

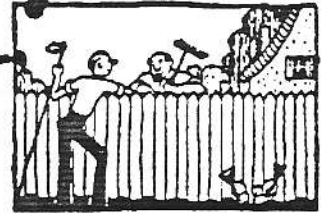


The Garden Spray

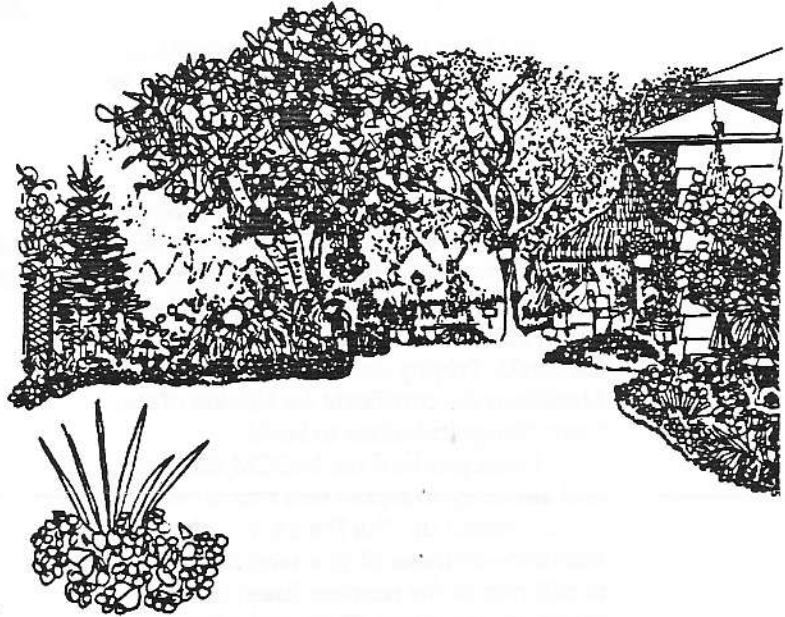
Bulletin of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc.

Affiliated with Gardeners of America and the Minnesota State Horticultural Society

March 1993, Volume 51, Number 3



an English Country Garden



a Special MGCM Meeting

to see

the Dayton's-Bachman's Flower Show

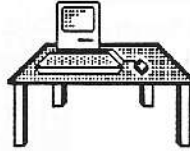
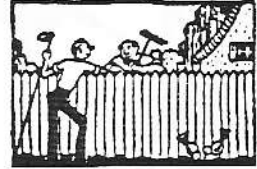
Tuesday, March 16, 1993

**Dinner: 5:45 p.m. Dayton's Skyroom
8th and Nicollet Mall**

Cost: \$8.00 per person, guests invited

Tour Following in Dayton's 8th floor Auditorium

For this special event, the permanent reservation list will not be in effect. Each member who wishes to attend should return the enclosed reservation card to Eldon Hugelen as soon as possible. Please list the names of all your guests on the card



The Editor's Desk
Andy Marlow

We have too many Club awards, or at least that's one conclusion that could be reached. The Awards Committee mixed up the Robert L. Smith Trophy (for the best showing by a first time exhibitor at the MGCM Flower and Vegetable Show) with the Rookie of the Year Award (the new member who has made the largest contribution of time and energy to the club). Lloyd Mikkelson will be awarded the Smith Trophy and Dr. Maury Lindblom the certificate for Rookie of the Year. Congratulations to both!

I also produce the MGCM directory, and am sorry to report that I have once again messed up Phil Peterson's phone number—as those of you who have tried to call him at the number listed in the directory can attest. Phil's real phone number is 949-3433. Take a minute now to cross out the old number in your 1993 directory and write in the correct one.

We have been listing new members, their address and phone number in the *Spray* for a long time, but now Membership Committee chair Duane Reynolds will also write a paragraph or two about each one so you'll know a little more about them. Thanks, Duane!

Plan on attending the Spring Gardening Seminar put on by the 5th District of the MSHS on March 27. The time and place are in the calendar at right. Duane Johnson and his crew have put together a full program using a number of MGCM resources, including a question and answer session with Fred Glasoe and Bob Churilla talking about spring rose care. If you have any questions about this event, give Duane a call at 824-0295.

Coming Attractions

March 2 - 7:30 p.m.
MGCM Board Meeting
Eldon Hugelen's House

March 3-7
Minneapolis Home and Garden Show
Minneapolis Auditorium and Convention Center

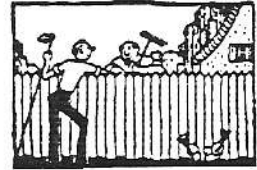
March 16 - 6:00 p.m.
Dinner and Tour of the annual
Dayton-Bachman Flower Show
Skyroom Restaurant
Dayton's Downtown Minneapolis

March 27 - 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Spring Gardening Seminar
5th District of the MSHS
Robbinsdale Area Community Ed. Center
4139 Regent Avenue North

April 3 & 4
Open House
Center for Northern Gardening
Minnesota State Horticultural Society

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.

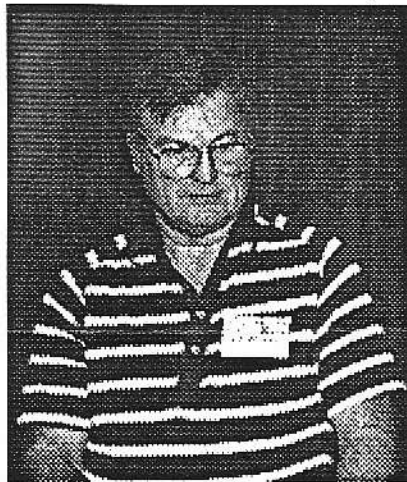
Editor.....Andrew J. Marlow
Staff.....Chuck Carlson,
Mary Maynard, Phil Smith



The President's Report

Lee Gilligan, President, MGCM

Well, it's coming fast — about six weeks till early veggie crop planting time outside. Yes, outside! Seed starting time is here now for the slow starters (hard to believe when you look outside).



(Photo: Dr. Bill Jepson)

I guess it's time that we also plant the seeds of this year's MGCM activities. One of our first big events is our fragrance garden start up. Let's make it a beautiful place again this year. Another is our club's major fund

raiser, the Plant Auction. Let's all partake of these two events for the right start of our club's year. Let's also start getting those yards ready for our two summer tours. Make sure you volunteer your yard so that we can all enjoy the fruits of your labor.

Well, those are the Early Starter Seeds for club activities, so let's get planting!



Thank You!

by Kent Petterson

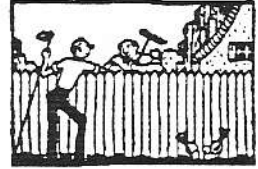
We indicated in the January *Spray* that we would give an accounting of donations to the Mission 125 Building Campaign for the Minnesota State Horticultural Society. The fund raising goals set for MGCM were ambitious, but we felt they were realistic. All of you proved us correct.

MGCM offered to match the contributions of individual members up to a maximum of \$5,000, resulting in a total contribution from MGCM of \$10,000. The following is a list of members who made contributions through our campaign. Two broad categories are noted; one for members who contributed between \$5 and \$99, and a second for those who contributed \$100 or more.

\$5 to \$99

- Roger Anderson
- Floyd Ashley
- Chuck Benson
- Vinton Bouslough
- Archie Caple
- Chuck Carlson
- John Christensen
- Larry Corbett
- Ed Culbert
- Kevin Gormley
- Leo Grebner
- Chet Groger
- John Groos
- Dave Moenke
- John Moon
- Peter Olin
- Bob Olson
- Ted Olson
- Don Powell

(continued on page 8)



1993 MGCM Scholarship Announcement

The Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis (MGCM) will be awarding a scholarship to a student of horticulture in 1993. MGCM will award at least one \$1,000 scholarship to a student or students interested in a career in horticulture, landscaping or related professional area.

MGCM is a group of men and women interested in gardening, home landscaping and improving the communities in which we live. This scholarship will be awarded to a student who has career goals consistent with the interests of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis.

CRITERIA OF APPLICATION AND AWARD

- 1 - Student must be a resident of the State of Minnesota.
- 2 - Student must be accepted or currently enrolled at a school within the State of Minnesota. The curriculum must be accredited or formalized.
- 3 - Student must have a demonstrated career interest in areas such as home gardening, greenhouse management or landscaping.
- 4 - Applications must be postmarked no later than May 1, 1993. A committee of MGCM will choose the winner and award the scholarship by August 1, 1993.

5 - Finalists may be interviewed at a date and location to be determined.

6 - Financial data, age, gender, race or religion will not be considered in awarding this scholarship.

INFORMATION REQUIRED WITH THE APPLICATION

A - A fully completed application form.

B - A letter of recommendation from an individual (non-family) knowledgeable about the applicants horticultural experience and goals.

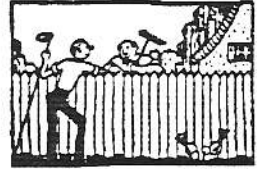
C - A letter of recommendation from an individual (non-family) knowledgeable about the applicants personal character.

D - Other information the applicant deems appropriate.

E - A statement indicating to which institution address the scholarship funds should be sent.

Applications and requests for information should be addressed to:

MGCM Scholarship
c/o Kent Petterson
908 East River Terrace
Minneapolis, MN 55414



Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis 1993 Scholarship Application

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

HIGH SCHOOL: _____ GRADUATION DATE: _____

COLLEGE OF ENROLLMENT: _____

HORTICULTURAL AREA OF STUDY: _____

PRESENT ACADEMIC STATUS: _____ EXPECTED GRAD. DATE: _____

CUMULATIVE GPA: _____ TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

1) Describe your education/career goals.

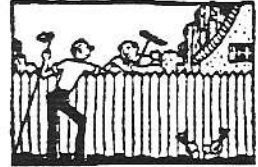
2) Describe the specific horticultural program in which you are/will be enrolled.

3) Describe your personal horticultural experiences and any group involvements.

4) Why do you wish to pursue a career in horticulture or related areas?

Signature

This completed application, along with the required information (see announcement letter) must be provided by all applicants. Only those that meet all the criteria and provide all information will be considered. Please use additional paper as necessary.



Chuck's Chestnuts

by Chuck Carlson

The Chestnut

I read an article by John Dyson which he called "The Green Gene Revolution." The following are a few tidbits I found interesting:

It took centuries to develop corn from wild grass, but today with gene splicing new varieties of softer and sweeter corn can be designed and grown in 2 or 3 years.

Gene splicing can also be used to extend fruit life after picking. This slows the rotting process. Tomatoes already have been grown with an extra week's shelf life. Maybe soon growers won't have to pick them green and they will have some taste.

One splice that intrigues me is giving a potato a gene from the petunia to make the Colorado beetle reject the growing vines.

We now have strawberries that are hardy, but how about some which will survive frosts and still bear fruit. This is projected for 1996. An antifreeze gene from the flounder is given to the strawberry to accomplish this.

Other things being worked on are: naturally decaffeinated coffee beans, sweeter grapefruit, buttery flavored popcorn (without the extra calories), naturally blue cotton, flame proof cotton and potatoes grown to provide human blood serum.

What about the negative side? You all know how invasive Queen Ann's Lace is in its present state. What if we developed a carrot that was herbicide resistant and it mated in the wild with its

relative the "Queen". Would we have a killer carrot? On the other hand maybe we can develop a short lived smothering plant which could eradicate our invasive Lythrum (purple Loosestrife) that is taking over our wetlands.

The Word

The word for this month is nanism. Those who have grown plants with the word nana in its name have a clue. Nanism means subnormal growth or, in other words, smaller versions of typically larger plants.

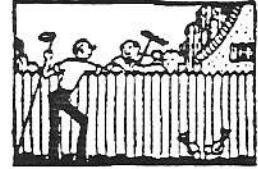
The Tip

Since many of us are planting seeds now I have three tips having to do with seeds.

Small Seeds—Some seeds are so small they are difficult to sow evenly. To make this easier you may have mixed the seed with sand. I have found that sand tends to be too large and heavy and use corn meal instead.

Fertilizing sprouted seeds—Once seeds have sprouted don't fertilize until the first set of true leaves has appeared, and don't use the fertilizer at full strength.

Soaking seeds—Some seeds need to be soaked in warm water for 6 to 24 hours prior to planting. Replace the tea in a tea bag with the seeds you want to soak. Hang the tea bag in a thermos of warm water over night. The seeds should be plump and can be planted. If none look like they have absorbed any water try another 12 hours. If this doesn't work, you might have to scarify them.



Native Uses of Native Plants: Red-Osier Dogwood

by Mary Maguire Lerman,
Coordinator of Horticulture Programs
Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board

COMMON NAMES: Red-Osier Dogwood, Kinnikinnik, Rose Willow, Red Willow, Silky Cornel

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Cornus sericea*

NATIVE NAME: *mis kwabi mic*, which means reddish

Red-Osier dogwood is a prominent shrub of the winter landscape in Minnesota. It prefers a moist habitat and is frequently seen growing in low thickets, swamps, ditches, and around lakes. The bark of the stems and twigs is bright purplish-red, particularly during the winter months. The common name of Red Willow has frequently been assigned to Red-Osier Dogwood because of its color and the fact that it is found in wet spots where willows typically grow. This dogwood has the widest growing range of any of the dogwoods and can be found growing across the northern half of the United States.

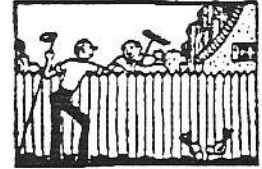
Its rapidly growing stems reach a maximum height of three meters. This fast growing habit results in pliable stems which are excellent along with willows for the construction of baskets. Other utility uses include natural dyes and a smoking tobacco mixture. Both red and black dyes can be obtained from this dogwood by boiling either the bark or roots with other plant materials. Kinnikinnik is the name of smoking tobaccos made from mixtures

of tobacco and other plant materials. One mixture consists of one part inner bark scrapings of Red-Osier Dogwood and four parts of tobacco. Other mixtures with the same name may also contain dried willow bark, sumac leaves, oil, and pungent herbs. Longfellow mentions the Red-Osier Dogwood in "The Song of Hiawatha" noted below.

From the red stone of the quarry
With his hand he broke a fragment,
Moulded it into a pipe-head
Shaped and fashioned it with figures;
From a margin of the river
Took a long reed for a pipe-stem,
With its dark green leaves upon it;
Filled the pipe with bark of willow,
With the bark of the red willow;
Breathed upon the neighboring forest,
Made its great boughs chafe together,
Till in flame they chafed and kindled;
And erect upon the mountains,
Gitche Manito, the mighty,
Smoked the calumet, the Peace-Pipe,
As a signal to the nation.

Red-Osier Dogwood also has medicinal properties. Frances Densmore mentions in, *How Indians Use Wild Plants for Food, Medicine, and Crafts*, that a decoction made from equal parts of the roots of *Cornus alternifolia* and *Cornus sericea* is used as a wash or compress for the eyes. *Potter's New Cyclopaedia of Medicinal Herbs and Preparations* notes that the bark of the

(continued on page 8)



Thank You

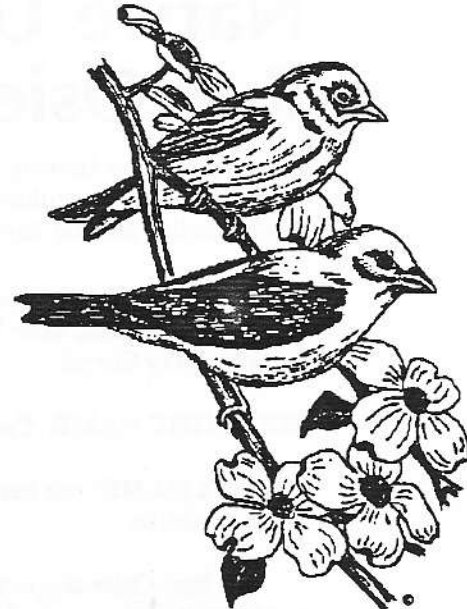
(continued from page 3)

Bob Redmond
Bob Savory
Dwight Stone
Lloyd Wittstock

\$100 or more

Mel Anderson
Larry Bachman
Lloyd Bachman
Russ Backes
Howard Berg
Burton Deane
Lee Gilligan
Eldon Hugelen
Duane Johnson
Jack Kolb
Mary Maguire Lerman
Henry Orfield
Kent Petterson
Duane Reynolds
Walter Schmidt
Jerry Shannon
Greg Smith
Russ Smith
Clyde Thompson
Bob Voigt

Please mark the weekend of April 3 and 4 on your calendar. A wonderful dedication and open house will be hosted by MSHS in their new "Center for Northern Gardening." Watch for details in the *Horticulturist*. Go see what your money helped provide and the role this building will play in the future of gardening in Minnesota.



Waiting for Spring

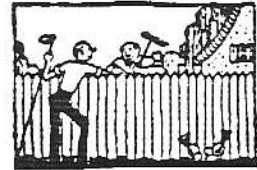
Native Plants

(continued from page 7)

stems and roots can be used as an astringent, bitter, and/or tonic. Further notes include:

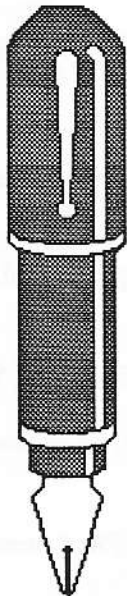
Has been found of service in diarrhoea, dyspepsia, and in fevers. It is also recommended in dropsy. The infusion is useful in checking vomiting due to pregnancy or disease of the womb.

The white flowers of red-Osier Dogwood begin appearing in May and continue throughout the summer. Fruits are white in color and are favorites of many wildlife including wood ducks, grouse, pheasant, quail, wild turkeys, cardinals, robins, rabbits, skunk, squirrels, and chipmunks. Deer prefer the twigs and foliage for browse.



MGCM Historian Bill Hull (right) presents the famous Green Thumb Award for perfect attendance at club functions for 1 full year to (beginning second from left) Eldon Hugelen, Greg Smith, Chuck Carlson and Dick Arnevik. Bob Stepan was absent. Russ Smith (far left) was given a Green Thumb for 8 years of perfect attendance. Hull noted that, upon checking the last eight year's membership records, he calculates 47 MGCM members have never attended a meeting at which Russ was not present. (Photograph by Dr. Bill Jepson)

Meeting Notes



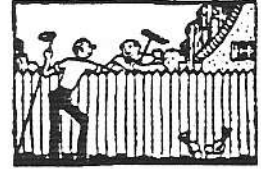
At their February meeting, the MGCM Board of Directors:

- received a thank you from the Joyce Emergency Food Shelf for donations from the MGCM Holiday Party.
- received a petition from 43 members requesting that Dave Johnson be made an honorary member and scheduled a vote on the issue for the annual membership meeting in November.
- discussed planting a tree or trees at the new MSHS building as

part of Arbor Day.

At the February membership meeting:

- a balanced operating budget of \$16,750 was approved after changing the "convention delegates" item to "convention representatives."
- Lee Gilligan was inducted into the Spade Club for recruiting two new members in 1992.
- Green Thumb awards were presented to 5 members plus Bob Stepan, who was absent (see picture above).



Flavorful Vegetables

contributed by Bill Hull

The January 1993 issue of *Organic Gardening* carried a superb article about the most flavorful vegetable varieties as judged by food editors and chefs, and the magazine's readers. You'll find them listed below, the most popular ones first. Please note that the editors and chefs were a very small group and a selection may represent only one person's opinion. Nearly 4000 readers responded. Remember, too, that these are varieties grown across the country and not all may be suitable for growing here.

If you can't find this issue on the newsstand anymore, call me and I'll read you the relevant paragraph over the phone.

Beans

chefs—Bush Blue Lake, Pole Blue Lake, Kentucky Wonder
readers—Bush Blue Lake, Pole Blue Lake, Kentucky Wonder

Beets

chefs—Lutz Greenleaf
readers—Detroit Dark Red

Broccoli

chefs—Arcadia, Emerald City, Emperor
readers—Green Comet

Cabbage

chefs—Green Jewel
readers—Copenhagen Market, Early Jersey, Wakefield, Stonehead

Cucumbers

chefs—Armenian, Sweet Success
readers—Sweet Success, Sweet Slice, Straight Eight

Greens

chefs—Russian Red Kale (a.k.a Ragged Jack)



readers—Vates Collards

Eggplant

chefs—Casper, Louisiana Green
readers—Black Beauty, Dusky

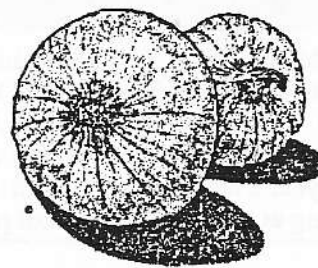
Lettuce

chefs—heading type such as Diamond Gem, Pirat, BruceD'Hiver, KA-Gran Summer, Mercher, Rouge D'Hiver
readers—Black Seeded Simpson, Buttercrunch (bibb), Green Ice

Melons

chefs—Ambrosia, Pancha, Crimson Sweet
readers—Ambrosia, Pancha, Sugar Baby

Onions



chefs—Vidalia, Walla Walla Sweet
readers—Vidalia, Walla Walla Sweet, Stuttgarter, Sweet Sandwich

Peas

chefs—Patriot, Early Frosty, Sugar Ann
readers—Little Marvel, Wando, Green Arrow

Peppers

chefs—Lipstick, Golden Summer, Poblano (hot), Habañero (very hot)
readers—California Wonder, Bell Boy, Golden Summer, Jalapeño (hot), Hungarian Wax (hot)

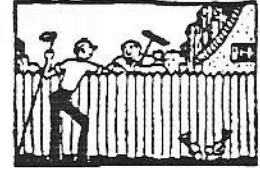
Potatoes

chefs—Yukon Gold, Red Gold, Yellow Finn, Red Dale
readers—Yukon Gold, Kennabec, Red Pontiac

Pumpkins

chefs—New England Pie, Connecticut Field, Winter Luxury

(continued on page 11)



Veggies

(continued from page 10)

readers—Jack -Be-Little (4 inch), Jack-O-Lantern, Rouge VIP D'Etamps

Spinach

chefs—Tyre, Melody, Bloomingdale, Longstanding

readers—Tyre, Melody, Bloomingdale, Longstanding

Squash

chefs—Sunburst (pattypan), Cocozelle, Costatta, Romanesco, Sweet Dumpling, Delicate, Early Acorn, Early Butternut, Buttercup (winters)

readers—Buttercup, Butternut

Sweet Corn

chefs—Platinum Lady, Ambrosia, Sugar Buns, Bodacious, Hopi White

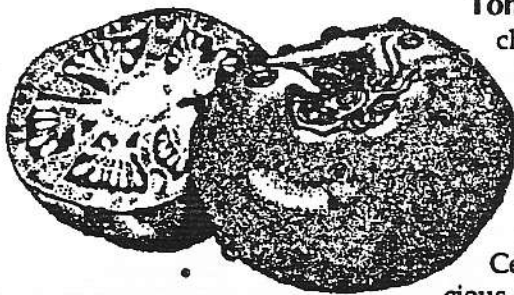
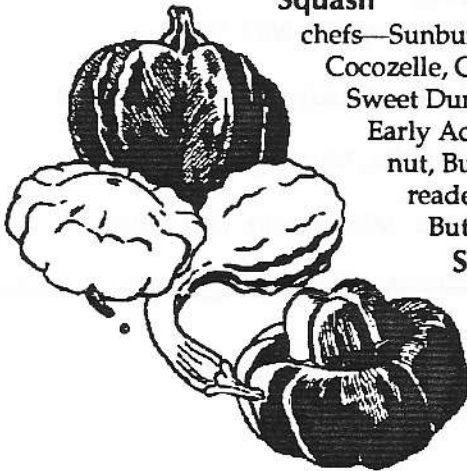
readers—Honey n' Pearl, Honey and Cream, Kandy Korn, Early Sunglow

Tomatoes

chefs—Stupice, Better Boy, Park's Whopper, Costoluto Genovese, Sun Gold (cherry)

readers—Celebrity, Delicious, Big Boy, Big

Girl (slicers), Sweet 100, Gardener's Delight, Sweet Chelsea (cherries), Yellow Pear, Burpee Jubilee (non-reds), Brandywine, Garden Peach, Pineapple (heirlooms) Roma, Viva Italia (pastes)



Wanted by the Fragrance Garden Committee

Planning for the 1993 Fragrance Garden is not complete but a list of possible new plants has been generated. We ask anyone who may have extras of these plants consider donating them to the garden:

1. Chocolate Cosmos
(already donated)
2. Catmint (Nepeta)
3. Honeysuckle Vine
(Lonicera Japonica 'Halliana')
4. Mock orange shrub
(Philadelphus x 'Galahad')
5. Fragrant Garden Phlox
(Phlox Paniculata)
'David' white
'Eva Cullum'-pink
6. Gas Plant
(Dietamnus Albus)
7. Rue (Ruta graveolens)
8. Large Flowered Clematis
all flowering early (May)
-Mrs Chalmondeley, blue
-Niobe, red
-The President, purple
-Will Goodwin, blue

Contact Eldon Hugelen if you have one to donate.

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