

THE DAYTON — BACHMAN SHOW

COMING TUESDAY MARCH 19, 1991

MGCM'S ANNUAL DAYTON-BACHMAN SHOW EVENT

DINNER 6:00 P.M. in DAYTON'S SKY ROOM
(12th floor Nicollet Mall Store)
Adults \$14.50 Children \$5.50

GUEST SPEAKER: DALE or TODD BACHMAN

This year's show is based on an Italian
theme with a menu to complement:
Classic Lasagna Fresh Fruit Salad
Foccacia Bread Raspberry Sorbet
Beverage

Come. Join the fun. Catch the spring fever.
Bring a guest, your children, grandchildren.

There will be no standing reservations. All reservations must be made in advance and payment received by treasurer Mel Anderson no later than Thursday, March 14, 1991.

RESERVATION(S) FOR MGCM MEETING 6 PM TUESDAY EVENING MARCH 19

Return this form by March 14, 1991 with your check payable to MGCM to
Mel Anderson, 5701 35th Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN. 55417

Reserve _____ Adults @ \$14.50 _____ Child's @ \$5.50 places for me.

My check for \$ _____ is enclosed.

Signature _____

My guest(s) will be _____

FEBRUARY MGCM MEETING REPORTED BY ED. CULBERT

ROGER KOOPMANS is no ordinary authority. He is an effective lecturer, a humorist and an entertainer. With animated hand-waving, gesticulating and the use of marking pens on large sheets of paper he held our attention and stimulated our thinking. Questioners wouldn't let him stop despite his attempts to limit himself to mini-speaker status. We should have him again for an entire program.

As Koopmans sketched ways to improve the home landscaping he decried "evergreens wallpapered to the house and sidewalks too narrow for a couple to walk abreast. "Sidewalks should be 7 to 8 feet wide." Regarding plantings: "Have a focal point". "Get away from the straight lines."..."Make it big enough. Too many spots are too small. You have to use binoculars to see the flowers."

Re borders: "Gradual curves are so much better than gingerbread." Borders should be perfectly cut. Re flowers: "People place these small, innocent things too close to the foundation. You might want to paint the house or wash the windows."

Trees too low? "Open them up. Let the wind through." Too thin? "Cut them down." (An audience member added, "When your wife is away.") What about low spreaders? "Let them grow. Lift up the branches and prune with a hand shears."

Says Koopmans, "The simpler you make your landscape the better. You can make a pocket sized garden look just as good as some bigger one." Above all use almost everything in groups of three--big trees excepted. Roger didn't say this last but he sure emphasized his favorite grouping.

DAVID BENFORD. How does Andy Marlow do it? I can't decipher the notes I took in the dark on Benford's fine slide-illustrated talk. I remember he told us winter rootstock injury accounted for most of the damage to or loss of apple trees a year ago. Slides showed varying degrees of tree defoliation--one with many small apples, no leaves. Trees showing some damage may or may not survive. Three years will tell, said Benford. Apple trees in cold pockets at the foot of hills normally are most susceptible to winter damage but this past year the greatest damage was noted in trees located on higher ground.

In Minnesota there are already some apple bearing 6 foot dwarf trees despite the fact that it takes 10 to 20 years to test out a dwarfing rootstock. The average breeding time for a new apple is 25 years. Hence, today testing for many apple problems, the number one being scab, is done using first year seedlings. Then only the best survivors are field planted for further testing.

Re Honeycrisp, the latest U. of M. release: The first trial planting was in 1960. Honeycrisp ripens the third week in September. It is sweet, crisp and crunchy. It stores, at 35° F., as well as the later fruiting varieties of apples. It is the first patented apple.

WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

James D. Ellis
6223 Halifax Ave. S.
Edina, MN 55424

926-0705
829-0836

Kevin T. Gormley
2921 - 42nd Ave. S.
Mpls., MN 55406

724-9203



Grow With Us

This month's column will focus on some ideas to consider in preparation for the major recruitment of new members in May of this year. Maintaining and increasing membership is a vital concern of our club. A goal has been set to recruit about forty new members by October of 1992, our 50th anniversary date. This brings up two questions: Is it a realistic goal? What tools are available to help us do the job?

Is the recruitment goal realistic? It's a proposed 40% increase in about a year and one-half. That's a tall order for any organization and it gives us something to shoot for. Let's try.

What tools are available to help us recruit new members? That's a good question. Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis has no address or phone number. We depend on members to receive mail and calls at their homes. Would it be beneficial to have a P.O. Box for MGCM? Would it be helpful to advertise in newspapers and gardening magazines for new members? Would the benefits outweigh the costs? How about "sponsoring" a portion of a gardening radio show? These issues should be addressed by the Membership Committee and some proposals forwarded to the board for consideration.

Some "low cost-no cost" products, including a revised membership application, will be available for review at the April meeting. Each member will receive a recruitment kit of materials to distribute in their neighborhoods during May--Recruitment Month.

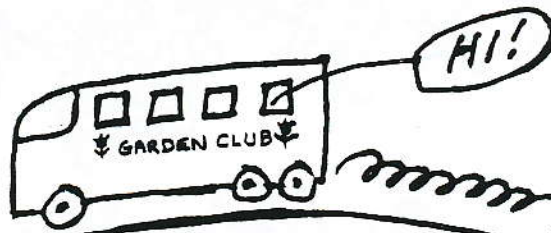
Cordially,



M.T. Pulley, President

Every Member Sponsors A New Member
Every Member Sponsors A New Member

TUESDAY, JULY 9, 1991



SUNDAY, AUGUST 11, 1991

Two garden tours are planned in 1991. We are getting organized to select gardens for tours.

We would like your input and information to make the tours this year the best.

Any garden is eligible for the tour - large, small, formal, informal, etc. We prefer to tour gardens that have not been on tour in the past years and would like to tour the gardens of new members. In addition, gardens of note belonging to persons or organizations not involved with the Garden Club will be considered.

Please complete the tear-off and return it to me so that we can get an early start this year.

For the Committee
Bob Redmond

To: Bob Redmond
1016 E. Minnehaha Parkway
Minneapolis, MN. 55417

_____ I would be willing to have my garden on tour

I prefer _____ July 9

_____ August 11

I suggest touring the garden at _____

Other comments _____

Name

Telephone

LETTERS OF APPRECIATION

MGCM has received the following letter in appreciation of it's donation of Grolab funds to a Minneapolis school.

Thank you for the Growlab Grant. We are very excited to receive this award. The equipment and supplies purchased with these funds will help our program. Kathy and I will be finishing our program plans and there are many experiments and experiences we are anxious to bring to our students as the spring growing season begins. Thank you again for your support to education.

The letter was signed by JoAnne Toft (and) Kathy Scoggin, Marcy Open School teachers.

Actually the grant to Marcy School came indirectly through a donation of \$300 we made in 1990 to Minnesota Green as explained in a letter from Rick Bonlender:

Minnesota Green is the MSHS community gardening program which has received generous support from members of MGCM. Most recently, Minnesota Green received a MGCM donation of \$300 to be used to purchase indoor light gardening equipment for a Minneapolis elementary school. More information on the school receiving this donation will be covered in an upcoming issue of the SPRAY. On behalf of Minnesota Green and the hundreds of school kids who are soon to experience the joys of gardening, thanks to the members of MGCM!!!

CHANGE IN HOME PHONE NUMBER

Jack A. Porter 544-5315

CACTUS ANYONE?

Commercial cactus growers in Arizona don't think we are very bright. The box in which I received a barrel cactus warned DO NOT USE BARE HANDS TO HANDLE CACTUS supplemented by a sketch showing how not to, a lesson I learned through experience years ago.

Under CARE I read--It is very important that you DO NOT OVER WATER. Always allow the soil to dry thoroughly between watering. Start by watering with small amounts until established, then approximately 3-4 tablespoons of water per month. Place your cactus in a well lighted area. Morning sun or indirect sunlight is desireable, but never place in direct sunilght. A general houseplant fertilizer may occasionally be used when watering.

About the same time Earl Selle writing in Spokane MGC's NIGHT CRAWLER enlightened me further: There is a tendancy to over-water house plants especially cactus and other succulents. During the winter, cactus may need water only once a month. In the spring, increase watering again to about once a week, and in the fall, gradually reduce watering to about once a month. A good soil mix for cactus includes equal parts of soil sand and decomposed organic matter. They may require repotting to a one size larger container every two years and may be given a light feeding of houseplant fertilizer once or twice during the spring and summer.

Soybeans are top rank in vitamins and minerals.

DRIFT FROM THE SPRAYER

By Ed. Culbert

If you don't believe MGCA is serious about cutting costs read this paragraph from a recent issue of THE GREENHORN, the bulletin of the Mansfield, Ohio MGC.

Normally our board doesn't make a financial contribution to an individual club member. It never has since I have been a member, but one was made at the November board meeting. It was voted to approve giving \$1,000 to Past Pres. Elvin Burnell to help defray expenses related to his position as National MGCA Vice-Pres. during 1991. This was done due to the fact that the national office has no funds available for officers expenses. A sad situation, but true. Unless the MGCA gets out of the slump it's in and has been in during the past few years, the future of the organization doesn't look healthy. At least the \$1,000 to Elvin will serve as a small shot in the arm to help him pay for transportation costs to the dozens of meetings he has to attend nationwide. He's lucky he's from the Mansfield Club!

Now you know what a labor of love national MGC office is. Thanks, Russ Smith for being willing to serve MGCA and MGCM as director from the North Star Region.

Roger Koopmans said nothing last month about hiring a landscaping professional if you are tackling a major job. He didn't have time. Likewise, he probably wanted to avoid promoting himself in a group of friends. So, if you are going to be in the market here are some tips culled from an article by Fred Mower:

The first step in finding a landscape professional is knowing where to look. The best way to do this is to visually inspect your neighborhood. If you see a neighbor's landscape that appeals to you, take a minute to ask who did the work. You can also begin by looking in the telephone book under "landscapes". Another information source is the local garden center. It may have its own landscape specialist or can recommend somebody in the area.

Once you have a few leads begin interviewing. Review your needs, preferences, budget and priorities with each landscape professional and listen to his comments to determine if they are apt to suit your needs. Make sure personalities can work together. It is also important to check references. Talk to someone the designer has recently worked with. Find out if the job was done in a timely way and within budget. Ask if the plants in the landscape design accomplished what the designer said they would do. Most importantly, ask if they are happy with the end results.

Finally, once you have selected a specialist draw up a contract that will give sufficient guidelines to both parties.

Did you wonder how the new price for our monthly meeting dinners was arrived at? Here is your answer. The club has 108 members at present.

If the club is to break even at it's monthly dinners;
90 people must show at \$6.00 a meal,
68 people must show at \$6.50 a meal,
54 people must show at \$7.00 a meal.

Now let's shoot for 75 people at a meal and come out ahead.

Try your hand at getting your poinsettia to rebloom. After the plant drops its bracts, cut the stems back to within six inches of the base or two or three inches above the wood, leaving two or three leaf nodes on each stem. After the weather warms up, it should start to grow. Pinch out the tip every time it grows six inches until the first of August. It should start to set tinted leaves about

the first of October. Then protect the plant from night lighting from 5:00 P.M. to 7:00 A.M. Temperatures during this period should range from 62 to 67 degrees. A good soil is 1/2 loam, 1/4 dried cow manure, and 1/4 leaf mold. Feed with a fertilizer that is high in nitrogen. The poinsettia should bloom about December 10th. After blooming the plant will no longer be affected by night lighting.

Instead of trying to get your old plant to bloom again you may prefer to start new plants from cuttings. If so wait until all danger of frost is past then make cuttings as you would for geraniums. Stick them in a box of moist sand. Place the box outdoors in a bright spot out of direct sunlight until roots begin to form. Then pot up. Thereafter follow the regimen in the paragraphs above.

Some years ago I tried the cuttings method. Despite my failure to use a rooting hormone or to keep the sand uniformly moist 75% of the cuttings rooted. Some of the potted cuttings died. Most of the others bloomed only feebly so I never tried again. It was easier and cheaper to buy new poinsettias each year.

THE EARLY YEARS - 1942 - THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS IS BORN

MGCM came about as a result of a series of lunch time discussions on raising flowers in the home garden which was held at a table at the Minneapolis Athletic Club. One day in September, 1941, there gathered at the table was a group including Charles Doell and Walter Quist of the Minneapolis Park Board, City Engineer Fred Paul, Charles David, Tom Hughes and F.A. Upsher Smith, a kindly, soft-spoken Englishman. The talk centered about Upsher and his spirited description of the raising of digitalis at his Foxglove Farm at Minnetonka.

The interest in this discussion led Smith to suggest the formation of a garden committee made up of Walter Quist, Gardener Eustis, Upsher Smith, Tom Hughes and Charles David. This committee arranged a Gardener's Stag dinner at the Athletic Club on February 3, 1942, which was attended by some 35 members of the Athletic Club and their gardening friends.

Following this, the committee decided to proceed with the formation of a Men's Garden Club independent of the Athletic Club. The following letter was mailed to a group of men:

"You are cordinally invited to become a charter member of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis and to take part in a business meeting in the Oak Room of the Athletic Club on May 18, 1942, at 8 p.m. At this meeting the Club will be organized, officers elected, by-laws adopted, and arrangements made for affiliation with the Minnesota Horticultural Society and the Men's Garden Clubs of America. The club starts with 30 charter members and promises to be of great value to the growing circle of men who take an interest in the garden. Please make it convenient to be present on May 18 and to take a hand in the organization of the Club.

(Signed) Gardner T. Eustis, T. D. Hughes, W. P. Quist, F. A. Upsher Smith"

At the meeting of May 18, about 20 men were present. A free discussion of ideas regarding the formation of the club was held. At the conclusion officers elected, pending the adoption of a constitution and by-laws were: T. D. Hughes, President; Upsher Smith, Vice-President; Charles David, Secretary-Treasurer. A constitution and by-laws committee made up of Fred Paul and Upsher Smith was appointed.

-- Adapted from an unsigned article found in the SPRAY files.

NOTICE

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FRAGRANCE GARDEN

All members of the Fragrance Garden Committee and any interested Club members, especially new members, should plan on attending the organizing meeting for this years garden. Be at Kent Petterson's home at 7:00 PM on March 13th. Find out how you can be a part of one of the best public gardens in the city. Call Kent at 332-1821 to confirm your attendance so he doesn't have to call you.

TOUR

TOUR

TOUR

A summer day trip garden tour is being planned tentatively for June 15th a Saturday at River Glen Gardens. This will be a private showing for MGCM members and their guests only. Please mark your calendars and keep the day open for a trip to West Central Minnesota near Little Sauk. Meet and learn from Ron Weinholt, one of Minnesota's most interesting and knowledgeable plantsmen. Ron has traveled the world collecting plants and has spent a lifetime developing his Japanese style garden. Contact Kent Petterson if you have any questions and watch for more details in the April Spray.

MUMS

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A Chrysanthemum order is being assembled by Kent Petterson. If any one is interested in ordering high quality rooted cuttings @ \$.50 each for delivery this Spring, please contact him no later than March 19th. Named varieties from Dooley Gardens in Hutchinson in minimum quantities of five per variety.

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

MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.

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Vice-President: Gregory Smith
1540 Rhode Island Av. N., Golden Valley 55416
Secretary: Eldon Hugelen
7473 W. 142nd St. Ct., Apple Valley 55124
Treasurer: Melvin C. Anderson
5701 35th Av. S., Minneapolis 55417
Past-President: Kent R. Petterson
908 E. River Ter., Minneapolis 55414

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