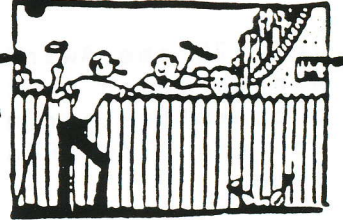




# The Garden Spray

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



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

September 1990, Volume 48, Number 9

## MGCM SEPTEMBER MEETING

WHERE? Lake Harriet United Methodist Church  
49th Street at Chowen Avenue South

WHEN? Tuesday evening September 11, 1990

TIME? 6 PM Dinner for \$6.00 Program 7 PM

\* \* \* \* \*

TOPIC: FRESHWATER BRIEFINGS 1990-1991 WATER IN THE WORLD

Freshwater quality and quantity are major issues of the 1990s. If water is contaminated it has a detrimental effect on our health; if degraded, it affects our recreational and aesthetic enjoyment of lakes, rivers and wetlands.

SPEAKER: H. MARTIN JESSEN, President and CEO, FRESHWATER FOUNDATION

The Freshwater Foundation is a non-profit organization that supports research and education in freshwater issues. The Foundation encourages proper use and management to keep surface water and groundwater usable for human consumption, industry, and recreation. Through publications, conferences, membership services, and other information programs, the Foundation seeks to help people understand water issues and their environmental, political, social, and economic impact.

Mr. Jensen has twenty years experience in public administration, planning, and policy in the fields of parks, recreation, and natural resource management. Before coming to the Freshwater Foundation, specific positions included: Director of Parks and Recreation for the City of Eden Prairie; Chief Park Planner at Metropolitan Council of Minneapolis/St. Paul; and Associate Superintendent, Hennepin Parks.

Long active in community affairs, Mr. Jensen has served on the Board of Directors of Twin West Chamber of Commerce, chaired the Eden Prairie Park and Recreation Commission, and served as a Trustee of the National Recreation and Park Association.

He currently serves on the Board of Directors of the National Water Alliance, and was recently appointed by Governor Rudy Perpich to serve on the Founding Board of Directors of the \$100 million Great Lakes Protection Fund.

Mr. Jensen holds a M.A. from the University of Minnesota in Parks and Recreation Administration, with an emphasis in Public Administration.

## MGCA JOURNALISM AWARDS

That "Best Club Bulletin for 1989" award the GARDEN SPRAY received at the Des Moines convention should remind us that the first such citation given by MGCA went to Bill Hull for his 1968 GARDEN SPRAY. Prior to that the pattern had been to pick just the top 10 or 12.

In 1970 the Awards Committee decided to substitute for the single award awards based on the process of reproduction used. Group IV, ours, was photo-offset-print. In 1971 Bill stepped down as editor. Ed Culbert succeeded him. The SPRAY continued to receive awards in it's group from time to time.

By 1980 most MGCA club's bulletins were produced by some "quick print" procedure and the 4 categories no longer applied. Meanwhile so many Journalism awards were being given each year that the Awards committee announced, "Beginning in 1985 club bulletins which have been named for 3 years will no longer be considered for an award. The intent is to provide more encouragement for new editors."

Apparently this plan was not implemented for long if at all for the GARDEN SPRAY and a lot of other club bulletins received Journalism awards in 1986. In 1988 when I agreed to fill in for a year on the bulletin awards committee the batch of club bulletins I was sent to evaluate were so similar in style, format, and print that I reported that lacking any guide save the MGCA club bulletin manual I had to say all save 2 or 3 met all qualifications for the Journalism award.

Don Dowling, current Club Bulletin chair in his report to the 1990 convention wrote, "Under study and discussion is one "Top Bulletin" Award for the entire MGCA. (There is a possibility of causing more ill will than good)"

There could easily be ill will if editors are competing for "Top Bulletin". I'm not, I -- Never entered any contest in my life and don't intend to start now. I spend a lot of hours on the SPRAY trying to satisfy myself but I never quite make it. Meanwhile I would like to know just what there was about/in the SPRAY for 1989 that brought it the "Top Bulletin" award. Wouldn't you, all you folks whose contributions in whatever form together became the 1989 GARDEN SPRAY?

--Ed Culbert

\* \* \* \* \*

### AT IT'S AUGUST MEETING THE MGCM BOARD

- Gave further thought to the club's 50th anniversary. Charles Benson will work on a logo for it.
- Discussed membership fee restructuring to make it more equitable for persons signing up during the year.
- Discussed a letter from the Minnesota 4-H Foundation and agreed to study it for the future as it is in line with our club's activity.

### WE WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Lloyd S. Mikkelsen  
7033 - 12th Ave. S.  
Richfield, MN 55423

866-7314



# Master Gardening

## Archie Caple

Archie Caple is a man who knows about plants and cares about people. He uses his knowledge of plants to reach out to hundreds of Minnesotans: nursing home residents confined to wheel chairs, Hmong families growing vegetables in a community garden plot, children in elementary school classrooms, residents of a housing complex for seniors, and homeowners coming to a garden center on Saturday morning. He does it all as a volunteer.

Caple, 70, has contributed hundreds of hours to his community through the Master Gardener Program set up by the University of Minnesota's Extension Service. He is one of 100 Master Gardeners in Hennepin County and one of 1,050 in Minnesota.

Caple, who grew up in International Falls, was employed with Northwest Airlines for 35 years. He served as head of security and safety for the airline until retiring in 1984. But his involvement with gardening goes back even farther than his involvement with the airline.

"I'm from a family of ten kids," he says. "My mother always had a garden to produce food for the family, and she always had flowers." Caple has over 5,000 plants in his backyard in Richfield where he and his wife, Jean, have lived for 32 years. "When our three children grew older they didn't use the yard much for playing," said Caple. "They released it back to me, and my garden area grew larger."

The Master Gardener program originated in Oregon in 1972, and was initiated here by the Minnesota Extension Service in 1977. Caple learned of the program that year through his involvement in the Minneapolis Men's Garden Club.

The basic concept of the Master Gardener Program is for professional educators with the Minnesota Extension Service to develop a high level of gardening expertise in a group of volunteers. Then, the volunteer expert gardeners are able to reach out with their knowledge to those needing gardening information.

Bob Mugaas, county extension agent for agriculture in Hennepin County, has the

main responsibility for training Master Gardeners in his county. Mugaas provides classes for Master Gardeners each year. Diagnostic skills regarding plant disease and insect problems receive considerable attention. University of Minnesota extension specialists such as entomologist Jeffrey Hahn, horticulturists Deborah Brown, Anne Hanchek, and Michael Zins; plus plant pathologist Cynthia Ash, back up Mugaas with educational materials and information and sometimes teach a class session.

Caple says the input of Mugaas is a key to the success of the Master Gardener Program. "If it weren't for his work, we wouldn't be where we are today with the garden program," he says. "He's been our inspiration; he keeps enthusiasm up."

Persons volunteering for the Master Gardener Program make a commitment to donate 50 hours of service to the community during their first year in the program and 25 hours per year thereafter. Caple's service goes far beyond that minimum.

One of his main areas of involvement is with the community garden in Richfield. Some 200 Richfield families plant gardens in 20 by 20-foot plots in an area provided by the City of Richfield. A variety of racial and ethnic backgrounds are represented among the gardeners Caple works with.

"I put in two plots there to make myself available," says Caple. "They (city officials) let people know I'm there if they need help. When I'm there I walk around to help people with any problems they may have, such as with insects and diseases."

Caple also goes to public schools to acquaint students with the wonders of growing plants. During the past year he has given demonstrations in six different first and second grade classes. He shows students how to plant corn, sunflower, squash, or pumpkin seeds in cups. Often,

students express their appreciation by drawing and coloring pictures for him. Booklets of these thank-you pictures are among his most cherished possessions.

Caple also reaches out to many others with gardening assistance: he provides

(over)



assistance to residents of Oak Grove Nursing Home at Glen Lake. Last year he put in raised, framed, beds filled with soil so residents confined to wheelchairs could garden; he helps residents of York Tower, a housing complex for senior citizens, with gardening problems; he teaches gardening classes at Wood Lake Nature Center, a city park in Richfield; he answers "hundreds of telephone calls" from local residents concerning gardening problems; he is one of nine Master Gardeners in Hennepin County who has received over 50 hours of extra training from the Minnesota Extension Service on diagnosing plant disease and insect problems. Those receiving this training worked as a "mobile horticultural team," traveling to retail garden centers on Saturday mornings during the summer to answer questions from gardeners.

Caple says he gets "a lot of enjoyment" from his role as a Master Gardener. "It has made me feel good," he says. "We become an extension of Bob's office," he says. "If we (Master Gardeners) don't know the answer, we know where to get the answer. It's a way of letting people know that the extension service and the university are there for them as a source of information, that there's somebody there to help."

Caple's success as a Master Gardener is demonstrated by the fact that his fellow Master Gardeners in Hennepin County have established an annual award in his name. The Archie Caple award recognizes long-term excellence in gardening and contributions to the Master Gardener program. The award was first given in 1988, and the winner was—you guessed it—Archie Caple. ■

- From Annual Report of the Dept. of Agriculture

## Archie Caple: Master Gardener with Goodwill and Good Advice

Gardening is one of life's pleasures, and so is knowing Archie Caple. He has volunteered hundreds of hours to Richfield through his service with the Master Gardener Program. Caple teaches gardening classes at Wood Lake Nature Center, acts as a garden resource person at the Richfield Community Gardens and at various garden centers on Saturday mornings.

A native of Richfield for 32 years, Caple's goodwill and good advice have made him invaluable. Whether his classes have three students or 30, he'll make you feel like you will have the perfect garden. Caple is involved in teaching his knowledge of plants to elementary school children, community education students and nursing home residents. One of nine master

gardeners in Hennepin County, he has received extra training from the Minnesota Extension Service on diagnosing plant disease and insect problems. Hennepin County has established an annual award in his name for long-term excellence in gardening and contributions to the Master Gardener Program.

Caple has over 5,000 plants in his backyard and he gardens in two of the Richfield Community Garden plots. If you have any questions about gardening, Caple is the man to call. (You can reach him through Wood Lake Nature Center at 861-9365). Wood Lake Nature Center and the city of Richfield are fortunate to have Archie Caple as a friend and a gardener.

- Richfield paper

**Every Member Sponsors A New Member  
Every Member Sponsors A New Member  
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## VIEWS FROM THE VEGETABLE GARDEN

## DATES TO REMEMBER

MGCM PRESIDENT KENT PETTERSON



VEGETABLES FOREVER

Sept. 4 MGCM Board Meeting @ G. Smith  
Sept. 11 MGCM Reg. Meeting LHUMC 6:00PM  
Sept. 15-16 Mn. Green Fall Tours 624-7752  
Sept. 15-16 Landscape Arb. Fl. Show  
Sept. 22 Daffodil Society Bulb Sale  
437-4297  
Sept. 29 Landscape Arb. Fall Festival  
Sept. 30 Cider pressing at Lee Gilligan  
Oct. 6 Fall Garden Forum 624-7752  
Oct. 20 Fragrance Garden Fall Cleanup  
8:00 AM

It's time for our first meeting back at LHUMC since May. Our gardens are at their fullest and the first fall frost is fast approaching. It seems we just completed spring planting and here it is harvest time. We trust your summer has been both productive and enjoyable. If you've missed those wonderful meals prepared by our caterer, Agnes Ostlund, you don't have long to wait now.

We will be setting aside a couple of tables for display of flowers, veggies and what not. If you have something especially nice or interesting to share, bring it on Sept. 11th and we'll have a place to put it on display.

If you haven't had a chance to get over to the fragrance Garden at 19th and Aldrich, you're missing out on a real treat. After some early problems with the lawn mowing, the garden has developed into one of the nicest in recent years. All of this is due, primarily, to the efforts of those who work weekly maintenance. The MGCM Volunteer of the Month for September are those of you who worked so hard to provide this beautiful garden. To this group of thirty eight members, we say thanks.

Some of our members were honored recently by the Minnesota State Horticultural Society. Jerry Shannon, President Elect of MSHS, received an Honorary Life Membership; Mary Lerman and Duane Reynolds were given the 'Award of Merit'. Congratulations to all of you.

Word was received recently that Dave Johnson's wife Marilyn is receiving treatment for cancer. Our Best Wishes go out to Marilyn.

The Nominations Committee will be calling some of you to request your support of MGCM by serving as an officer or member of the Board of Directors. We intend to have a full slate of candidates selected as soon as possible. If any one wishes to be involved in the leadership of MGCM, please call Duane Johnson.

Be sure to look elsewhere in the Spray for announcement of the Cider Pressing Party at Lee Gilligan's on Sept. 30th. Bring family and friends for a chance to see and use a traditionally designed cider press.

Well, when we started out this year I set a goal of 25 new members for 1990. As of the 2/3 mark of the year, we are only a little over 1/3 of the way. I think we can do better and I need your help. Now's the time for everyone to bring in their friends and others who may be interested in MGCM. Merle Pulley has an excellent set of fall programs and the opportunity for extended membership makes now an attractive time to join up. Anyone who joins as of October, becomes a member immediately but receives membership through the end of 1991, an addition of up to three extra months. See you and your guests Sept. 11th.

Good Gardening To You, 

Remember 25 New Members in 1990



## THE AUGUST TOUR

"It's nice to show ordinary gardens sometimes; not just show gardens"-- Overheard on our tour bus. And that's exactly what four MGCM members did on their small city lots. By using raised beds, a variety of plant materials, careful spacing they proved one can have color, food, relaxation-- even space for living.

JOHN REGAN in addition to beans, peppers, tomatoes, herbs, leaf crops, strawberries was able to find room for a brick patio with a roof from which hung pots of flowers. He even found a shady corner to hang a hammock.

MERLE PULLEY had beans, tomatoes, rhubarb, raspberries against the garage, cucumbers on the back fence. A brick path led past hostas fronted by fibrous rooted begonias. The brilliant red porch floor accented by a dazzling white railing completed the colorful picture.

ROBERT REDMOND, it seems, had everything. A two page explanatory handout was so helpful that page 1 (modified) is reprinted on SPRAY page 7.

We went all around Robin Hood's barn, past Hillcrest Cemetary, past Stinson Boulevard to reach LLOYD WITTSTOCK'S. We could have exited 35W at University Avenue. Waiting to greet us were pink petunias under a decorative lamp post. A border of zinnias, petunias and baby's breath along the fence as well as beautiful vari-colored coleus beckoned. In addition we saw raspberries along the back fence, a strawberry pyramid and many vegetables --spinach, carrots, chard, cabbage. We saw no weeds though Lloyd says, "some get by (me) but they are allowed to peacefully co-exist."

Now it was time to visit non-member LOIS CARLSON'S garden a rival for MGCA leader Delbert Dunbar's in lay-out and color if not in size. Dunbar's garden has been pictured on the cover of MGCA's, the GARDENER. Ladies on our tour said Carlson's garden should appear in BETTER HOMES and GARDENS.

The garden was fabulous! There was one long bank of impatiens in undulating waves around the entire perimeter of Carlson's spacious yard. There were impatiens in ten different colors, some with variegated leaves; some short some taller. There were boxes of red impatiens hanging from the porch. Can you believe 30,000 of them! It took three weeks to plant them by poking a finger in the dirt and inserting a plant.

Of course that wasn't all. There was a bed of clumps of impatiens and clumps of coleus accented with purple coneflower. There were single-flowered geraniums resembling brilliant red cardinal flowers. Ms. Carlson even had some of those prolific self seeders, malva and silene. Her husband cuts the grass.

When we got to JACK KOLB'S many were so busy looking for food they forgot to look at the garden. Of course you'd expect lush green grass at a turf man's place; but they missed the topiary work on the yews around the house, the planting of variegated dogwood and of junipers in the shredded bark beside the barn; the raised bed in the front yard with it's well spaced mixture of perennials and annuals--delphinium, Stella d'Oro daylily, calendulas, petunias and a new coreopsis.

P.S. After the pot-luck supper our bus driver was heard saying, "I'd recommend this restaurant any time."



## BACK GARDEN AREA

After an addition to the house in 1976, the back yard was very small. I decided to make a garden of the back yard in 1988. There was always an area by the buckthorn hedge with about five feet of garden area. The lighted petal pillars were made by me about fifteen years ago, along with the lights by the driveway, the corner of the house, the patio, and the light by the front sidewalk. I designed the garden area, but knowing nothing about various plants asked Norm terSteege to design the flower garden areas. At that time I joined the Garden Club. The pansy garden closest to the screen house is intended to become a knot-type garden with different plants in each of the eight areas. This has not worked to my satisfaction and changes are planned for next year. A shed and the deck for the screen house were also built in 1988. The screen house is marvelous for insect-free dinners, and provides a perfect view of the garden.

## PATIO AREA

I made the cement patio shortly after we moved here in 1960. The hedge provides privacy. The water garden rock pool was planted this summer. Many of the bird houses were also made by me and have attracted hordes of sparrows.

## EAST SIDE GARDEN

I had cement sewer pipes installed, and small globe and pyramid arborvitae were planted. They became too large and I cut them back to form pom-poms. Sun-tolerant impatiens do well as a base. A blooming boulevard will be planted after 11th Avenue streets are replaced and new curbs installed this summer.

## FRONT YARD

We had seen stump carvings by Johnny Hunter. We contacted him and he carved the lion in the fall of 1988. The ribbon grass around the lion is doing well; the maiden grass planted there died this winter.







PHS  
1976

WHAT BECAME OF ALL THAT  
SEED CATALOG ENTHUSIASM?



## DAYLILIES (From Kingwood Center News)

Many gardeners consider daylilies one of the easiest flowers to raise. To ensure success, daylilies should not be planted too deeply. The crown (where the leaves and root join) should be an inch to an inch and one-half deep. As the plant increases in size and forms a clump, it will adjust to the correct depth. Daylilies need a sunny location in order to thrive and bloom well. When planted in shade, they will survive but will not make large clumps or bloom heavily.

A low nitrogen fertilizer, such as 5-10-10, is recommended to stimulate root and flower production. Most specialists dig up and divide daylily clumps right after they flower, but divisions can be planted anytime during the growing season without harmful results. Plenty of water is necessary at bloom time to produce large, crisp looking flowers. The plants, however, will withstand heat and drought better than many garden flowers.

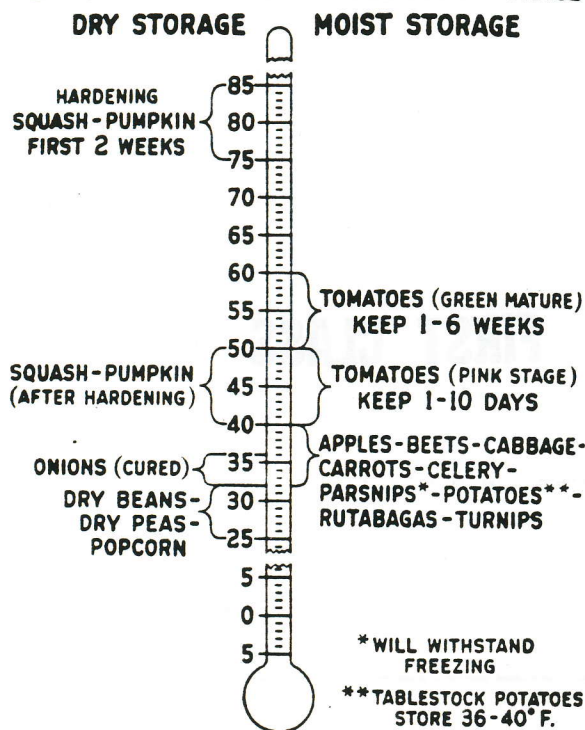
### NATURAL FERTILIZERS:

High in Nitrogen, alfalfa meal, blood meal, dried blood, horn or hoof meal, cottonseed meal, linseed meal, fish meal. High in Phosphorus, bone meal, and rock phosphate. High in Potassium, wood ashes, greensand (marl high in calcium), granite and marble dust. These materials may be added directly to the soil. They are also excellent to add to a compost pile, as the nitrogen elements break down quickly.

---A scissors shouldn't be used to cut flower stems. The scissors pinch the stem, thus inhibiting water intake. Instead, cut stems at an angle with a sharp knife, angling the cut exposes a greater area of the stem for water intake.

---It's hard to beat the use of an ostrich feather for dusting houseplants. Ostrich featherdusters collect dust from all surfaces without turning the leaves, won't break leaves and stems, polish as they dust and are washable to prevent disease and pest contamination among plants. They attract and hold dust until washed or shaken.

### TEMPERATURE CHART FOR VEGETABLE STORAGE



### PEACE

To work in the garden  
Among the tomatoes and peppers  
The beans, peas and cauliflower  
In the soft, brown soil  
That falls through my hands like salt

To place each little lettuce  
Cabbage, kohlrabi and celery  
In its own little hole in the earth  
Lined up in straight rows  
Marching side by side

To pull the pesky weeds  
A dandelion here, a creeping Charlie there  
One by one or clump by clump  
Large or small, smooth or prickly  
Until there are no more

Just me and the plants and the cats  
With the blue sky above  
And green grass around us  
None of us speaking  
Silently loving one another  
Keeping each other company.



## SPECIAL EVENT

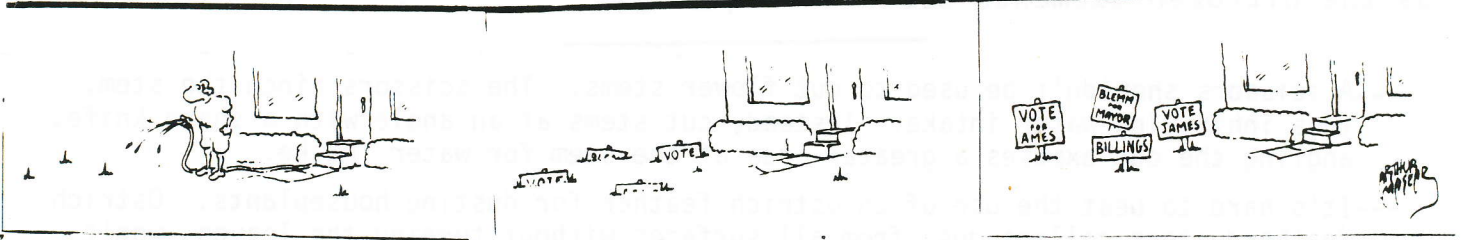
Members of MGCM, family and friends have a special invitation to visit Lee Gilligan's Hidden Orchard for an afternoon of cider pressing.

Loosen up that arm and give the old hand press a try. Freshly pressed apple cider is a treat you won't want to miss. Reserve Sunday Sept. 30th from 1:00 to 4:30 PM or just a portion of the time to join with Lee and his wife Rose for an afternoon of fun and fellowship.

Please notify Kent Petterson at 332-1821 if you plan on participating.

If you wish to take home a portion of cider, please bring your own container. Also please bring an hors d'oeuvre or snack type food to share with others. Refreshments will be provided.

### When It's Time To Re-Do The Garden:



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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**FIRST CLASS**