

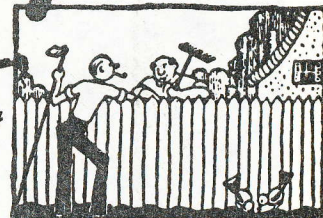


BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.

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

January 1984, Volume 42, Number 1

HAPPY SNOWY (BLUSTERY?) NEW YEAR



Our first MGCM MEETING for 1984 will be held at the Lake Harriet United Methodist Church, 49th St. at Chowen Ave. S. at 6 P.M. on TUESDAY evening JANUARY 10th. Dinner \$5.00 as usual.

TOPIC: "WHAT'S BUGGING YOUR HOUSE PLANTS?"

Since winter in Minnesota generally confines gardening activities to indoor plants, University of Minnesota Extension Horticulturist DEBORAH J. BROWN will talk about common houseplant problems and what to do about them. Deborah Brown is in charge of the University's "DIAL U" telephone service and is frequently called upon to answer horticultural questions for the "Fixit" column in the Minneapolis Star and Tribune. After her prepared talk, she'll answer questions about whatever is bothering your indoor plants, bugs or otherwise.

SEND YOUR RESERVATION CARD TO BOB CHURILLA TODAY!!

CHARTER MEMBER, CHARLIE DOELL, DIES

I read in the Star and Tribune for December 9 that our old friend, Charlie Doell, had died in Los Angeles at age 89. Charlie was a charter member of our club and remained active until his retirement in 1959; he was listed in our membership roster in 1960, his last year as such, apparently, just before he moved to California.

Charlie had worked for the Minneapolis Parks System starting in high school days as a part-time draftsman until his retirement at age 65, in 1959, as superintendent of parks. The latter position he held for 24 years. He participated in the initial planning of the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport, acquired the land that resulted in Meadowbrook and Gross golf courses, and pioneered the integrated school-park system which put parks next to many of the city's new public schools - and oversaw the creation of six of those parks. He also was a prolific writer.

I well remember the year 1960 when I was president of our club and we had an Old Timers' Night to honor charter members and also those members with 15 or more years of tenure. There were 13 charter members, including Charlie Doell, all of whom are now deceased except Walter Quist. Of the eleven "old timers" honored that night, Ed Culbert is the only living member, plus Bill Brooks who lives in Arizona. Other men members during Charlie's years here are: Floyd Ashley, Larry Bachman, Lloyd Bachman, Wally Carlson, Larry Corbett, Ed Culbert, Lou Fischer, Ev Hædecke, Carl Holst, Bill Hull, Les Johnson, Vic Lowrie, Jerry Olson, Sherm Pinkham, Pete Proctor, Walter Quist, Bob Savory, Leon Snyder, Orrin Turnquist, and Frank Vixo.

--Bill Hull, club historian

Bill & Carol full decorating wreaths for Christmas Party.



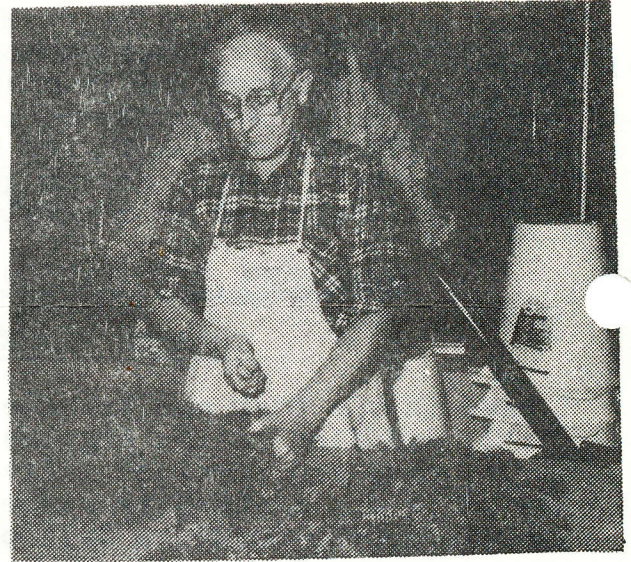
Carl Holst making 6 wreaths for gifts.



Howard & Ardis Klier and table of holiday desserts and antelope & venison meatballs in barbecue sauce.



Al Rahlenbeck making a wreath for the Christmas Party.



CARL HOLST DIED SATURDAY DECEMBER 17TH.

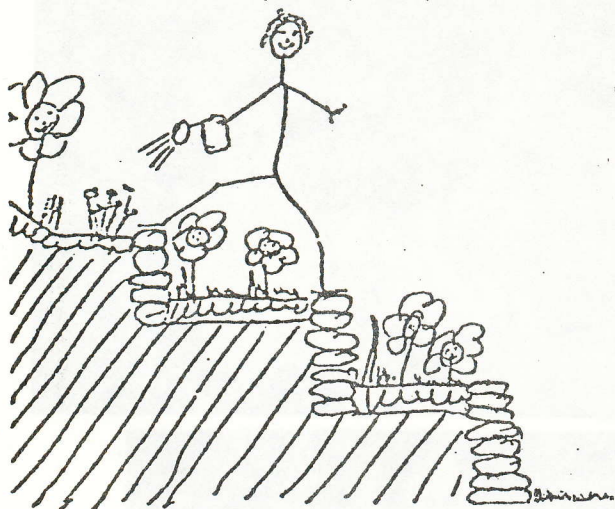
Just as the last pages of this issue of the SPRAY were being inserted in the envelope for mailing to our typist a member of the telephone committee called to tell of Carl Holst's death. An obituary article will appear in our February issue.

CHOOSE. A list of 1984 Committees and their functions appears on pages 7 and 8. President Russell Smith asks you to check the committees on which you would be willing to serve. Star the preferred one(s).

NEW MEMBERS

Larry Bagge 445-2438
13600 Columbia Ave. N. W.
Shakopee, MN. 55379

Dwight Stone 535-7247
4620 Hampton Rd.
Golden Valley, MN. 55422



TERRACE TALK

November 30, 1983

Last night I attended my first Board of Director's meeting as a guest. It is somewhat overwhelming realizing the work and effort that Chet Groger and the rest of the board put in to provide the quality of meetings which we have experienced. I only hope that a novice "follower" like me can provide the same type of leadership that Chet has provided for the past year.

Obviously, I will require substantial help and efforts from the board members, committee chairmen, committee members and all other club members in order to make the year 1984 successful. Luckily, the committees have been established for many years and have been managed under key leadership so this should be no major problem for me.

I would certainly like for the Club to carry on in the same expanded format as revised by Chet with the special interest groups and other side activities taking place during the past year, along with the same "standard" programs.

One thought which I would like to pursue as President (which has not been done much since I have been a member), is to have a "show and tell" table set up at each meeting. Members will be encouraged to bring any special house plants, vegetables, flowers, books, etc. which they would like to "show" to the members. Perhaps we can have a short discussion to "tell" about the culture or other interesting factors surrounding the particular display.

In this same vain, I would like to continue to encourage a contribution of excess plants, bulbs, etc. which might be of interest to other members for auctioning at the regular meetings. Perhaps we will find other interesting programs once we get involved deeply in the new year. If any member has any suggestions, I am all ears.

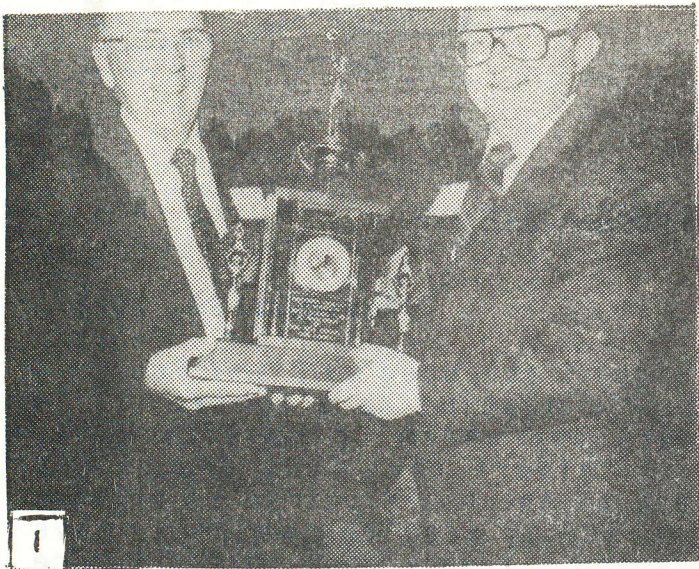
Again, I would say that I hope we will have an excellent year of fellowship and gardening and hope that everyone will share in both the work and the pleasure.

-Russ Smith

MGCM ANNUAL DUES FOR 1984

Your 1984 club dues are due and payable by December 1st and are considered delinquent if not paid by January 1st. The Garden Spray will be discontinued for delinquent members, as will the Horticulturist and the Gardener magazines. If you have any special circumstances concerning renewing your membership, please call the club president. We want you to renew your membership and be included in the Club Directory published February 1st.

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THE 1983 CHRISTMAS PARTY REVIEWED BY ED CULBERT

When we arrived at the Lake Harriet United Methodist Church members of the party committee were busy setting tables and putting finishing touches on the decorations some of which like the big wreaths on the east wall had been made at Klier's the week before. On the west wall above the hanging ferns were a snowman wearing red ear muffs, an angel with a horn, and a Santa Claus.

On the green covered tables stood small red branching poinsettias (the new variety) and lighted red candles. At one corner of the stage stood a perfect Christmas tree. Fluffy black-hatted snowmen made by Chet and Em Groger hung from its boughs.--The only decoration and, oh, how colorful.--Gayly

wrapped packages were piled on the floor beneath the tree.

Moments later the punch bowl upstairs was deserted as the hungry assemblage, 201 in all, crowded down to the dining room. Carvers Lloyd Bachman, Backes, Churilla, Crist, Denesuk, Hull, Lindstedt, Marlow, Neby, Phil Peterson, Shannon, Shefland, Robert E. Smith, Russ Smith, and Solem took their places at their assigned tables awaiting the welcome by president Groger and the invocation by Reverend Beck. They then paraded with their turkeys, carved, and we all set to work on the typical tasty dinner we've come to expect every year.

Appetites satiated we sat back to be entertained by the "Svenskarnas Dag" All Girl Choir. The 18 girls clad in white blouses, green vests, green skirts with a white band at the base, red stockings and black shoes made a colorful sight as they stood before us. There were guitarists, a flutist and group songs.

Midway in the program the girls marched out to change costumes. During the intermission director Richard Bloom sang a tenor solo, "Oh Holy Night" and accompanist Audrey Landquist played a piano solo based on "Silent Night". She then read us the Lucia story we were about to see enacted.

The house lights were dimmed. Accompanied by four little red elves the girls returned. They were now garbed in flowing white robes and were bearing lighted lanterns and candles. The magnificent production of the Lucia legend which followed brought us all to our feet.

During the break after the Svenskarnas Dag group departed M.C. Jerry Shannon started calling numbers for presents under the tree. To his chagrin and the audience's delight the first number he called was that of his wife, Lee. Lee appeared unabashed.

The evening ended with AWARDS presentations:

The BRONZE MEDAL for outstanding service to the club went to Chet Groger. (Picture 4) The presentation was made by Fred Glasoe.

The PRESIDENT'S CUP for outstanding service to the president was presented to Bill Hull by Chet Groger. (Picture 5)

The LEHMAN TROPHY for best garden on tour in 1983 went to Burton Deane. Stan Van Vorst made the presentation. I should never have left that Van Vorst kid out of Adams school in the 1930's. He hoodooed the Polaroid. No way could I get a picture. I got Van alone hanging on to the trophy and grinning (Picture 6)--no Burton; or the two of them (twice) with top of heads cut off (Picture 1); or Deane alone--too pale.

SPECIAL AWARDS went to:

Jo Anne Ray, a plaque, for her outstanding work on the MINNESOTA HORTICULTURIST magazine. (Picture 3) Jerry Shannon made the presentation.

Howard Klier, a mounted citation, in appreciation for his invitation extended year after year to all club members to assemble at his place of business on the night after Thanksgiving to make Christmas decorations. (Picture 2). President Groger made this presentation in behalf of the club.

IS IT A FRUIT OR A VEGETABLE?
reported by Andy Marlow

Many of the answers to the above question posed by Dr. Orrin Turnquist at the MGCM November meeting were surprising. There were puzzled looks on many faces as "Clint" told the assembled members that potatoes are a part of the berry family, and, that the core is the true fruit of the apple. More about those items later in this report!

Another surprise to many is that Dr. Turnquist's bachelor's degree is not in horticulture, but in forestry. He slid over into horticulture by accident while working for a sash and door company. He later earned advanced degrees in horticulture and became an important part of the University of Minnesota's Agricultural Extension Service, working alongside his good friend Dr. Leon Snyder. Clint retired as Professor Emeritus of Horticultural Science.

He warmed up to the topic of differences between fruits and vegetables by offering definitions for each term. The botanical definition of a fruit is "a matured seed vessel together with any accessory floral parts which finally become incorporated with it." Botanically, vegetables are "any living organism not possessed of animal life." These definitions pose a problem, according to Dr. Turnquist, because beans and tomatoes would be fruits--which, we all know, is not the case.

Horticultural definitions make things a little clearer. A fruit is the "product of a shrub, tree or woody vine, with the exception of the strawberry." The horticultural definition of a vegetable is any "edible herbaceous plant or part of the plant which is used for culinary purposes". That still leaves a few exceptions. Turnquist pointed to rhubarb, which by these definitions is a vegetable, but is considered a fruit since it's eaten for dessert. Likewise, pineapples and bananas are fruits from herbaceous plants.

Turnquist projected a long list of vegetables on the screen and asked the audience to identify which part of the plant--root, stem, leaf, petiole, flower part or seed--was consumed as food by man. A few of the surprises: a potato is an underground stem, not a root; an onion is made up of tightly bunched layers of leaves; and we eat the petiole, not the stem, of rhubarb (the stem is underground).

He then called our attention to a handout which had previously been distributed. The handout showed the horticultural classification of fruits--and it, too, contained some surprises. The potato is actually a berry. The fruit of the plant is a small berry (remember, we eat the underground stem). Also in the berry family are asparagus (again, we eat the stem) and the banana, some petrified berries of which Clint passed around the room.

The apple, mentioned at the beginning of this report, is a member of the pome group. What we eat from the apple is the stem, or receptacle, that grows up around the ovary as it matures. Somewhat similar is the strawberry. Here, too, it's the stem or receptacle we eat. All those little dots on the outside of a ripe, luscious strawberry are the true fruits of the plant.

Then Clint dealt with some of the most common questions asked about the classification of fruits and vegetables. The first was highly seasonal with Thanksgiving just around the corner: "is it a yam or a sweet potato?"

(continued page 7)

If you bought it in this country, he says, it is a sweet potato. True yams are grown only in West Africa and the West Indies. The term "yam" was borrowed by Louisiana sweet potato growers for an advertising program in Northern markets in the 1930s. They used it to differentiate their product from the Jersey sweet potato that dominated sales at the time.

"Is it a cantaloupe or a muskmelon?", is another frequently raised question. Clint's answer was similar to the previous one: if you buy it in the United States, it's a muskmelon. True cantaloupes are members of the cucumber family and possess a warty, scaly, rough, hard rind. Some are grown in Europe, but none here. Muskmelon, which are often called cantaloupe, are members of the netted melon family, which also includes the Casaba, Crenshaw, Honeydew and Persian melons.

Is it a squash or a pumpkin? It's relatively easy to tell the difference between squash and pumpkins, according to Turnquist, if they still have the stem on them. But often what we in the Mid-west buy as canned pumpkin for our pies is the flesh of squash. True pumpkins have a hard, grooved, 5 to 8 sided stem, while squash have soft, spongy, ungrooved stems. The Connecticut field pumpkin usually grown for jack o'lanterns is a true pumpkin. On the other hand, Delicious Golden squash usually ends up in pumpkin pies and Mammoth, Big Max and Kentucky Field Squash are often mistaken for pumpkins.

Dr. Turnquist concluded by saying he wishes every gardener would become an expert at identifying fruits and vegetables, but not out of the Botanica. He says such knowledge should come from practical experience.

Arbor Day Committee: To select and arrange the planting of a tree on Arbor Day in the metropolitan area.

Auditing Committee: To annually audit all records of the club--guide record keeping procedure to Treasurer--give annual club audit.

Awards/Trophies Committee: To monitor and account for all awards/trophies issued by the club--to establish criteria for awards/trophies--all engraving and to make presentations at the appropriate event and/or at designated award/trophy meetings.

Bronze Medal Committee: Composed of the current recipient as chairman and the last previous four recipients. To award the Bronze Medal at the Christmas party to a member in recognition of outstanding service during the year.

Calendar Committee: To work with membership in the sales of MGCA calendars and their distribution.

Christmas Party Committee: To plan and make all arrangements for the club's annual gala event--the grand finale of the year--the Christmas party.

Community (Fragrance) Garden Committee: To plan and organize planting, re-work (as authorized) projects and maintenance of the garden area and to supervise actual work of planting and maintenance--to maintain photographic exhibits of committee activities.

Flower/Vegetable Show Committee: To plan, promote, supervise and make all necessary arrangements for the club's annual flower/vegetable show.

Garden Spray Committee: To accumulate reports, news of club members, garden articles, etc., and to assist the Editor in the publishing and distribution of the monthly bulletin of the club.

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Historian: To write, maintain records of all events, activities, functions of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, to include community activities, functions and events worthy of recording.

Hospitality Committee: To greet new and old members at each club meeting--making everyone welcome--to issue and collect name tags--special handling of guests--assist treasurer in collection and tallies of dinner and other monies--issuance of meal tickets, maintain reservations/attendance roster--to offer/arrange assistance in the form of transportation of members with those problems--coordinate functions with the Membership Committee--maintain a telephone committee to inform members of meetings and special events.

Membership Committee: To assist new members in attendance at the meetings, introduction, hosting. To assist club board to gain and maintain membership--promote the club and all its activities.

Nominating Committee: Composed of the present club President and the past five club Presidents who will solicit and select from within the club membership individuals to fill the offices of President, Vice President (program chairman), Secretary, Treasurer and four Directors. Every attempt will be made to upgrade the current membership of the Board and replace two directors each year.

Photography Committee: To plan, promote and solicit progressional photos of member's flower and vegetable gardens, landscape projects, decks and patios and other gardening interests--to include club projects and special tours as to have available for presentation to club membership in the course of monthly scheduled meetings.

Raffle Committee: Conduct raffles at monthly meeting--awarding garden oriented prizes.

Show and Tell Committee: To plan and supervise a table at monthly meetings where members may display and discuss their prize gardening items, house plants, flowers and/or vegetable displays, etc.

Special Interests Groups Committee: To plan and promote special interests groups within the club--groups such as orchids, roses, garden vegetables, etc. each special interest group having its own chairman.

Spring Plant Auction Committee: To plan, solicit and obtain plants and materials; select the site and stage the production of the annual spring plant sale and auction as a fund raising activity for club projects and obligations.

Sunshine Committee: To keep in touch with members who are hospitalized or ill--send appropriate get well cards signed by members--sending of plants/flowers as directed--to use hospitality calling committee for emergency notifications.

Tour Committee: To select gardens for summer tours; visit ahead of time the gardens to be toured; to make arrangements for transportation and all special requirements for the tour.

Youth Gardening Education Committee: Promote and supervise gardening among the youth of the community.

When you have done your best for a flower, and it fails, you have some reason to be aggrieved.

--Frank Swinnerton

1984 OFFICER AND DIRECTOR PROFILES
by Chet Groger



Front: Marlow, R. C. Smith, McCollough
Back: Durst, Denesuk, VanVorst,
Groger, R. L. Smith, Churilla

RUSS SMITH, PRESIDENT: Our new President has been a member since 1980 and has been a member of the Christmas Party Committee and a co-chairman of the Tour Committee for two years. He is a Real Estate Appraiser and Broker and owns his own business. His home and garden near Wayzata feature a terraced yard and an attached greenhouse. He grows a large variety of annuals, perennials and vegetables and also specializes in orchids in his greenhouse.

ANDY MARLOW, VICE-PRESIDENT: Andy joined MGCM in 1980. He became interested in the club after con-

versations with Phil Smith and visiting the 1979 Flower and Vegetable Show at the Arboretum. He's been writing articles for THE GARDEN SPRAY for the last 3 years and has served on the Flower and Vegetable Show committee for two years as well. Perennials, particularly peonies, daylilies, and delphinium, appear in his garden. With his wife he also tends a small plot of native wildflowers in a wooded section of his yard. He would like to see the club continue to grow with the addition of more younger gardeners who could benefit from the experience of the "old hands". Andy is News and Public Affairs Coordinator for the University of Minnesota Radio Station KUOM, 770 A.M.

MICHAEL DENESUK, SECRETARY: Michael has been a member since 1977 and recently retired as violist for the Minnesota Orchestra. His many years with symphony orchestras included many summer months spent with Arthur Fiedler and his Boston Pops Orchestra. He was born in Massachusetts but has lived in Minneapolis for 29 years since joining the orchestra here. He has served on the Community or Fragrance Garden Committee and has a fragrance garden of his own, being interested in herbs. He also grows vegetables and has a collection of dwarf fruit trees including apples, pears and plums.

GEORGE MCCOLLOUGH, TREASURER: George is beginning another term as Treasurer. He piled up years of experience handling money and bookkeeping as the Internal Auditor for North Central Bible College in Minneapolis. He retired 3 years ago. He's an all purpose gardener, growing both flowers and vegetables. His home in Bloomington features collections of roses, lilies and peonies.

CHET GROGER, PAST-PRESIDENT: Chet is beginning his 12th year in MGCM. He was President in 1983, Vice-President and program chairman for 1982, and previously served as a director. Chet is retired from the construction equipment business, but still keeps busy doing some consulting and, of course, gardening. He and his wife enjoy indoor gardening and are members of the Indoor Light Gardening Society. Outdoors he grows lilies, iris, delphinium and other perennials, as well as plenty of annuals for summer long color.

BOB CHURILLA, DIRECTOR: Bob is a rose grower and is active with the Minnesota Rose Society, the American Rose Society and the Minnesota State Horticultural Society. His profession is that of a production engineer. He

(over)

has served on the MGCM Board for two years and has handled dinner reservations for the Club. Bob has been a member since 1977 and has a fine garden with 250 or more roses as well as lilies, peonies and a large variety of annuals and perennials.

DALE DURST, DIRECTOR: Also in his third year as a member of the MGCM Board, Dale has been a member of the organization since 1961, the longest of any present Board member. In 1980 Dale was awarded the club's Bronze medal for his overall contribution to the group. Dale's special garden interest, indoor gardening, is particularly suited to this time of year. While the rest of us are planning for spring, Dale is busy doing that and tending the miniature roses that he grows so well. Dale works for Handschy Industries, a manufacturer of printer's ink, as a chemist.

ROBERT L. SMITH, DIRECTOR: Robert is one of MGCM's Smith brothers. He was introduced to the club by his brother Russ. He's also one of two Robert Smiths, creating no little confusion at times--hence the use of his full name. Robert is a field superintendent for a commercial/industrial builder. Some of that carries over into his gardening, as he says he's a "garden builder more than anything". In those gardens he grows primarily flowers, with roses and dahlias being most prominent. He was co-chairman of the garden tour committee last year with brother Russ. He says this year he'd like to be more personally involved and hopes others feel the same way. He's been a member since 1981.

STAN VAN VORST, DIRECTOR: Stan also became an MGCM member in 1981, although he's been gardening for many years. He says he enjoys everything about gardening, even the weeding. Over the years he's grown a few carrots, but otherwise has stayed with flowers. He became interested in the club when Jerry Shannon, an old gardening buddy, persuaded him to include his yard in the 1981 garden tour. From there it was just a short step to becoming a member. Stan says the club has a nicely balanced program of individual and civic gardening, and he'd like to see that continue in 1984. Stan is a partially retired CPA.

ARE YOUR 1984 DUES PAID? IF NOT THIS IS THE LAST SPRAY YOU WILL RECEIVE.

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