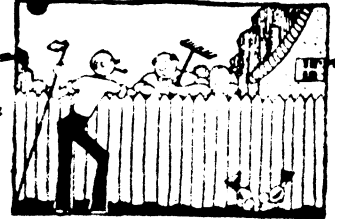




The Garden Spray

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

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



September 1975, Volume 33, Number 9

The summer tours are over; BUT,
We are not quite ready, yet, to go indoors; SO,
for our NEXT MEETING (TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1975) we plan to take a
BUS Trip to BACHMAN'S GROWING RANGE (Tree farm) for a conducted tour.

MEET at 5:30 P.M. at the MT. OLIVET LUTHERAN CHURCH PARKING LOT
Fiftieth Street at Knox Avenue South

BUS LEAVES PROMPTLY AT 5:45

DINNER (catered by DeLaria's) AND BUS - \$3.50

THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

The North Star Region MGC Flower and Vegetable Show was the best I've seen. To have hundreds of people enjoying the high quality exhibits was very gratifying to all of us. Our thanks to Darwin Price and Dale Durs for a job well done. We are very appreciative, too, for the ideal facilities provided by the Arboretum.

The reports I've received of our Ladies' Night tour indicate everyone had a wonderful night. It's remarkable to have three fine gardens adjacent to each other as the Johnstone, Snyder and neighbors' gardens are. As usual the Arboretum gardens were excellent and the kitchen staff prepared a delicious meal for an overflow crowd.

Our MGCM board meeting August 19th had a pleasant surprise for us. Our host, Jim Perrin's Japanese style garden with its pool complete with bridge and goldfish, the colorful display of flowers, and a new gazebo a real achievement. It would be worth the effort to arrange a post-Min Tour visit to see this garden.

If any member has not talked to me directly about his plans to attend the MGCA convention in Kansas City, please do so immediately. We must forward the names of our delegates prior to the convention and we do not want to omit anyone.

I'm looking forward to our September visit to Bachman's tree growing facility. If you desire to increase your knowledge of trees plan to attend this meeting. And, remember to call your caller right away to say you

THE AUGUST TOUR

Promptly at 5:45 p.m. two bus loads of MGC members, wives and guests departed from the Mount Olivet parking lot. We found the countryside along highway 5 unbelievably lush and green despite a record dry July. We passed the Arboretum where a goodly number of others who had driven out waited and went on to the gardens of Leon Snyder and Bruce Johnstone.

Since our last visit Dr. Snyder's gardens had been expanded by the addition of another rose garden and a vegetable garden both on the uphill slope to the north. One person remarked that the new rose garden and location reminded him of Benny Haskell's former garden near Lake of the Isles but Benny's never held a candle to this one in variety, color or profusion of bloom. It was a peak June display despite the mid-August date. The deep straw mulch must have helped but what is the real secret, Leon?

Dr. Snyder's other garden plots and beds were their usual perfection but the crowd appeared unwilling to leave the roses. Even so, the vegetable men noted that Leon lets his tomatoes sprawl on the ground as do commercial growers and that corn on the south slope gradually increased in height a couple of feet to some ten feet as one went uphill--Something to do with variety, of course.

Bruce Johnstone's garden uphill from Dr. Snyder's again featured the interesting and spectacular massed arrangement of annuals we've come to expect. We noted that logs separated the various plantings and that a border and geraniums added a central accent feature. Erle Tornstrom radiated a paternal glow of satisfaction as he studied the flowers for Bruce was member of Erle's first Boy Scout Troop way back when. (1925?)

Along the fence between the Snyder and Johnstone properties were plantings of high bush cranberry and buffaloberry laden with fruit. Some thought the buffalo berries were a new variety of currants the fruit was so similar.

The few wanderers who located the passageway through the hedge leading to Mrs. Aloyce Higgins' garden above Johnstone's reported that florally it wasn't quite up to previous years but that the fruit trees looked better. The apricots and plums in particular, bore fruit larger than that in the stores. Inspection was cut short, however, by the beeping of horns signalling the return to the Arboretum where at 7:15 we circled the grounds by bus while our stomachs growled.

Following dinner many visited the Fireside Room and the Andersen Library which Dr. Snyder opened for inspection. Others lured by the footbridge, grasses and trees reflected in the pool below the Educational Building or by the fingernail moon over the collections strolled in the semi-darkness. It was here Norm Stewart located your editor and spouse when it was past time for departure. This delay in leaving time for bus 195, strangely enough, put the passengers in such a good mood that, spurred on by Harry Sova, they sang lustily all the way home.

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Bill Cowcill was reported to be in England in August. England? Not Scotland? Had he stayed home he might have attended Ringling's circus elephants.

Vinton Bouslough's monthly weather summaries are proving of greater interest.

LONG TIME MEMBER DIES

Cortis N. Rice, Jr., a long time member of the MGCM passed away in Sarasota, Florida, on August 1. He would have been 74 in October.

Cortis was one of the members of MGCM who was instrumental in the formation of the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. He was a past president of both the Mens' Garden Club of Minneapolis and of the Minnesota State Horticultural Society.

During his active years as a gardener he was considered one of the outstanding amateur horticulturists in the State of Minnesota.

Upon retiring in October, 1966, Cortis and Muriel left their beautiful home and garden in Interlachen Park, Hopkins, and moved to Sarasota, Florida. While living in Sarasota, Cortis continued his interest in gardening and horticulture by developing interest in the Men's Garden Movement. There, although not affiliated with MGCA, had a membership well over 100.

His many friends in MGCM will miss him. Even though he was removed from us by many miles, I'm sure his thoughts were with us the second Tuesday each month. To Muriel, his beloved wife, we offer our sympathies. As a memorial to Cortis, many of us have made contributions to the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum.

--Dwight Stone

PLANTING PROGRAM TO COMBAT ELM DISEASE LOSSES

(From a July 1975 report by Park Superintendent Ruhe)

During a recent tree survey forestry crews counted and itemized every tree and tree space on city boulevards and in parks. "The purpose of the survey was to give the forestry department background information for a tree planting program to replace elms which may be endangered due to dutch elm disease, and to fill the spaces where trees should be planted.

"There are 213,335 trees in the parks; 43,000 of which are elms. There are 95,000 trees on the streets the majority of which are elms and 34,000 vacant spaces exist where trees need to be planted.

"Some 34,000 trees will be planted on boulevards during the next four years commencing this spring. A master street tree plan has been developed which anticipates the type of trees to be planted in each vacant boulevard space. The varieties of trees to be planted include hard maples, hackberry, European and American linden, locust and green ash.

"Priorities for the plantings have been established by the forestry and planning departments. These include 1) The density of trees in comparison to the density of the neighborhoods and where there are many residents and few trees, priority will be given. 2) The planting program will be tied into other street and park projects such as reconstruction, paving, sewer and water work. 3) Large areas of missing trees due to storm or extreme disease loss. 4) A balance throughout the entire city. 5) Planting in large groups as much as possible.

"After a boulevard tree is planted, a booklet describing the tree and the proper care to be taken will be given to the resident."

1975 NORTH STAR REGION FLOWER and VEGETABLE SHOW

Total number of exhibits 401 (Horticulture 330, Vegetable 71).
Total number of exhibitors 21 (Minneapolis 11; North Suburban 5; Six Valley 5).

AWARDS

Sweepstakes, Horticulture:		Bob Waldoch
Sweepstakes, Vegetable:		Marlin Gilhouse
Grand Champion, Horticulture:		Fred Glasoe
Grand Champion, Vegetable:		Julius Wadekamp
National, Petunia: Dale Durst	National, Tomato:	Dick Victor
Court of Honor:		
Del Ferguson (2)	Chuck King	Julius Wadekamper
Fred Glasoe (2)	Darwin Price	Allen Westerberg
Henry Halvorson	Bob Waldoch	

Blackbourn Trophy Award: Vern Carlson

Tom Foley Memorial Award: Fred Glasoe

We wish to thank all the exhibitors and the fellows who helped make a very good show.

--Darwin Price and Dale D

APOLOGY

Is my face red! What a mistake! It was Al Nelson, not Otto Nelson, reported in the August SPRAY, who received the Honorary Life Members at the Minnesota State Horticultural Society convention in June.

To Al's credit in addition to the Minnesota Tip Method of rose winter cited in the August-September HORTICULTURIST are numerous other less services to others. Examples are: Getting the State Capital Rose Garden well under way; Handling many MGCM flower shows, particularly at the Tower Mutual and the Park Board Greenhouse; Keeping up gardens for Tom Foley's widow and others; Being a vital worker and contributor in the Society and other garden groups; and, not the least, Being always quite available to lend a helping hand or word of advice wherever needed.

I apologize both to Al and to Otto for the mistake.

--Ed. Cul

It was good to visit with Otto and Thora Erickson on the August tour. Life in Sun City seems to agree with them; but we hope they continue to make an annual pilgrimage home to Minnesota.

Larry Corbett has offered to help set up a suitable memorial at the Arboretum for Cortis Rice. Memorial checks made out to the Minnesota Arboretum may be sent to him.

Walter Menzel, indomitable as ever, though hospitalized in early August and not able to attend the tour still flew to San Francisco August 2 where he and Louise were to meet friends from Germany with whom they planned a sightseeing drive up the coast to Vancouver. From there he

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Deadline for material the 15th of Each Month.

KANSAS CITY and IMPORTANT DECISIONS

Being somewhat of a convention buff - ll so far -, Bob Livingston asked me to write something for the SPRAY relative to the Kansas City Convention commencing September 26th.

To those of you who have attended National Conventions, I need not tell of the splendid times had. To others I would urge that you try to attend either this year or next year at Fort Collins, Colorado. The programs are worthwhile and the good fellowship (or personship) is something that cannot be measured. We had a letter this morning from Homer, N.Y. garden friends we met at Cortland.

As I see it, Kansas City will be one of the most important meetings in MGCA history. Last year I was made a National Director, chiefly, I think because I show up at Conventions and also at Directors' meetings (last November at Miami at my own expense). What I lack in gardening know-how (which is plenty) I try to make up with fervor.

With creeping inflation the past few years and with a more or less fixed income, MGCA is caught between the devil and the deep blue sea. Consider the rise in paper costs, salaries, increased postage rates and the like. You say "We already support National". Sure, each of us pays to National less than ten cents per week, hardly the price of a cup of coffee.

What can we do if we "want to go the extra mile"? As I see it, the most popular thing would be a Life Membership at \$100.00 (proceeds go into Endowment Fund) or a Sustaining Membership at \$10.00 annually (proceeds to operating expenses). Both are Income Tax Deductible, bargain rates for many. We have some more than generous men. A Board member in Illinois sent in a check for \$500.00. One of his clients, a retired school teacher, sent in \$100.00 because "she wanted to help some worthy organization".

Our Minneapolis Club, 7th in size, has one Life member and one Sustaining member. Can't we do better? If any of you want to send me a check payable to MGCA, I will put them all in one envelope and send to (and show) Des Moines. Two years ago I appealed for help to gravel the road at headquarters and get Iowa out of the mud. Your response was gratifying. Checks came in from even as far as California (from our good friend P. Young). As Joe Gargarola says on T.V., "We have done it before, we can do it again".

--Sherm Pinkham

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Todd Bachman 26401 Galaxie Road Phone: 463-2399
Farmington, Mn. 55024

NEW MEMBER

(Clip and paste in your roster.)

Eric Bergstrom 823-2542

ONE 457

JULY 1975 SUMMARY

(For those who file weather records with their garden notes.)

July 1975 was notable for the lack of rainfall. The monthly total, 0.5 inch was 3.11 inches below normal. It was the driest July since 1936 with 0.11 inch was recorded.

During the last 21 days of the month, only one day had measurable rain. (0.30 inch on the 23rd, the most that fell any day of the month.) There was rain on 5 of the first 10 days of the month but amounts were not great enough to help gardeners. (0.14 inch on the 9th and 0.05, or less, on the other 4 days.)

Above normal temperatures added to the seriousness of the lack of rainfall. The monthly average temperature of 76.3 degrees was 4.4 degrees above normal. (The warmest July recorded was 1936 with an average temperature of 81.4 degrees.) July, 1975, temperatures ranged from 98 degrees on the 25th to 49 degrees on the 12th. There were 15 days with reading of 90 or above. The normal number of 90 degrees or above days for July is 6.

Percent of possible sunshine for the month was 84, well above the July normal of 70 percent.

Data for this summary was taken by MGCM member Vinton Bouslough from records compiled by the National Weather Service at the Minneapolis-St. P. International Airport.

Note: Departures from normal, when used in these weather summaries, are in effect departures from averages, based on a 30 year period. The period used for determining normals is 1940 through 1971.

Return to
THE GARDEN SPRAY of MGCM, INC.
Edwin C. Culbert, Editor
5315 Portland Avenue
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55417

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MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.
CLUB OFFICERS:

President: ROBERT C. LIVINGSTON
6001 Tracy Ave., Mpls., 55436
Vice President: DONALD WILSON
5552 Emerson Ave. S., Mpls., 55419
Secretary: FRED GLASOE
618 E. 58 St., Mpls., 55417
Treasurer: DEAN S. SCHNEIDER
2520 Dresden Lane, Mpls., 55422
Past President: JAMES E. PERRIN
10701 W. River Rd. N., Osseo, 55443
Director: DARWIN PRICE
6738 15th Ave. S., Mpls., 55423
Director: NORMAN E. STEWART
88 Woodland Circle, Mpls., 55424



FIRST CLASS

TO:

William H. Hull
6833 Creston Rd.
Edina, MN 55435