

Celebrating Our 55th Year

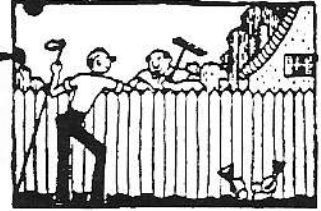


# The Garden Spray

Bulletin of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc.

Affiliated with Gardeners of America and the Minnesota State Horticultural Society

June 1997, Volume 55, Number 6



## June Dinner Meeting...

# Growing and Showing Flowers and Vegetables

June's program will consist of a panel of distinguished MGCM members who will guide us through the process of showing exhibits at the Food, Flower and Foto (FFF) Show in August. We'll hear how to prepare exhibits, what the judges look for, what to expect if you've never gone to the Show before. And we'll finish up with a slide show highlighting the photography competition.

The FFF Show is a great experience, but it can be a little intimidating for the first-timer. Get some insight and inspiration at this meeting, then start planning for the Show!



Date: Tuesday June 10, 1997

Place: Lake Harriet United  
Methodist Church  
49th and Chowen Avenue South

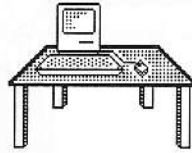
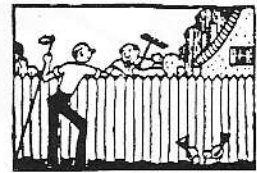
Time: Dinner 6:30 pm  
Business 7:00 pm  
Program 7:30 pm

Cost: \$7.00 if reserved in advance

\$8.00 at the door if meals are available

## Important Note about Reservations

The 1997 permanent reservation list is in effect for this meeting. Check your mailing label. If it says "nc" in the corner, you are on the permanent list. If there is no "nc" on your label, you are not on the permanent reservation list and must call **Director Kay Wolfe by Friday, June 6**, to be assured a place at dinner. If you are on the permanent list and will not attend, you must notify Kay by the same deadline or risk being responsible for the price of your dinner. Kay can be reached at 922-0762. Leave a message on her voice mail if you can't reach her in person or e-mail her at [opperwolfe@worldnet.att.net](mailto:opperwolfe@worldnet.att.net).



### The Editor's Desk

Andy Marlow

I have long maintained that spring, our loveliest season, is much too short. The verdant greens and dark rich soils too soon turn into the plainer greens of summer and the gray dusty stuff we need to pump gallon after gallon of water into so our plants have a fighting chance.

As the saying goes, be careful what you ask for—you just might get it. This spring went on much too long. Memorial Day has come and trees are still leafing out. My hostas are still unfurling. Even the earliest of ferns are not yet fully uncoiled. It has been enough to make me totally reject my long held belief!

Bring on some 80 degree temperatures. Let's have a crashing thunderstorm or two. Let the soil warm up enough so beans will germinate. I'm ready for summer.

I bought some 'Blue Victoria' salvia so I can compete for the National Award Flower ribbon at the MGCM Flower, Food and Foto Show in August. I don't think I have enough sun to grow peppers, the National Award vegetable, but I now own two national award ribbons and want another. Don't let my egomania loose. Grow some salvia of your own and give me a run for the money!

I don't really plan on winning. I know there are better flower growers in this club than me. But I love the competition.

Despite what it says on the last page of the enclosed FFF Show schedule, rules for the Foto contest do not appear herein. Call Chuck Carlson at 571-0463 for a copy.

## Coming Attractions

**Tuesday, June 3–7:30 p.m.**  
Board of Directors' Meeting  
Chuck Carlson's House

**Tuesday, June 10–6:30 p.m.**  
MGCM Dinner Meeting  
Lake Harriet United Methodist Church  
49th & Chowen Avenue South

**June 26-30**  
American Rose Society  
National Convention  
Hyatt Regency Hotel  
Minneapolis

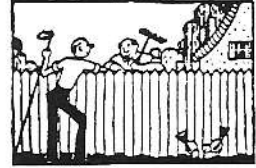
**Tuesday, July 1–7:30 p.m.**  
Board of Directors' Meeting  
Bill Jepson's House

**Tuesday, July 8–6:00 to 9:30 p.m.**  
Members' Garden Tour

**Tuesday, July 24–10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.**  
Edina Garden Council Tour and Tea  
Arneson Park  
Highway 100 at 70th Street  
Edina

*The Garden Spray* is published monthly by the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc., for its members and friends. The Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis is a not-for-profit, equal opportunity organization.

Editor.....Andrew J. Marlow  
Staff.....Chuck Carlson,  
Richard Coldren, Sher Curry and  
Robert Olson



## Maury's Musings

by Maury Lindblom, President, MGCM

Well, we finally made it!! Spring does seem to be finally here. Lots of fits and starts though. Really cold some nights—need to cover plants, and perhaps

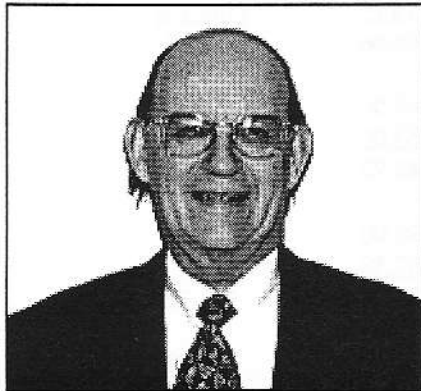


Photo by Lloyd Wittstock

some fatalities among the plants as well. Even though we are all behind in our garden work, I suspect we will attack it with a great deal of energy and catch up rather soon.

I just finished planting the last of the things I got at our plant auction, but had to bring them in a lot

before that. Overall, I thought the auction went very well. There was a good variety of plant material and the silent auction was very interesting. Quite a bit of the money I spent was due to my talent (?) for being the last one on the auction slip. One of my prize purchases was a Star Magnolia. There are several in our neighborhood that seem to have done well for a number of years, so I was anxious to try my luck.

My struggle with my deer neighbors continues, but since they are less needful of other foods, the damage is not as bad. The coyote urine has probably worked to some extent. I have sent away for some scent darts to better distribute the scent. A recent study showed that Tree Guard spray did a better job of making flowers unpalatable for deer than anything else. For those of you who use computers, "deer protection" typed into the search space of a search engine brings up a lot of ways to deal with this problem. I am

toying now with polypropylene plastic mesh fencing that I read about there.

When we work in our gardens, we all have certain things we like to do a certain way. I for one cannot seem to plant anything when I am wearing gloves. I must have that feel of the plant and the soil together to get the job done properly. I suppose this may come from my surgical experiences.

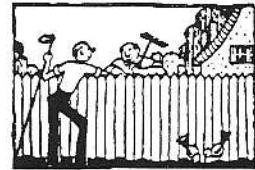
At the next meeting we will be talking about flower showing and judging. I got "hooked" on flower shows about seven years ago and exhibit in three or four shows a year. I don't do this just to collect ribbons or brag to anyone, but just to get an idea of how I am doing with what I grow. In medicine we often state that doctors need "Patient Stroking" to be encouraged. (These are kind words and compliments from patients.) I guess I need "Judge Stroking"! It should be an interesting meeting.

Hope to see many of you there !!

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## New Member

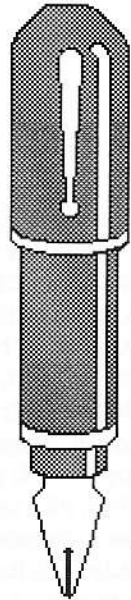
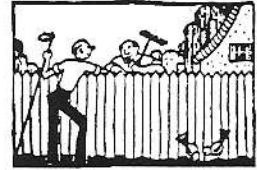
Mary L. Cunningham  
16825 25th Avenue North  
Plymouth, MN 55447  
Home phone: 475-3008



# Plant Sale Financial Report

by Howard Berg, Treasurer

	1997	1996	over (under)
Total Income Plant Sale	\$7380.00	\$7301.45	\$78.55
Total Expense Plant Sale	<u>4170.69</u>	<u>4414.79</u>	<u>(144.10)</u>
Total Profit or (Loss)	3209.31	2886.66	322.65
Income Dinners	651.00	667.50	(16.50)
Expenses Dinners	<u>754.47</u>	<u>553.00</u>	<u>201.47</u>
Total profit or (loss)	(103.47)	146.72	(146.72)
Income Raffles	236.00	195.00	41.00
Expenses Raffles		<u>87.38</u>	
Total Profit or (loss)	236.00	107.62	128.38
Income Country Store	1452.00	1357.15	94.85
Expense Country Store	<u>671.85</u>	<u>897.75</u>	<u>(225.90)</u>
Total Profit or (Loss)	780.15	459.40	320.75
Income Auction	4738.00	5081.80	(343.80)
Expense Auction	<u>2653.87</u>	<u>2876.66</u>	<u>(222.79)</u>
Total Profit or (Loss)	2084.13	2205.14	(121.01)
Silent Auction			
Income Silent Auction	303.00		
Expenses Silent Auction	<u>90.50</u>		
Total Profit or (loss):	212.50		
Gift Certificate (three largest buyers):			
Clyde Thompson		349.00	
Marty & Joane Anderson	300.00	341.00	
Douglas Whitney	372.50	333.00	
Mary Maynard	396.00		
Members who bought:	47	45	
Non members who bought:	11	16	
Members who did not buy:	20		
Budget Income:	5150.00	5100.00	
Budget Expense:	<u>3000.00</u>	<u>3000.00</u>	
Budget Profit or (loss):	2150.00	2100.00	
Actual Profit or (loss):	3109.31	2886.66	\$222.65



## Board Meeting Minutes

Walt Muehlegger, Secretary  
April 29, 1997

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis was called to order by President Maury Lindblom at 7:30 p.m. All officers and directors were present.

### Reports

**Secretary's Report:** The minutes of the April Board meeting were approved on a motion by Bob Stepan and a second by Mary Maynard after the May meeting date was corrected to read April 29 instead of April 20.

**Treasurer's Report:** The report was approved as presented on a motion by Chuck Carlson and a second by Kay Wolfe.

**Vice President's Report:** Possible program topics include preparing for the Flower, Food and Foto Show and lawn care by Mr. Lawn.

### Committees

**Flower, Food and Foto Show:** Maury and Chuck reported that more light is needed in the Arboretum Auditorium, such as portable flood lights.

### New Business

**Membership:** An application for membership from Mary L. Cunningham was approved on a motion by Mary and a second by Kay.

**National Convention:** Bill Jepson moved that the date for the TGOA/MGCA National convention be changed

from 2003 to 2001 as requested by TGOA/MGCA. The motion was seconded by Bob Stepan and was passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m. on a motion by Bob, seconded by Chuck. The next meeting will be June 3 at Chuck Carlson's house.

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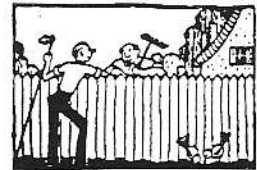
## Summer Tour Preview

by Kay Wolfe, Tour Committee Cochair

MGCM's summer Garden Tours are coming soon!! Time to mark your calendar!! We will have a tour of fellow member's gardens in both July and August. This year's tours will not be public fund-raising events—but all members are invited to bring guests to see the artwork of our club members. Many of this year's tour gardens belong to new members and have never before been seen!!

The July Tour will be Tuesday evening, July 8 from 6:00 to 9:30 p.m. We'll head south to the grand gardens of Eagan and Burnsville and visit MGCM members Carol Ann Brekke, Gary Geister, Jack Kolb, and Walt Muehlegger. Also on the agenda will be a stop at the Scherer family garden in Eagan (the former Richard Scherer was a MGCM member). A box supper will be served at one of the gardens.

August's Tour will be on Sunday afternoon August 3, from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. This time our buses will head west. MGCM members Marilyn Brummer and Lynette Uzell of Minnetonka have invited us to visit; other member garden visits are still being negotiated. We will stop at the Noerenberg Gardens on Lake Minnetonka and end the day at the Ridge Pointe



# Chuck's Chestnuts

by Chuck Carlson

I hope you all found some gems at the plant sale and auction. I did. I look for plants I don't have, some which I know little about or those that just seem intriguing. Some that came home with me are:

- a white flowered Anemone
- Hosta 'Stiletto'
- Heuchera, splendens 'Snow Angel'
- a Dwarf Shasta Daisy
- Paulowania, tomentosa
- a white flowered Filipendula

I just had to learn a little more about each of them before planting. I concluded that the anemone is *Anemone, sylvestris*—commonly know as the snowdrop anemone. It has white flowers and blooms in the spring.

Hosta, 'Stiletto' is a dwarf variegated cultivar with long wavy leaves and a thin white margin.

'Snow Angel' Heuchera has light green leaves mottled with white. Hopefully it will light up a shaded part of the garden and complement the 'Palace Purple'.

The dwarf (10") shasta is a cultivar of *Chrysanthemum x superbum*. My hope is that it will be a bit more hardy than the regular sized shasta.

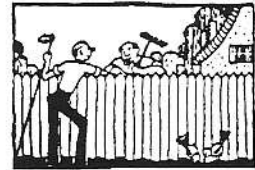
Paulowania, tomentosa is known as the Empress Tree. It is only root hardy in Minnesota according to Eldon Hugelen. That limits its use as a tree in our climate. It becomes a six foot plant in one season and has very large leaves. Eldon says his has started new from the roots every year, so he cuts back the dead stem in the spring.

The white flowered Filipendula appears to be *F. vulgaris*. I thought it was my first filipendula but I discovered I had another, called 'Queen of the Prairie'. I also discovered that all of the filipendulas like moist soil and full sun, except for the *F. vulgaris* which likes a drier soil and can tolerate part shade. *F. vulgaris* is commonly called Dropwort. It grows 2 to 3 feet tall and has fern like leaves. It is sometimes sold as *F. hexapetala* and *Spiraea, filipendula*. It is hardy to zone 4. *F. rubra* is hardy to zone 3 with a common name "Queen of the Prairie". It grows 4 to 7 feet with clusters of magenta-pink flowers. It is also sold as *F. purpurea* or *Spiraea, gigantea*.

## Tip for the Future

The Morden Research Centre, which developed the Morden series of roses, will be releasing some new roses and other plants this year. These are some that you can look for in the future:

- Monarda 'Petite Delight'—the first dwarf monarda.
- A Flowering crab called 'Spring Bride'—a double flowered crab with a unique flowering habit.
- A rose called 'Hope for Humanity'. Money realized from the sale of this goes to the Canadian Red Cross for the first few years.
- A rose called 'Morden Snow Beauty'. It has better disease resistance than other whites.



# Remembering Charlie Proctor

(It was announced at the Plant Sale that MGCM member Charlie Proctor had died. Charlie was an inspiration to many of us with his hard work and dedication to MGCM. The following is adapted from an article that appeared in the February *Garden Spray*.)

"We have lost one of the hardest working members we've ever had in the club," said MGCM Historian Bill Hull recently. Charlie Proctor, affectionately known as "Pete" to many, passed away in early May.

Charlie was the fourth oldest member of MGCM in terms of seniority. Among active members, only Larry Corbett (1946), Lloyd Bachman (1950) and Bill Hull (1952) had been in the club longer than Charlie, who joined in 1956.

Charlie was MGCM President in 1965, was awarded the Bronze Medal in 1970 and the President's Cup in both 1968/69 and 1984, and was elected to honorary membership in 1987. Bill remembers Charlie carrying flats of plants at the annual plant auction, his tremendous leadership and physical contributions to our annual flower and vegetable shows, his willingness to appear at any activity where help was needed, and the many times he counseled other about growing vegetables, at which he was a master.

Charlie and his wife Ruth had recently moved to Indianapolis where they had made many friends. before being transferred to Australia.

MGCM will miss Charlie very much and extends condolences to Ruth and the rest of the Proctor family.

# Thanks!

MGCM wishes to thank the following individuals and businesses that made contributions to the raffle at the MGCM Plant Sale and Auction.:

- Harold Pellett, Landscape Plant Development Center
- Howard Klier, Klier's Landscape and Garden Center
- Tom Tennant, Tennant Landscaping and Outback Nursery
- Phil Peterson
- Roger Koopmans
- Marty and Joane Anderson
- Angie Niesen
- Lloyd Wittstock
- Dave Moehnke
- Dundee Nursery
- Robbinsdale Farm and garden
- Edina Hardware
- Guse Hardware
- Hennepin Co-op

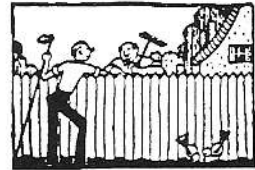
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## Tours

*(continued from page 5)*

gardens in Minnetonka, winner of the MGCM Industrial Beautification Award for 1996. A catered picnic supper will be served at Ridge Pointe at the end of the tour.

The cost of each tour will be \$13.00 per person, meal and bus included. Advance reservations and payment will be required for both gardens. More detailed information will appear in the July and August issues of the *Garden Spray*. But if you will be out of town for July 4, call Kay Wolfe in advance (at 922-0762) to get your name on the July Tour list!!



# Showing Peppers

by Mel Anderson, Cochair  
Flower, Food and Foto Show Committee

Although Chuck Carlson did a fine job of educating readers about peppers in his "Chuck's Chestnuts" column in the April *Garden Spray*, here are some tips from Mel Anderson on exhibiting peppers. The pepper has been chosen as the National Award vegetable for the 1997 MGCM Flower, Food and Foto Show.

Look over your peppers and pick those most free of disease and defects. Then choose the most uniform specimens with regard to:

- size and maturity
- shape – such as the same number of lobes
- color – do not mix red and green unless absolutely necessary

Wipe the chosen peppers with a damp cloth. Do not wash them; you don't want them to lose their bloom, just the dirt. Then cut the stems to a uniform length, about 1/2 to 1 inch long.

Read the schedule for the proper number to exhibit. Try putting them on a paper plate, just as you would at the show. Then look again at your rejects. Maybe they will look better the second time around.

Store your peppers in a dark, cool place over night. A basement usually works. If you keep them in a refrigerator, check for condensation later and wipe them dry.

Most importantly, do not fail to exhibit your peppers. They may not be perfect, but they could be the best ones exhibited. You have a better chance to win the impressive orange National Award ribbon than the sweepstakes. Good luck!

# Arbor Day Planting

On Saturday May 10, MGCM gathered to celebrate Arbor Day 1997 by planting trees near the Lake Harriet Rose Garden in Minneapolis. Photos by Henry Orfield.

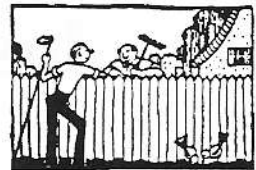


*It takes three MGCM members to wrestle on tree into a hole.*



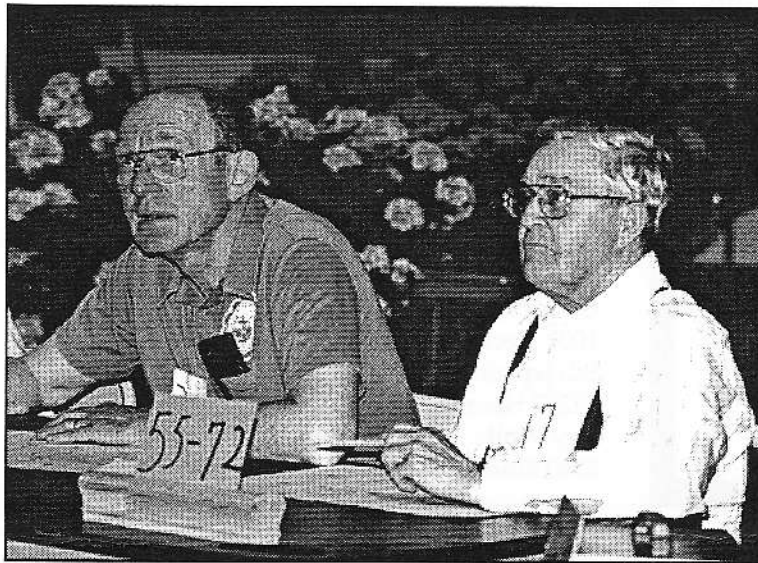
*Eldon Hugelen and Chuck Carlson doing what they do best!*



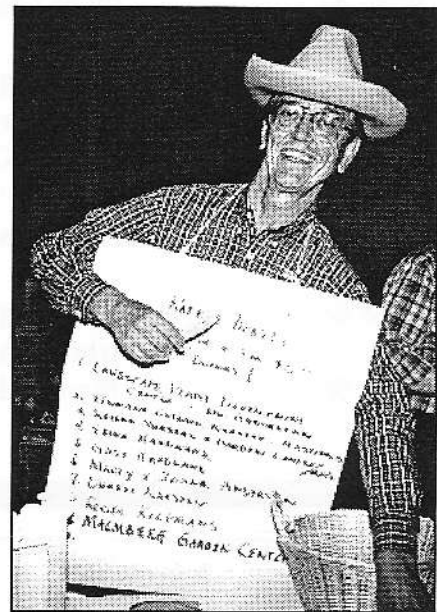


# Spending Money and Having Fun!

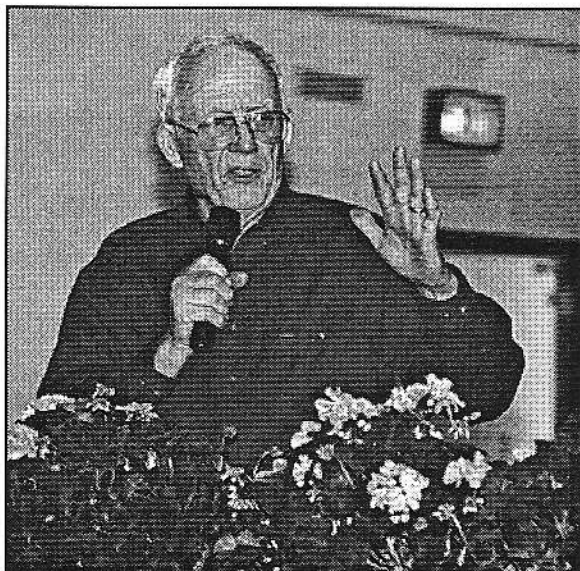
Photos by Lloyd Wittstock and Henry Orfield



Mel Anderson and George McCollough keep track of purchases.



Bob Voigt hawks raffle tickets



Dave Johnson extols the virtues of a favorite geranium.



Joane Anderson and Kay Wolfe (she's wearing the hat) inspect their purchases.

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## MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.

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# The Garden Spray

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