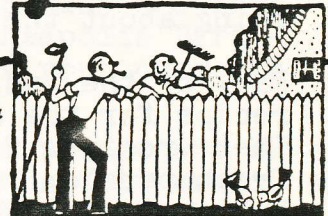




The Garden Spray

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

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



October 1979, Volume 37, Number 10

WE'RE BACK ON SCHEDULE AGAIN

The summer doldrums are over. Frost is in the air (or soon will be). By now we should all be ready to settle down, to put our feet once more under the old familiar table at the old familiar place and to start garden talk where we left off last spring with the fellow across from us; so

WE'LL BE EXPECTING YOU AT THE MGCM OCTOBER MEETING

TUESDAY OCTOBER 9th AT MOUNT OLIVET CHURCH
(50th Street and Knox Avenue South)

Dinner 5:45 PM

Price \$3.50

Program 7:00 PM

GET YOUR RESERVATION CARD IN TO BOB GAGE AT ONCE

Our PROGRAM TOPIC: GARDENING BEDDY BYE TIME
will be handled by a panel of members with selected subjects:
Annuals/Perennials Trees/Shrubs/Hedges
Turf grasses/Lawns Dahlias/House Plants
Vegetables Lillies/Iris/Peonies
Composting Roses

Each panelist will discuss preparation for winter, the protection of the plants, and soils. Presentation will be followed by a question period from the attendees. Bring your questions/problems. If you have personal tried and successful techniques let's share them with the members. This is true gardening and most of all fun and enjoyable gardening.

--Archie Caple, Program Chairman

NOTICE

The Board of Directors at it's meeting on September 11th discussed the budget needs for the coming calendar year and is recommending the following dues for 1980:

Minnesota State Horticultural Society.	\$ 6.00
Men's Garden Clubs of America.	10.00
Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis	9.00
	<u>\$25.00</u>

This dues increase results from a \$1.50 increase in the State Horticultural Society dues last year that was absorbed by the club plus increased costs due to inflation. It is intended that this increase in dues will be discussed and voted upon at our meeting in November.

OVER THE FENCE

I want to thank Fred Glasoe and his unofficial committee consisting of Jerry Shannon for the excellent tour. Many members commented to me that it was the finest tour that they had been on. The only disappointing thing about the whole tour was that only twenty-six members were present.

Many of the ladies on the tour asked for the Dill Dip recipe and the recipe for the Spinach Appetizer, which were served at Stan Crist's house. These recipes follow. Lee Shannon made the Dill Dip and used fresh dill, fresh parsley, and fresh onion. I am sure that made the Dill Dip better but even with the dried ingredients, it is a very good dip.

CLARICE'S DILL DIP

1 cup sour cream
1 cup mayonnaise
1-1/2 tsp. Lawry's seasoned salt
2 tbsps. dry dill weed or 6 tbsps. fresh
2 tbsps. dry parsley flakes or 6 tbsps. fresh
2 tbsps. dry minced onion or 1/2 c. fresh

Mix together. Refrigerate.
X 2 for large platter of vegetables.

MIDGE'S SPINACH APPETIZER

1 c. mayonnaise
1 c. sour cream
1 box chopped frozen spinach - squeezed dry
1 can chopped water chestnuts
2 salad onions - chopped
1 pkg. dry Knorr vegetable soup

Combine above and place inside hollowed out sour dough bread. Slice removed bread into pieces to spread filling on.

For 2 loaves of bread, use 3 recipes of dip.

It seems hard to believe that Summer is coming to an end. This fact is driven home more as the Christmas party committee begins meeting to plan the last event of the year. Please mark your calendars that the Christmas party is Monday, December 3rd.

See you at the October meeting.

--Bob Gage

ADVANCE ANNOUNCEMENT

The Fifth District Minnesota State Horticultural Society will conduct a one day workshop at the Normandale Community College, 9700 France Avenue South, on Saturday, November 10th. There will be something for everyone. Registration fees will be \$3.00 per person, \$5.00 per couple.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Raymond A. Rahn
22125 Albatross Circle
Farmington, MN. 55024

Leon Snyder
6900 Rolling Acres Road
Excelsior, MN. 55331

YOUR HELP IS REQUESTED

On July 24 I received the following letter from Thomas A. Montgomery, Director of Park Operations, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board.

"In speaking with Chet Groger last week concerning business dealings, he mentioned that the Garden Club stopped at the Minneapolis Park Board Rose Gardens while on tour. I would appreciate your comments concerning your over-all impressions of the gardens.

"It is seldom that we have an opportunity to hear from people who have knowledgeable opinions concerning our facilities. When Chet mentioned that you had been at the gardens, it appeared that this might be a good chance to get such an opinion. I am sure that Mary Lerman (our Horticulturist Coordinator) and John Lanns (our Horticulture Foreman) would be interested in your views."

MGCM should avail itself of this invitation to voice an opinion. If you will send your comments directly to me by October 6th I will make a composite letter. If you wish to write directly to Mr. Montgomery at 310 South Fourth Street, Minneapolis, 55415 that will be fine, too.

--Robert D. Gage

DRIFT FROM THE SPRAYER

The editor of the COMPOST PIT, of the North Suburban MGC, like your editor thinks it is high time to plan ahead for next year's community garden plantings. In a recent issue he writes,

"The Crystal City Hall planting now looks very lush and colorful. I stop by and pull a few weeds once in a while. Take a look at it and see if you can't offer a better arrangement for 1980. We've had snapdragons, petunias, marigolds, cana lily, celosia, alyssum, ageratum. We should plan an effective, colorful planting for next year now. And, we have to do a better job for the Library. So ideas are welcome."

Congratulations to Stan Crist, editor of the Minnetonka MGC bulletin GARDENING IN MINNETONKA, for the very attractive brochure COLORFUL LAKE MINNETONKA prepared for their flower show at the Wayzata Bay Center Mall on August 18th. Perhaps MGCM should consider a theme title for its annual shows.

The portion (page 7) of the article from the NOKOMIS NEWS for August 22, 1979 came about because Fred Glasoe steered the reporter this way. She came, two small children in tow. They had been promised they could go swimming after the visit. It was mid-afternoon, hot and humid, and they were restless. No wonder she got some things wrong; but, at least, we got a plug for MGC.

Years ago MGCM meetings devoted some time to a review of material from other clubs' publications. The archives say, "Jack Cohen described some of the more interesting recent exchange publications" (June 14, 1949) "Rene Dufourd's witty presentation of excerpts from the exchange bulletins was the highlight of the evening" (February 14, 1950). We'd hardly care to devote meeting time for such reports today; but we do from time to time in the SPRAY quote from an exchange.

Every so often an article written by one of our MGCM members and printed in the SPRAY is copied by the bulletin editor for another MGCA club. Members of other MGCA clubs also write worthwhile interesting articles. We plan to print one, hereafter, from time to time. The first appears on page 8 of this issue.

CHARLES PROCTOR REPORTS ON THE 1979 FALL SHOW

Another show is now ancient history. I think we could say it was a success. 31 club members entered a total of 440 exhibits. 30 of them entered flowers, hanging baskets and potted plants totalling 335 exhibits. 15 entered 105 vegetable specimens. 8 adult non-members made 31 entries and 6 youths made 20 entries. Total entries in the show were 491, roughly a 60% increase from last year. A total of 270 ribbons were awarded MGCM members, 114 first place and 78 each, second and third. In addition, 24 ribbons were awarded to adult non-members and youth exhibitors.

COURT OF HONOR WINNERS, FLOWERS, were:

Fred Glasoe - Dahlia "Homari Girl"	Bob Gage - Rose "Mexicana"
Jerry Shannon - Dahlia "Light Music"	Dwight Stone - Passion Vine
Bob Livingston - Lily "Allura" (Oriental hybrid)	

COURT OF HONOR WINNERS, POTTED PLANTS & HANGING BASKETS, were:

Chuck King - African Milk Tree (Euphorbia Trigona)
Chuck King - Necklace Jade (Crassula Marinariana)
Chuck King - Tahitian Bridal Veil

COURT OF HONOR WINNERS, VEGETABLES, were:

Vern Carlson - Carrot "Goldinhart"	Bob Smith - Celery
Jerry Shannon - Savoy Cabbage	Bob Smith - Potato "Anoka"
Bob Smith - Plum "Red Glow"	

Jerry Shannon's dahlia was selected as GRAND CHAMPION in the category Flowers, Potted Plants and Hanging Baskets. Bob Smith, Mr. Vegetable, swept the vegetable section. He had 3 of the 5 Court of Honor specimens including the GRAND CHAMPION. Henry Halverson won the NATIONAL AWARD, FLORAL for a pink floribunda rose "Pauline Pearl". Chuck King received the NATIONAL AWARD, VEGETABLE for his canape pepper.

Dave Johnson won the flower sweepstakes with Jerry Shannon and Vern Carlson close behind. The summary:

	<u>Total Points</u>	<u>No. Entries</u>	<u>No. Blue Ribbons</u>	<u>Total No. Ribbons</u>
Dave Johnson	53	40	12	24
Jerry Shannon	50	22	9	22
Vern Carlson	48	36	10	21
Chuck King	33	18	8	15
Carl Johnson	25	15	4	12

The vegetable sweepstakes wasn't even close. The summary:

Bob Smith	39	26	9	17
Dave Johnson	25	19	3	13
Vern Carlson	23	16	5	10
Leon Snyder	14	6	3	6
Dick Victor	12	8	2	7

We have never awarded a combined sweepstakes (flower and vegetable). It might be of interest to see how this would have worked out:

Dave Johnson	78	59	15	37
Vern Carlson	71	52	15	31
Jerry Shannon	59	27	12	25
Chuck King	40	21	9	18
Bob Smith	39	26	9	17

WE WELCOME YOU

Welcome to this function of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc. We enjoy having you with us and hope you have fun too. Should you be sufficiently interested to consider applying for membership, we would be pleased to hear from you. The prime requisite is interest in gardening and a desire to share experiences with us. At the end of this folder are listed members to contact for further information.

Our membership consists of 127 men from all socio-economic-educational levels of society. Some of us are beginning gardeners; some are professional horticulturalists. Most are capable gardeners who raise flowers and/or vegetables for the fun of it.

The club meets monthly; in recent years this has been predominately at the Mount Olivet Lutheran church, except for summertime tours of members' gardens via buses. Our meetings are dinner gatherings, after which we have a speaker or a demonstration. Wives are invited to the tours and to the annual Christmas party. This latter event is a festive occasion, featuring the Parade of Turkeys. Each carver parades around the room holding aloft the roasted turkeys for pre-carving display. Several hundred people attend this event.

The purpose of the MGC of Minneapolis is to exchange gardening information, thus allowing individual members to garden better and to serve the community through group action.

Many of our activities are sources of great pleasure and education to members. The club has sponsored testing programs for different genera; photographic sessions in members' photogenic gardens; a large tulip test planting; summer tours of outstanding gardens; an annual plant sale to help finance activities and to exchange plant specimens; a speakers' bureau to provide programs for other garden clubs. Members are proud of the honors their comrades have won in specialty plant societies, such as those of roses, dahlias, gladiolas and chrysanthemums. They have fond memories of the two national conventions of their parent organization, the Men's Garden Clubs of America, held in Minneapolis in 1949 and 1967; they remember attending such national conventions of MGCA all over the country. There are many activities in this club to keep one interested and challenged.

Members may receive recognition from their fellows in the club in many ways, through the club's awards program. A Bronze Medal is given annually to recognize that member who has made outstanding contributions to the club. A Blackburn Trophy (also called the President's Cup) is awarded to the non-board member who gave greatest support to the president during his reign. The Lehman Trophy goes for the best garden on the summer tours. Members also compete for the Green Thumb awards, given annually for support of club activities by perfect meeting attendance. Recently, at the twentieth anniversary of these awards, the number of recipients set a record high. Also members can receive any of the awards offered by the national group. Three members of this club have received MGCA's Silver Medal for achievement.

Through the years, this club has contributed much to its community. For example, its members were instrumental in founding the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum which was first proposed at our January 1951 meeting. Five members were among the small corps that saw this arboretum to fruition.

As another community service, this club purchased and planted a group of 200 flowering crabapple trees, giving them to the people of Minneapolis. They were planted in the Lyndale Gardens in 1952 adjacent to the city rose gardens, on park board land, at no expense to the city. A large number of members did the actual work of planting these trees by hand and still see them bloom each spring.

The "Community Garden" near 19th and Aldrich Avenue is another example of civic dedication. Started in 1971, this garden utilized space left over from freeway construction, with raised beds for easy enjoyment of the fragrant plants; this feature is particularly convenient for residents of a nearby society of the blind. Three club presidents spearheaded the legal clearance, the money-raising activities and the actual construction necessary to complete this lovely center.

The club also encourages landscape beautification of the premises of business and public buildings. Each year an Industrial Landscape award goes to a firm for such outstanding achievement.

You may want to know that the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc., was established in 1942 when it was chartered by the Men's Garden Clubs of America. Hence, it is a member of this group of 170 clubs and 9,000 members located all over the U.S.A. Two members of our club have been national presidents. There are two other local affiliated clubs: the Minnetonka MGC and the North Suburban MGC.

The MGC of Minneapolis is also a member of the Minnesota State Horticultural Society and its 8,000 members throughout the state. This club has contributed eight of its members as president of this outstanding state organization.

Thus, every member of our club is also a member of these two organizations and, as part of his local club dues, receives publications from both groups: The Gardener (MGCA), issued six times a year, and The Horticulturist (MSHS), issued nine times annually. Also, the club publishes its own award-winning monthly bulletin, The Garden Spray, which each member also receives.

Do let us hear from you if you are interested in joining us for fellowship and for fun - with gardening as our goal. Interested men should contact: Bob Gage, 937-2572; Archie Caple, 869-3437; Dick Victor, 890-9753; Charles Robbins, 861-3131; Dick Hulbert, 521-4083; Jerry Shannon, 690-1214; or Dick Stehly, 827-6741.

Written by Bill Hull, club historian, and distributed at the annual show. Reprinted here for the benefit of those who did not receive a copy at the show.

Gardens reflect personalities of owners

By Kathleen Mattsson

Take a walk around your block tonight, and look at the yards. You'll see flowers, vegetables, unique and personal landscaping touches. It is August in Minnesota, the harvest moon is coming, and the area is bursting with evidence of talented green thumbs.

You may not find flowers to equal those of the Lenzens as you walk around your block, but there's always hope for a good vegetable garden. Vegetable gardens are most easily spotted from the alley, and back yards are where many gardeners reveal their deepest talents.

Unfortunately, most of Ed Culbert's rambling vegetable garden at 5315 Portland Ave. S., is blocked from view by the masses of raspberry canes and currant bushes which face the alley. Culbert, long active in the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis and editor of its news bulletin, has a back yard spilling over with fruit trees, berry bushes, brightly colored flowers and lots of good old garden variety vegetables.

Three fruit trees provide a variety of sauces and juice for the Culbert larder. The Dulgo apple tree gives them enough applesauce to last a year, while the crabapple tree is a source of juice. "We also pickle the crabapples in a sugar syrup," said Culbert, "and the plums we eat raw or use for sauce."

Culbert's interest in gardening is not confined to vegetables, as illustrated by the variety of flowers growing in the garden and scattered around the house. The flowers radiate around a circle in the garden, while sunflower "volunteers" tower above, unexpected surprises from the birds which Culbert willingly tolerates.

Vegetables are the main focus of Culbert's garden. He and his wife raised their two children using only vegetables grown in the garden and prepared at home from their produce. This year, as in others, Culbert relied on succession planting to make the task of preserving food easier. A stickler for tradition, he always uses the pressure cooker to preserve much of his garden

bounty. "I prefer canned beans to frozen beans, definitely," he said. "The taste is much better."

This summer, Culbert is growing winter squash, bush beans, spinach, lettuce, zucchini, beets, cucumbers, sugar snap peas, onions, tomatoes, carrots and parsnips. His tally sheet is divided. Squash borer got into the winter squash and effectively wiped out the crop. On the plus side, there were twelve pints of beets pickled, 41 pints of beans canned, and five huge masses of peas eaten, all by early August.

The cucumbers will be eaten, as were the spinach, lettuce and pea pods. The 24 tomato plants present another canning chore. Culbert planted three different varieties, all from seed, and highly recommends Floridian. "It is a tomato which really withstands blight," he said. He also plans to put up enough carrots and parsnips to last through another year. The technique, like canning, is traditional. "I wash the plants and cut the tops off. Then I pack them in a big stone crock, standing up, and spread vermiculite around and over them. I keep them in our fruit cellar and they last just fine," said Culbert.

Both the blue and red seedless grapes clustered in the yard are preserved in jelly form though Culbert and his wife eat a lot of them first. Barbara Culbert put up 26 pints of currants and then mixed currants with raspberries to form a colorful juice. The spring raspberry crop was gratifying. "We ate raspberries like crazy, twice a day, for several weeks," Culbert said. "We also froze 19 pints." He will have a second crop of fall amber berries coming in during August, and expects an equally good harvest.

A retired Minneapolis school principal, Culbert recalled his interest in gardens stemming back to boyhood experiences on the Iron Range. "I remember helping my Grandfather kill potato bugs when I was a small child. He squished them between his fingers but I always used a rock," he said. The interest remained, and when Culbert moved into his present home, he had the Park Board drop some of the peat they were dredg-

ing up from Pearl Park into his yard. He has enjoyed the fruit of his labors ever since, and at seventy-nine, looks forward to new seed varieties. Said Culbert with satisfaction, "Gardening is a very pleasant occupation."

Though your alley may not reveal anything to compare in size with Ed Culbert's, it can surely contain some pleasant surprises in terms of landscaping touches. A miniscule rock garden, a patch of scattered wild flowers, a secluded bird bath or statue are all possibilities.

Three special gardens, four special gardeners. And there are dozens more, all just around the corner. You probably could encounter some on your next walk around the block, or a tour through the alley. They seem to be everywhere this summer, the gardeners and their produce, brandishing green thumbs with a vengeance.

Nokomis News



The Nokomis News is a non-partisan, non-profit newspaper serving the 11 neighborhoods of the Nokomis Planning District. It is delivered free by mail to the 19,000 homes and businesses in the area bounded by 42nd St. on the north, Hiawatha on the east, 62nd St. on the south and 35W on the west. It is published by the Nokomis Planning District Citizens Council, Inc.

HERBS OFFER WORLD OF CHANGE FROM SALT AND PEPPER*
(At least so says F. A. C. McCullough... the YARDNER of Houston's MGC.)

"Herbs are valued as seasoning, especially as an interesting change of pace from salt and pepper. Today's growing concern with 'you are what you eat' finds many people checking their sodium intake. Herbs not only offer a delicious option to seasoning with salt, they can be used judiciously to completely eliminate salt from the diet if desired.

"The flavor of fresh vegetables is greatly enhanced by herbs....Canned or frozen vegetables also come to life with a touch of the right herbs especially if substituted for salt in the cooking liquid....Herbs are ideal to use in homemade soups instead of salt.

"Beef and poultry commonly laden with salt during cooking are much more delicious when cooked with a few fresh mushrooms and chopped green pepper or onions, with an added dash of sage for beef and a sprig of parsley for chicken....Thyme is excellent for meat gravies and dressings.

"For the gourmet, and for those interested in a change from the standard fare of salt and pepper, herbs provide the flavorful answer. Herbs are inexpensive, especially if you grow your own. And, if you do, they're easy to dry and store for year-round use. Northrup King Co., offers 18 varieties of herbs in packet seeds to the consumer. Many of these herb varieties can be grown easily indoors. Thyme and sweet marjoram are attractive as hanging plants near a sunny window year-round. Sweet basil, a must for all Italian dishes, and caraway, delicious for cooking in goulash, also grow well indoors and provide decorative, delicate blossoms."

Return to
THE GARDEN SPRAY of MGC, INC.
Edwin C. Culbert, Editor
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To

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FOR FUN AND FACTS
...ST. LOUIS 1980