapters and MGCA clubs in the same area. He cited as advantages that the society is also headquartered in Des Moines; has 43 student chapters; has an international clientele; is multidisciplinary; has an interorganizational fellowship with others; has an interprofessional fellowship; and, is viable in operation.

The GARDEN SPRAY received one of the three Club Bulletin Journalism Awards issued to bulletins of its type. (photo offset) Bulletins are prepared by four different processes: hektograph, mimeograph, offset and print. Three citations are issued in each group. Front page promotion of meetings, content and appearance are major criteria. Take a bow contributors and typist. We have you to thank.

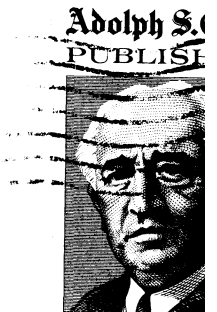
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