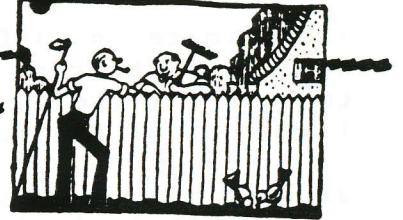




The Garden Spray

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

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



October 1990, Volume 49, Number 10

NEXT MGCM MEETING

TUESDAY EVENING OCTOBER 9th, 1990

LAKE HARRIET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
CHOWEN AVENUE SOUTH at 49th STREET

DINNER 6:00 P.M. PRICE \$6.00

GET YOUR RESERVATIONS TO JOSEPH STENGER AT ONCE

TO THOSE NOT ON THE PERMANENT RESERVATION LIST: We don't have a rubber stamp for Joe Stenger so you will have to address the attached reservation card yourself to Joseph Stenger, 5421 Girard Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55419.

DUES ARE DUE

The Hort. Society wants it's money by December 5th in order to update it's mailing list for the January HORTICULTURIST. Members whose dues are received by December 5th will receive the January issue of the HORTICULTURIST. The first issue for those whose subscription (dues) comes in after the December deadline will be the June number. Your re-enrollment form for 1991 will be found on the back page of this issue.

Don't fail to fill out the Committee Preference form also. We want committee memberships and mentor gardeners listed in our 1991 Directory which we expect to have for distribution at the January MGCM meeting.

FRAGRANCE GARDEN

Our annual fall cleanup at the Fragrance Garden has been scheduled by the FIGS for Saturday Oct. 20th at 8:00 AM. Mary Maynard will be handling arrangements. Please call her if you can help. You don't have to be on the committee to help at the garden. This is a very good activity for new members to get involved and meet other members 'in the garden'. We're hoping for a day without rain (or snow). Both Spring work days were very wet to say the least.

MARY MAYNARD
926-7596

For the FIGS
KENT PETTERSON

NOTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER MEETING

The listed speaker from the Freshwater Foundation couldn't come but he sent a capable substitute (I didn't get the name) who told us the climate of the past 1000 years has been atypical. There is increasing probability of climate change but we can't control it. We can tell the past but all we know about the future is that we will have change.

The climate in 1100 AD closely resembled that of today. The midwest prairies were well watered. A major city of 40,000 existed near the present site of Cahokia, Illinois. In 1130 a major climate change brought about a climate like that of the summer of 1988.

We must have reservoirs to store water for dry years. Certain northern lakes on the Mississippi river were developed for this purpose. Unfortunately, lakeshore development was permitted (even encouraged) so attempts to draw down in 1988 were resisted. One more potential major reservoir area in Aitkin county north of Brainerd remains. Permits for hydro-electric dams make possible some minor reservoirs. Interestingly the Colorado river basin is the most used basin in the world. It is even more used than is the Nile basin.

There are 44 different types of lakes in Minnesota. Ten now have growths of milfoil. The past winter was a wonderful winter for milfoil to grow--clear ice and sunshine. Milfoil can be eliminated chemically or controlled somewhat by harvesting. What one does depends upon the pressure from boaters or fishermen. Chemical treatment kills off all fish life as well as the milfoil.

NOTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER BOARD MEETING

- o Reed Sonstegard resigned as secretary. He is relocating in Colorado.
- o Joe Stenger has decided to retire as treasurer. He has served 4 years.
- o Joe volunteered to serve as secretary for the remainder of 1990.
- o Chrysanthemums donated by Melvin Anderson have been planted in the Fragrance Garden.

REPORT ON TEXAN REACTION (From the Yardner, Houston Texas MGC)

There are several proposals by National: (1) To change the name from Men's Garden Clubs of America to Gardeners of America, (2) If ballots sent to members by National are not returned with a vote "yes" or "no", they will be counted as "yes". These two main changes by National were unanimously turned down by the region. As far as the magazine "The Gardener", the region agreed with the consultants that it would pay for itself or be discontinued.

MGCM EDITOR'S COMMENTS: We must agree that action by the directors at the Minneapolis convention killed the Men's Garden Clubs of America as a men's group so it no longer is appropriate to operate under that title. Hence, a change is in order. Does Gardeners of America appeal to you any more than it did to the Texans?

As for the "Yes" "No" count what's the matter with adding "Abstain"? A non vote counted as either "Yes" or "No" loads the ballot. Why not consider the issue dead if, say, less than 55 percent of those eligible to vote participated?

The 1991 MGCA CALENDARS are here. If you didn't pick up yours at the September meeting see Howard Berg now. At only \$2.00 they are a bargain. Most clubs charge \$2.50. Some sell them as high as \$5.00. If you didn't order or if you need extras Howard has a few extras on hand.

VIEWS FROM THE VEGETABLE GARDEN

MGCM PRESIDENT KENT PETTERSON



VEGETABLES FOREVER

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Sept. 30 Cider Pressing at Lee Gilligan's
- Oct. 2 MGCM Board Meeting at C. Benson
- Oct. 6 Fall Garden Forum 624-7752
- Oct. 9 MGCM Regular Meeting at LHUMC
- Oct. 12-14 Fall Home Show
- Oct. 20 Fragrance Garden Fall Cleanup
- Nov. 13 MGCM Annual Meeting

We are kicking off our Fall membership renewal during October. Membership renewal and Committee sign up forms are included elsewhere in the Spray and also will be available at the Regular Meeting in October. Please turn these in to Joe Stenger as soon as possible. We have set a deadline of Dec. 4th to have everyone registered. In order for you to continue receiving the Mn. Horticulturist in January without missing an issue, and to allow production time for the '91 roster for distribution in January, we must set this deadline. Your cooperation is needed and will be appreciated.

We have added a new committee, the 50th Anniversary Committee, to the sign up list: October 1, 1992 is our 50th Anniversary as a Club. We intend to appropriately celebrate this anniversary and we're confident an outstanding committee can be assembled. Everyone should participate in at least one committee. None of these committees involve an excessive amount of work, but they're great for getting to know other members and to feel a part of the club.

It was disappointing to learn at the September Board Meeting that our Secretary, Reed Sonstegard, was submitting his resignation. Reed had accepted a new job in Colorado effective Oct. 1st. We were happy for Reed and his new opportunity, but we were disappointed to lose Reed as a club member. In a short time, Reed had become an active participant in many MGCM activities including taking over this year as Secretary from Gene Acklund. We'd like to wish Reed the best of luck in Colorado and invite him to visit us anytime. Our October Volunteer of the Month is Reed Sonstegard.

You might wish to check on the Horticultural topics being offered at the October 6th Fall Garden Forum. Sponsored by Hennepin County Master Gardeners, Minneapolis Park Board, and other groups including the 5th District of MSHS, we feel an outstanding program will be offered. Call 624-7752 for more information.

In recent weeks we've been able to get some good exposure for MGCM. We've had displays and literature at the State Fair Hort. Society Show on Aug. 22 and 23, the Landscape Arboretum Flower Show Sept. 15 and 16 and Mn. Green's Garden Bazar at Bandana Square also Sept. 15 and 16. In the near future, we hope to have a display at Riverplace in Minneapolis. We'll let you know details when available.

Good Gardening To You,

Handwritten signature of Kent Peterson.

REMEMBER 25 NEW MEMBERS IN 1990

OVER THE GARDEN GATE

by Bill Hull

I first wrote this column prior to 1963 and am doing so again, hoping Editor Ed can use it... just because I have a few things to share.

For many years I've been touting the Supersteak tomato, growing them for a very few friends and hoping greenhouses would do so. But to no avail. They produce fruit slices the size of a piece of bread. Now the August 1990 issue of "Smithsonian" carries an article about tomatoes and says "W. Atlee Burpee, the largest supplier of vegetable and flower seeds by mail, sells 30 varieties of tomatoes - the most popular being Supersteak hybrid VFN and Big Girl hybrid VF." Anyway, viva Supersteak.

I haven't grown Big Max pumpkin (okay, it's technically a squash - so call it a cucurbit) for fifteen years but did this year. Fellows, grow them for your children or grandchildren. Four hills of one plant each is yielding four fruit total, because I've removed other fruit. As this is written on August 25, one pumpkin is 54.5 inches in circumference - against fifty inches exactly twenty-four hours earlier. Given enough time, they will equal or exceed the eighty pounder I grew 15 years ago. Then what do I do with them?

You should have seen those pumpkin vines grow - a foot a day by actual measurement. They swarmed over my tomatoes until I used a machete on them. They completely inundated my okra which I'll never see again. A neighbor was afraid to sleep with his window open because that thing would invade his house at night.

In the same area are my twelve foot high sunflowers - but the heads look as if they won't be large. I wonder?

I think a lot of the rapid growth is due to the wet, slimy grass I wintered-over in plastic bags, hoping it would compost, but it didn't. It looked and smelled like fresh cattle manure when I dumped it on the soil a week before tilling. It must have been rich with nitrogen.

I hope beginning gardeners don't take 1990 as being typical. What a weird year it has been. The saddest news I have is that I lost 119 of my lovely Southern Belle hibiscus plants. Seventy-nine plants from that front yard bed and forty new ones I was experimenting with up in the veggie garden - all deader than doornails. I suspect that December freeze. But how sad it is to see that front bed with six plants where it had eighty-five a year ago. Some of those plants were twenty years old. And I never lost a single one before. Nature can be rough.

Yes, it's been a weird year. The remaining hibiscus bloomed five weeks later than usual. We first picked tomatoes on August 24 - exactly how much later I don't know. The delphinium raised by Phil Smith have been gorgeous; my forty year old, many-times-transplanted Tausendschon climbing rose bloomed heavier than usual; we never had more lovely cosmos - and our new strawberry plants have yielded one or two edible fruit daily. So - win some, lose some.

COMMITTEES

MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS

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, rework (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.

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 gardess, 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.

MGCM 50th Anniversary Committee:

To plan, organize and promote activities of the club leading up to the Oct. 1, 1992 Anniversary.

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.

MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS

Committee Preference

To All Members:

The vitality of MGCM is directly proportional to how actively you participate on the club committees. All members are urged to serve on at least one committee and to volunteer to chair a committee of special interest to them.

To get involved is to get to know your fellow club members. And getting to know your fellow club members is an important part of feeling a part of the club. Please check the committees on which you would be willing to serve and indicate any committee you would be willing to chair.

	<u>Would Chair</u>	<u>Would Co-chair</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Arbor Day Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Auditing Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Awards/Trophies Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Calendar Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Christmas Party Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Community Garden Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Flower & Vegetable Show	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Garden Spray Publication	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Membership Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Photography Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Plant Auction/Sale Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> 50th Anniversary Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Sunshine Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Tour Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Telephone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Member's Name _____

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

NAME _____ MGCM DUES 7.00
ADDRESS _____ MN. HORT. SOCIETY DUES 11.00
_____ MGCA DUES 15.00
HOME PHONE _____ TOTAL 33.00

BUSINESS PHONE _____

SPOUCE'S NAME _____

Horticultural Society Life Member _____

MGCA Life Member _____

(Do not pay these if a life member)

Send form with payment to:

Joe Stenger
5421 Girard Avenue South
Minneapolis, Mn. 55419

DUE NO LATER THAN DEC. 5TH

Are you interested in being a memtor gardener? _____ yes _____ no

Mentor interest areas: Roses, Dahlias, Hosta, Gladiolus, Irises, Vegetables,
Perennial flowers, Annual flowers, Marigolds, Organic gardening, Lawns, Herbs,
Composting, Shrubs, Fruits, Landscaping, _____ Other

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

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MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.

CLUB OFFICERS:

President: Kent R. Petterson
908 E. River Ter., Minneapolis 55414
Vice-President: Merle T. Pulley
3852 Pleasant Ave. S., Minneapolis 55409
Secretary: Reed Sonstegard
6336 Logan Ave. S., Richfield 55423
Treasurer: Joseph L. Stenger
5421 Girard Ave. S., Minneapolis 55419
Past-President: Duane A. Johnson
1226 W. 53rd St., Minneapolis 55419

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Melvin C. Anderson
5701 35th Ave. S., Minneapolis 55417
Charles S. Benson
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1520 Rhode Island Av. N., Golden Valley 55416

FIRST CLASS