

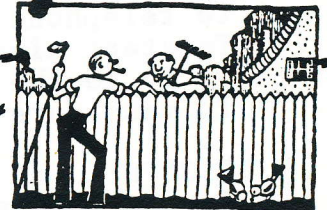


The Garden Spray

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

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

January 1987; Volume 45. Number 1



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS

Program for Tuesday, January 13, 1987

SUBJECT: The Care and Culture of Peonies

SPEAKER: Dr. Kent Crossley

Dr. Crossley is President of the Minnesota Peony Society and Vice President of the American Peony Society. Dr. Crossley has been familiar with peonies most of his life. He grew up in Faribault and attended the local peony shows sponsored by his father's life-long friend, Bob Tischler - then owner of Brand Peony Farms. Dr. Crossley began acquiring peonies in the early 1970's when he bought a new home. His interest caught fire when he was able to purchase a large portion of the premium Brand Farm's stock as the company was sold and subdivided. He now possesses one of the finest collections of prize peony cultivars in the State. Dr. Crossley has won blue ribbons in numerous National shows and sells some of his top quality plants through his recently formed company - The New Peony Farm.

Dr. Crossley will discuss the various types of peonies and the important factors in their culture and propagation. He will illustrate his talk with selected slides from his marvelous collection.

ATTEND THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS JANUARY MEETING

5:45 P.M.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13th

\$5.00

LAKE HARRIET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 49th St & Chowen Av S

SEND IN YOUR RESERVATION CARD AT ONCE

NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS FOR THE MGCM GARDENER

I RESOLVE:

- To attend MGCM meetings regularly and to do my bit.
- To sign up and work in our Community Fragrance Garden.
- To send in my reservation card (and check if called for) promptly and to telephone if I must cancel.
- To start planning how to get to the MGCA convention in Rockford, Illinois.
- To go to the 1987 MGCA convention in Rockford June 13-16, 1987.
- To make sure I have a part in the 1988 convention in Minneapolis.

I RESOLVE:

- To plan changes in my landscape with an eye toward the future as well as the present.
- To beautify my home and grounds so they are an asset to the neighborhood rather than a liability.
- To take a "stitch in time" that will prevent garden, landscape and home maintenance problems from growing out of control.

I RESOLVE:

- To work out a plot plan for my vegetable garden which will make the best use of sunlight, shade and microclimates.
- To review the space needed for each vegetable.
- Not to plant a vegetable garden larger than needed. Instead to consider whether I had an undersupply or oversupply last year and how much leeway I should allow for this year.
- To consider row width. e.g. Corn pollinates best when planted in blocks. Bush beans and peas are self mulching when planted in blocks.
- To avoid where possible repeat locations of disease susceptible plants like tomatoes.
- To resist the temptation to plant my vegetable garden too early.
- To schedule my planting times based on both my past experience and the instructions on the seed packet.

I RESOLVE:

- To start a compost pile to recycle garden waste, lawn clippings and weeds.
- To read directions for operating machines and using pesticides and other chemicals first rather than waiting until all else has failed.
- To avoid the temptation to grow plants not suitable for our climate.
- To prune my plants as they need it rather than to wait for them to become too large to be pruned properly.
- To resist the temptation to pull weeds when visiting my neighbors garden.

I RESOLVE:

- To if I have young children, or grandchildren living nearby, provide them with a small plot of their own to garden.
- To welcome the neighboring small fry with a smile, and to let them "help" me even though it slows down my garden work. They may become the gardeners of years to come.

REMINDERS: All items for the treasurer now go to Joseph Stenger 5421 Girard Ave. S., Mpls. 55419. If you get a reservation card with your SPRAY return it to Rick Bonlender.

IF YOUR DUES ARE DELINQUENT THIS IS THE LAST SPRAY YOU WILL RECEIVE.

Optimist - The gardener who purchases a 28 cubic foot freezer and plants a 50 square foot garden.

THE CHRISTMAS PARTY
(According to Ed Culbert)

The 208 members and guests who attended the MGCM Christmas party found everything as pictured in the December SPRAY.

- A Christmas tree--decorated this time with clothspin figures.
- Tables with candles and small red poinsettia plants in green foil-wrapped pots--a nice contrast to the red table cloths.
- Bill Hull in striped apron. Some others wore aprons with slogans, e.g. "Genius At Work"; "I Got This Job Through An Agency"; "Any Man Who Hates Cats, Dogs and Children Can't Be All Bad".
- Santa Claus. You missed him? You couldn't have seen him anyway. There was such a crush at the punchbowl that Larry Catron couldn't find elbow room to take a picture.

Otherwise THIS PARTY WAS DIFFERENT. Due to construction a circuit of the building was necessary in order to reach the dining room. There Bob Churilla and Dave Moehnke took turns presiding. Dave could be a circus sideshow barker. Bob had some tricks to play, also, for when all were seated he started to call numbers for gifts under the tree. He inferred that "the birds" (turkeys) were still sitting on a pond somewhere resting.

Next he announced that the turkeys had arrived but "Eat your salads while they warm up". At this point frozen fruited Jello in foil cups was passed out. Janet Smith fussed that she couldn't dent hers with her fork. Phil Peterson and I found the answer. Peel off the foil wrapper and eat the mold like a candy bar. This is a delightful new way to serve and eat salad. Salad customarily located beyond and to the left of the dinner plate guarantees potatoes and gravy on and up your coat sleeve.

By now the turkeys were comfortably warmed and it was time for the invocation by the Reverend Kenneth Beck and for Henry Halvorson to get to the piano and strike up a stirring march.

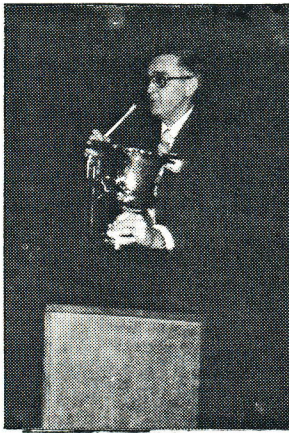
Carvers Lloyd Bachman, Russ Backes, Charles Benson, Bud Christenson, Bob Churilla, Bob Gage, Walt Gustafson, Bill Hull, Phil Peterson, Merle Pulley, Jerry Shannon, Juel Shefland, Bob Smith, Phil Smith and Thor Solem picked up their turkeys and marched up center to the stage then back to their tables.

Phil Peterson at our table carved frantically to keep ahead of our hungry group. Beth Marie kept supplying empty serving plates. I don't know what went on at other tables. I was busy watching the volunteers who crowded around the serving windows for refills of potatoes, dressing and beans. They were a bit disorganized but I heard no protests.

As usual there was still meat left on the turkey carcass for the carvers to carry home in the plastic bags provided. Bud Christenson was the first carver to get his turkey bagged up. He pushed it in whole. A competitor dissected his so it would slip into the bag easier but lost out.

Meanwhile the rest of us relaxed and prepared to listen to the Metropolitan Male Chorus of Minnesota an all black group directed by Benjamin F. Zachary. They provided us with a delightful hour of song. Many numbers featured solos by individuals who stepped out from the group.

THE AWARD CEREMONIES WERE DIFFERENT, TOO. First off, Fred Glasoe, awards chairman, announced that despite the program in our hands there would be no Industrial Landscaping award. He said that last year's award went to a company which all within a year landscaped with trees, rooted them out and constructed a new downtown office building on the site. No other could



McCollough



Thor Solem's Table



Van Vorst 1982 Turnquist 1982



have had a chance to compete with that before December 1986.

New member Gene Ackland earned the Lehman Trophy for the best garden seen on our summer tours. Gene was not present to receive the trophy. Thereby he followed the precedent set by Stan Crist last year.

The Bronze Medal went posthumously to Stanley Van Vorst who had contributed much to MGCM since he joined in 1981. His wife, Dorice accepted the award in his name.

That left only one presentation--the President's Cup George McCollough received from President Bob Churilla for his assistance during 1986 and for his years of faithful service as treasurer. George was present to accept and to make a few remarks. He indicated he was heading south pronto and couldn't be reached until April.

Before the last remaining gifts under the tree were given out we heard the finals on the great raffle. The dual chairmen of the raffle were the top ticket sellers. Dave Moehnke sold 169 tickets; Bob Churilla 102. Strangely despite all those chances neither man won when the drawing was conducted. The snowblower went to Bud Christenson; the landscaping evaluation and design proposal to Rene Horner (not present); the sporting event bag to Lorraine Churilla.

So it ended with a "Merry Christmas to all and to all a good night."

MISSING AT THE PARTY was ORRIN TURNQUIST who died November 17th. His obituary was reprinted on an insert sheet in the December SPRAY. "Clint" as we knew him joined MGCM in 1951. His genial presence, his willingness to help made him a favorite of all. He in turn, his wife Gladys wrote, "thought a lot about his friends in the Men's Garden Club". He judged shows for us, prepared show leaflets printed in the SPRAY. As our speaker he talked about plant nomenclature, vegetable show preparation, etc. In September 1986 he told about his trips in Australia and New Zealand. He made his garden available on tours. On our last visit he proudly displayed his scheme for easing weeding--a long plank held aloft across the bed--and showed the blueberry bushes he was trying out. Yes, HE WILL BE MISSED.

Anxiety - that condition created by the gardener who reads the pesticide label after using it on vegetables rather than before.

Confused - that condition of not knowing vegetable plants from weeds.



"TELL THEM TO WAIT - I'M BUSY GARDENING"

Bob Olson
President Elect
Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis

Bob Churilla warned me one of the toughest parts of becoming club President would be Ed Culbert's unrelenting pressure for a President's Message for each Newsletter. Sure enough, a few scant days after the November meeting I received a Memo from Ed giving me a deadline to choose a logo or he would select one for me. He hinted at having a particularly unflattering photo of me in his archives which he could use. You can imagine the anxiety created by this cunning ruse. The result is a design shamelessly "borrowed" from an old gardening magazine. (We call it research or borrowing these days rather than plagiarism.) It is meant to suggest the best times of summer in the garden - and it's certainly more tasteful and eye-pleasing than one of Ed's candid polaroids of your club President. The quotation is from William Randolph Hearst - I wish it were my own.

I have talked to numerous club members in the past few weeks. Almost to a man they are looking forward to a great year and are eager to participate and help in the club activities. It would be nice if this were a representative survey. In case you hadn't stopped to consider it, being a club member can be similar to gardening. Much of the enjoyment comes from work and even from frustration. If you have only shared in the "fruits" of the club before, you have been shorting yourself. Work, anticipation, worry and the unique fellowship that comes from sharing this with others can be the best aspects of membership in the Men's Garden Club.

When I joined four years ago I knew no one in the club and almost nothing about gardening. Now I know most of the people and despite what Russ Smith says, I know something about gardening. I joined the Tour Committee the first year because I wanted to see a lot of gardens and I wanted to be certain we selected someone else's garden to tour. I didn't want the club coming to my place. The second reason backfired the first year when they started their summer tour from my home.

At the first committee meeting the Smith brothers (Russ and his late brother Bob) were dividing up tasks to arrange the Spring tour. They asked for someone to contact the place selected. After an awkward silence I said, "I can do that." It didn't sound very hard, and it wasn't. As easily as that I was part of the committee and an active member of the club. When I went to the monthly club meetings I had friends, and they were the best kind of friends. They were guys I had worked with on fun projects.

I also got to see a lot of gardens and meet a lot of club members. Russ Smith, Stan Van Vorst, and I dropped in on scores of members over the past 3 years - always unannounced. We would wear our "Garden Inspector" hats and ask to inspect the grounds. This may sound intimidating, but fortunately we don't take ourselves very seriously and neither does anyone else. What a fine way to get to know the other members and exchange ideas. A very few guys have gardens that rival the arboretum; most are just regular places like yours and mine. So don't feel threatened when your doorbell rings this summer, it's just Russ Smith and the Tour Committee members coming by to visit.

All of this is to say - when the committee lists are passed around at the meeting, sign up for one or more than one. Go to the committee meeting and find something you can do with the group. It won't be much work unless you want to insist on doing a lot of work. You will get to know a lot of people and you will have a wonderful time. It will also make the MGCM a better club. See you at the January meeting.

DRIFT FROM THE SPRAYER
(Ed Culbert's sometime column)

Two of our MGCM members, Bob Savory and Julius Wadekamper were given coverage in the January 1987 issue of FLOWER and GARDEN magazine. Regarding Savory we read:

Three hostas originated by SAVORY'S GREENHOUSES are of a smaller class. 'Pinwheel' is actually tiny, appropriate for small spaces or rock gardens. Its leaves are twisted into a perfect pinwheel, variegated white and dark green. In early summer, lavender flowers appear. 'Ballerina' is a small to medium size plant of unusual habit, as dainty pointed leaves have arching petioles, and the foliage is topped in summer by white flowers on top-heavy scapes giving a shower effect. A third new hosta from SAVORY'S is 'Hilda Wassmann', whose dark green leaves have clean white borders and good texture, in a moderate sized but vigorous plant. Lavender blooms open in midsummer.

Wadekamper's coverage is under two headings. Under lilies we read: BORBELETA GARDENS has now been moved entirely to a new location at Faribault, Minn., where they have 80 acres instead of ten. Their new display gardens, now nearly complete, will welcome visitors. For 1987 they announce five new lilies, four of them by the garden's founder, Julius Wadekamper.

His four are 'Dandy Lion', a vigorous, spectacular outfacing yellow lily with spotted face, tested for ten years and showing no flaws; 'Flashdance', a bright red upfacing lily prolifically produced on 30-inch plants--a candidate for the cutflower market as well as home gardens; 'Morning Mist', creamy white flowers bearing a center ring of small brown "brushmarks" near the green eye; and 'Peach Delight', outfacing flowers of spotless bright peach atop tall stems, up to 56 inches. One other new lily, 'Queen Katie' from BORBELETA, was created by Czechoslovakia's Vaclav Jost--it has gold-yellow outfacing flowers lightly spotted near centers.

On other pages of the magazine are to be found color pictures of two of Wadekamper's introductions: "Morning Mist" and "Dandy Lion".

Under the heading New Iris Wadekamper gets mention thus:

Renewed interest in dwarf irises is evident in reports by BORBELETA GARDENS of a number of introductions of this type. Two by Don Albers of Northlake, Ill., are 'Sea Jewel' only 8 to 15 inches high, with flaring, ruffled ivory cream flowers; and 'Aqua Star', creamy white with blue lines radiating out on the falls. Two of this class from Harley Briscoe are his medium blue ruffled dwarf 'Alice Briscoe', and his flared 'Bonnie Dunbar', which is all the same clear ivory tan color including the beard.

BORBELETA GARDENS' proprietor Julius Wadekamper has his own new entry in the tall bearded irises with 'Nadeau', a light blue plicata--white falls with blue fluted edges. Scapes have 11 buds in unique three-way branching.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Larry Bagge
13600 Canterbury Rd.
Shakopee, MN 55379

Charles Proctor
7220 York Ave. S. #513
Edina, MN 55435

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1628 Dayton Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55104

Julius J. Wadekamper (507) 334-2807
15974 Canby Ave. Rt. 5
Faribault, MN 55021

1987 OFFICER AND DIRECTOR PROFILES
by Chet Groger

BOB OLSON, PRESIDENT: Doctor Bob joined our Club only 4 years ago but he has been one of our most active members. He has served on the Tour Committee all 4 years and has chaired that committee for the last 2 years. He has also served on the Awards Committee. Bob is also very active in the Hosta Societies. He serves as Editor for the Midwest Regional Hosta Society and is Chairman of that society's spring leaf show at the Arboretum. He is also a contributor to the Journal of the American Hosta Society and has a lead article complete with photos in a current issue of the magazine. Bob is Chief of Gastroenterology at Ramsey County Medical Center and an Assistant Professor in the U of M Department of Medicine. He teaches at both institutions. Although he specializes in hostas, he grows many annuals in his garden.

DUANE REYNOLDS, VICE PRESIDENT: Duane has also been a very active member since joining our Club 4 years ago. He has served on the Tour Committee, the Community Fragrance Garden Committee and has assisted with raffles at our meetings. As Secretary, he has also handled reservations for meetings. Duane is Director of Out Patient Programs, including Mental Health and Chemical Dependency, at Metropolitan Medical Center. He is a member of the North Star Lily Society, the Minnesota Gladiolus Society and the Minnesota Dahlia Society. He is also a certified judge of the Minnesota State Horticultural Society. Although he grows vegetables, Bob specializes in fruits, including apples, cherries, plums, grapes and blueberries.

RICK BONLENDER, SECRETARY: Our new Secretary comes to us with interesting credentials. Rick has been with us for 2 years and is Manager of the Community Fragrance Garden Project of the Self-Reliance Center. The garden projects are primarily along Hiawatha Avenue. However, Rick is also on the Board of Directors of the American Community Garden Association, headquartered in the Chicago Botanic Garden. He is Chairman of the Membership Committee of that association. In addition, Rick is on the Advisory Committee of the Agri-Business Center of the Minneapolis Public Schools. This is a program headquartered at Dowling School, where high school students can take Agri-Business subjects and learn growing techniques in a large garden area there. Rick is mainly a vegetable grower, along with the many people in his programs.

JOE STENGER, TREASURER: Joe is the gardener who lives next door to Otto Nelson and who had Otto's zest for gardening rub off on him. He also gardens on a hillside and grows many annuals. Joe retired in 1983 as Officer In Charge of the Minneapolis Office of the U. S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission. He had previously held positions in other U. S. Government agencies. Joe has served on the Raffle Committee, the Photography Committee and has been Chairman of the Community Fragrance Garden Committee the last two years.

BOB CHURILLA, PAST-PRESIDENT: After a good year as President, Bob now remains on the Board for a year. He has been a very active member since joining in 1977 and served as Director and Vice President before becoming President. He is also very active with the Minnesota State Horticultural Society, especially at the State Fair and during the Home & Garden Show. Bob is a rose grower and is active with the Minnesota Rose Society and the American Rose Society. He just moved to a new home and will have room for more annuals and perennials. He is a production engineer for a Minneapolis company.

(over)

HOWARD BERG, DIRECTOR: Howard has been a member since 1980 and was a Director last year. He serves on the Christmas Party Committee and on the Calendar Committee. He is a self-employed contractor doing remodeling and additions. His large yard in Minnetonka includes many annuals, day lilies, roses and vegetables.

DAVE MOEHNKE, DIRECTOR: Dave joined the Club in 1984 and those of us on the August tour saw the fruits of his labors at his home in Burnsville. A beautiful yard and series of gardens is still not enough for Dave and he will add 3 more garden areas next year. Last year Dave served as Christmas Party Chairman, served on the Arbor Day Committee and worked at the Community Fragrance Garden, the Flower and Vegetable Show, the Garage Sale and Flea Market and at Bandana Square with the Horticultural Society on Horticultural Awareness Day. Dave is District Sales Manager for the American Tobacco Company.

HERB NEBY, DIRECTOR: Herb joined the Club in 1982 and has been active from the start. He has served regularly on the Spring Plant Sale and Auction Committee and also on the Raffle Committee and Christmas Party Committee. He retired last year from Minnegasco and doubled his plant population at his home in Crystal as we discovered on our July tour. His special interest is in trying any plant that he has not grown before.

CHARLES PROCTOR, DIRECTOR: Charlie (or Pete) is an example of a dedicated Past President who has, at one time or another, served the Club in just about every capacity. He has been chairman of many committees, especially the Flower and Vegetable Show and the Spring Plant Sale and Auction. He played an active part in the MGCA Convention in Minneapolis in 1967 and is active in helping plan for our MGCA Convention in 1988. Charlie retired from the Mortgage Loan Department of Prudential Insurance Company. He no longer has his big vegetable garden we used to tour nor the square garden he developed at his last home. But there will certainly be something growing this year on his apartment balcony.

Return to
THE GARDEN SPRAY of MGCM, INC.
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