

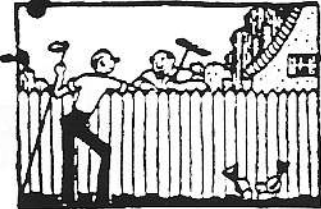


The Garden Spray

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

Affiliated with Gardeners of America and the Minnesota State Horticultural Society

September 1996, Volume 54, Number 8



September Dinner Meeting: Ornamental Grasses

Esther Filson will be talking about how to grow and use ornamental grasses in the home landscape. Ornamental grasses are a hot item for use in perennial borders and teamed with annuals. Esther grows 20 types of grasses in her yard in Cottage Grove. She is a State Horticultural Flower Show Judge and has been a judge for our own MGCM Flower, Food & Foto Show. She helped found the 310 member Washington County Chapter of the Minnesota State Horticultural Society.

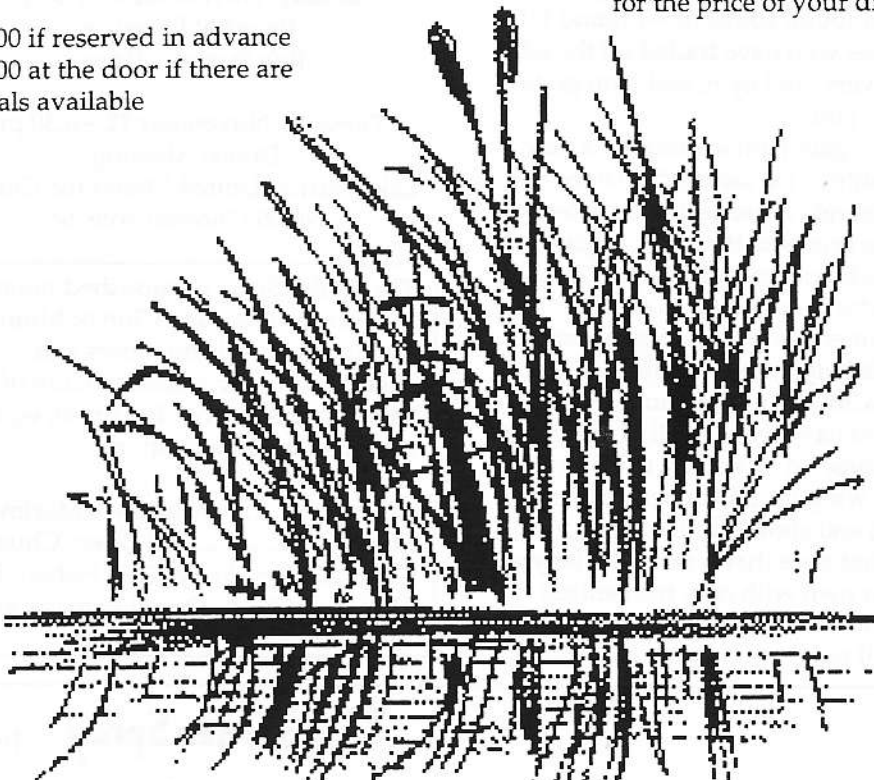
Date: Tuesday September 10

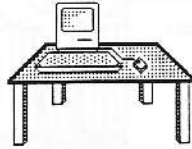
Time: Dinner 6:30 pm
Business meeting 7:00 pm
Program 7:30 pm

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

Cost: \$7.00 if reserved in advance
\$8.00 at the door if there are
meals available

The 1996 permanent reservation list is in effect for this meeting. If you received a reservation card with this issue of the *Garden Spray*, you are not on the permanent reservation list and must mail your card back to Secretary Mary Maynard by Friday, September 6, to be assured a place at dinner. If you are on the permanent list and will not attend, you must notify Mary by the same deadline or risk being responsible for the price of your dinner.





The Editor's Desk

Andy Marlow

I've told the Board of Directors that I intend to retire as editor of the *Garden Spray* at the end of 1997. I think I have given the Board some good lead time to find someone to replace me. If you are interested, please talk with me or one of the members of the Board.

Back in 1991, when then-President Merle Thomas Pulley talked me into taking this position, I told him I would do it for five years. The late Ed Culbert was just finishing up 22 years as editor and I knew I didn't have his staying power! As it is, I will have served six years when my resignation becomes effective.

In my first "Editor's Desk" column in January 1992, I wrote that I was looking for a new me. For almost eight years I had written up the monthly program for Ed and I needed someone to do that job for me. I never found someone—I found lots of someones who have traded off the job and done very well by it, and I am grateful to all of you.

Once again I am looking for a new me. The editor's job cannot be passed around, though. It needs the consistency one person brings to the job. It requires someone who can meet a monthly deadline and who is not afraid to edit the pearls another has written. Some computer skills help. Mostly it takes caring about MGCM and its continuing welfare.

If you have some or all of these qualifications, I'd be willing to take you under my wing (as Ed Culbert took me under his) and show you the ropes. And I promise that once that is done, I'll let you go on your own with only the gentlest constructive criticism at very infrequent intervals, if that.



Coming Attractions

Wednesday, September 4 – 7:30 pm
Board of Directors
Kay Wolfe's House

Tuesday, September 10 – 6:30 pm
Dinner Meeting
Lake Harriet United Methodist Church
49th & Chowen Ave. So.

Tuesday, October 1 – 7:30 pm
Board of Directors
Bob Voigt's House

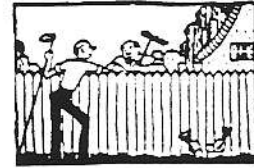
Tuesday, October 8 – 6:30 pm
Dinner Meeting
Lake Harriet United Methodist Church
49th & Chowen Ave. So.

Tuesday, November 5 – 7:30 pm
Board of Directors
Bob Stepan's House

Tuesday, November 12 – 6:30 pm
Dinner Meeting
Lake Harriet United Methodist Church
49th & Chowen Ave. So.

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.....Ed Biren, Chuck Carlson, Sher Curry, Dale Fisher, Bill Hull, Bob Olson, Derrill Pankow and Merle Pulley



Tips and Snips

by Bob Stepan, President, MGCM

Wow! Hasn't this been a great summer? We can sit on our decks and enjoy the magnificent colors of our labors in the garden. We have put our efforts into this year. I look forward to seeing all of you back at our regularly scheduled meetings now that September is nearly here. My Vice President tells me we are in store for a great bunch of programs over the next several months. I hope you plan to attend and catch up with some ideas that may be very useful to each of us for future gardening.



Photo by
Ted Olson

For those who weren't able to attend the August tour at Valleyfair, you really missed some impressive flower displays. The huge hanging basket geraniums and the ferns were beautiful. Scott McKenzie, Head of Grounds Maintenance for Valleyfair, said he saves these from year to year in rented greenhouse space. They also had some big round baskets of fibrous begonias which were mounted on pedestals that I thought were unique.

It was also interesting to be "people watching" because the majority of the crowd who were there didn't even notice the flower plantings. We thank Scott for showing us around, but also for the excellent gardens that he and his helpers have created. It was, our tour showed, an excellent decision to present Valleyfair with our 1995 Industrial Award for the use of landscaping in their business.

The tomato plants we set out in May are producing a lot of fruit, which is a welcome treat, especially after eating hot house tomatoes or, worse yet, ones picked green and shipped from California or Texas or Mexico. It's a very long season from the end of October until July when

there are no vine ripened tomatoes from our gardens. There is nothing more flavorful than a B. L. T. made with one of these jewels. And these are just one of the garden goodies that keep us garden enthusiasts going year after year. I can't think of a more delicious reward for all the work that went into these vegetables through the season than having them to eat right out of our gardens.

See you all, and especially the new members, at the September meeting. Happy Gardening!

New Members

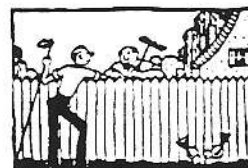
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Renada's business phone: 569-9977

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Flower, Food & Foto Show Results

Flower & Food Division

The results from the MGCM Flower, Food and Foto Show at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum on August 10 and 11, 1996 were:

- Henry Orfield won the Albert Blackbourn Trophy for the Flower Sweepstakes with 180 points.
- Lloyd Mikkelson won the Reserve Flower Champion with a specimen of Russian Sage.
- The National Flower Award for best Zinnia went to Bob Livingston for his 'Dreamland' Zinnia
- Bob Voigt won the Tom Foley Memorial Trophy for the Vegetable Sweepstakes with 49 points.
- The National Award for Vegetables was won by Bob Voigt for the tomato 'Husky Gold'.
- The Champion Vegetable was Swiss Chard 'Rhubarb' or 'Ruby' entered by Chuck Carlson
- The Reserve Champion Vegetable was Bob Voigt's Pole Bean entry 'Shell Flambeau'.
- The Best in Show and Champion Flower entry was Kent Petterson's specimen of the plant Amaranth (a grain grown for use in bread flour).
- Kathleen LoSapio won the Robert L. Smith Memorial Trophy for best showing by a first-time exhibitor.

Mel Anderson and I would like to thank all the participants for their hard work in putting on a good show at the Arboretum.

For the Committee,
Duane Johnson, Cochair

Foto Division

Another successful "Foto" contest is over and the pictures were great. Henry Orfield was the big winner: best slide, best print and best of show. We congratulate Ruth Berg, Sher Curry, Gary Geister and Duane Johnson for taking the step as new entrants.

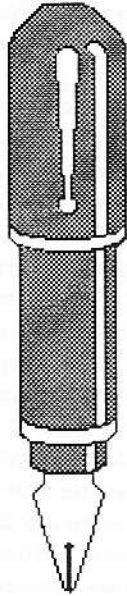
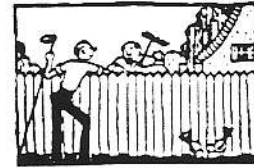
Everyone entered wonderful pictures of horticultural specimens. Remember that the judges did not know who the entrants were so that no bias creeps in.

We encourage everyone to keep their shutters clicking and enter their own prize winning shots next year. Opportunities are coming up for fall and winter pictures. Two categories could use additional entries; Vegetables & Club Activities. Also keep taking pictures of member's gardens. We think a new slide show of member gardens would be both interesting and a good promotional tool for the club. If you have any pictures of members gardens (old or new let Chuck Carlson have a look.

Results

- Best of Show- Trees, River & Rocks by Henry Orfield
- Best of Class (Slides) - Trees, River & Rocks by Henry Orfield
- Best of Class (Prints) - Passiflora, caerulea by Henry Orfield
- Special Award (Slide) - Tulips By The Water by Chuck Carlson
- Special Award (Slide) - The Sunflower series by Eldon Hugelen
- Special Award (Slide) - Lisianthus 'Heide' by Henry Orfield
- Special Award (Print) - Water Lily by Henry Orfield

(continued on page 7)



Board Meeting Minutes

Mary Maynard, Secretary
July 2, 1996

All officers and directors were present.

The meeting was called to order by Bob Stepan at 7:50 p.m.

Old Business

Secretary's Report:

Minutes of June meeting approved on motion by Howard, second by Kay.

Treasurer's Report: Monthly report was approved as presented on motion by Mary, second by Henry.

Liability insurance for the public tour was purchased through the tour budget: \$1 million for 1 year. Since this is applicable to all Club events, it was suggested that liability insurance be purchased from the general club budget. On motion by Mary, second by Howard, the Board decided to bring this issue to the club in September to approve addition to 1996 budget for liability insurance.

Vice President's Report: We will continue to "interest tables" at club meetings.

Committee Reports

Community Garden: Looks terrific despite weather. Lawn mowing is a problem, and two large recliners appeared in the garden one day!

Club tour: Scheduled to tour landscaping at Valleyfair (winner of MGCM Industrial Award in 1995).

Old Business

Linders Garden Fest: Not a lot of

interest from customers. We probably won't participate in the future.

Location of Community Garden:

Bill Jepson is heading up an ad hoc committee to consider future location of community garden. Bill is researching our legal responsibilities at the current site. He also talked to the Minnesota Society of the Blind, where counselors say that the blind only use the garden about 2 percent of the time. Either they are afraid to use it, or not comfortable. Bill also contacted the Highway Department and asked that they let him know their take on our responsibilities, etc. He also called Phil Smith in Montana, who reported that we have no duties or responsibilities to the current site. If we did decide to move the garden, all memorials would go to a new location. Bill's committee will meet and have a recommendation to the Board before the September club meeting.

Club Property: Chuck Carlson continues to compile a list of club property. Will pass around again at September meeting.

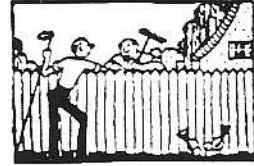
New Business

Club Editor: Andy Marlow has informed the Board of his intention to resign his post as Editor of the *Spray* at the end of 1997. Anyone interested in trying to fill Andy's editorial shoes should talk to a board member or Andy. The Board is sorry to accept Andy's resignation, and recognizes Andy's outstanding service to the Club.

New Members: Applications for membership from Richard W. Coldren, Ada Hegion, Wayne A. Hergott and Kathy Julius were approved on motion by Henry, second by Kay.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 on motion by Henry, second by Chuck.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Maynard, Secretary



Chuck's Chestnuts

by Chuck Carlson

The Chestnut

This month I reminisce on childhood memories that have to do with gardening.

The first thing that comes to mind is that I hated weeding. I was brought up in the small town of Lake City and everybody had a garden. Most of them were vegetable gardens, but there were always a smattering of flowers, too. The flowers I remember were Hollyhocks, Zinnias, Marigolds and Petunias.

But the vegetable garden was a must. We had one that filled a whole city lot. My parents planted vegetables from Asparagus to Zucchini and everything in between. I remember I hated asparagus and spinach with a passion.

My favorite was those early green peas. I would go down the rows looking for the first early plump peas. When they were big enough, I would pluck those plump pods and remove the succulent little balls. I enjoyed them right there in the garden. Every year I still plant a few snap peas for a meal or two, and a few for salad.

I guess I got side tracked since my hate for weeding was first on my list. My mother always made me weed before I could go to the baseball diamond a block away. I really detested the job. Later in life I heard her share with her friends my distaste for weeding by telling them one of my responses. Purportedly I replied to one of my mothers requests, "I don't know why I have to weed the asparagus and spinach when I don't even like the stuff". Now look at me! I spend my time weeding the garden and liking it. But please don't ask me to weed your garden!

During WWII meat was hard to come by, so my father decided we would raise chickens. Part of our garden became a chicken yard. We put a fence on two sides of the garage and filled it with 100 chicks. By fall they were grown and ready for the freezer or canning. We did this for about 3 years and then the space went back to garden. Things really grew in that spot the first year, but the vegetables were all tops with no edible seeds or roots. I think we should have planted spinach there. Then I would have had an even better reason for not wanting to eat it.

One of my grandfathers was a farmer. When he retired he moved to town, but didn't stop growing things. He had a large garden; about a third of a block. Corn and potatoes dominated. But I remembered most fondly the Catalpa tree in his yard. It was a wonder to my young eyes. Those glorious white flowers over the whole tree, later followed by long bean-like pods. If I had room in my yard there would be one there.

Another memory is spending a spring planting apple trees. They were planted on the top edge of one of the hills between Lake City and Rochester. We planted about 500 trees. This experience didn't impress me as something I wanted to do the rest of my life. But now if, I had the space and the finances, I would have a small orchard.

The Tip

I tried to come up with horticultural tips that have to do with memory but was stumped. So here are a couple that have nothing to do with gardening. Remember, you can't fall off the floor. You can lead a horse to water but if you can teach him to float on his back then you will really have something. Last of all—remember to yield to temptation; it may never pass your way again.

Biennial Tour Financial Results

Treasurer Howard Berg reports that the MGCM Biennial Garden Tour held July 13 and 14, 1996 was extremely successful financially. MGCM netted \$6,454, the highest net income from any of the three tours we have had. Gross income for the 1996 tour was \$8,829 with expenses of \$2,375, leaving the net of \$6,454. The net income was \$5,527 in 1992 and \$5,885 in 1994.

865 people bought tickets for the tour, 88 of them for the bus tour and 777 for the driving tour. That compares to 72 bus tickets and 860 driving tickets in 1992, and 38 bus tickets and 836 driving tickets in 1994.

Proceeds will be used to fund MGCM Horticultural Scholarships.



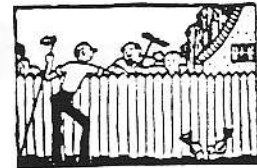
New Members

(continued from page 3)

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Diana Thorne-Lund
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St. Paul, MN 55105
Home phone: 696-1799

Wawa June H. Thorson
3329 Shepherd Hills Drive
Bloomington, MN 55431
Home phone: 831-6763



Jottings

1996 MGCM Horticultural Scholarships were awarded to three students: Kimberly Ann Krcil of Glencoe who attends the University of Minnesota in Saint Paul; Ruth "Jill" Arens of Chanhassen who attend Hennepin Technical College in Eden Prairie; and Karen Milton of Roseville who attends Hennepin Technical College in Brooklyn Park. There will be a more complete write up on each winner in a later issue of the *Garden Spray*. Each winner has also been invited to attend the 1996 MGCM Holiday Party.



The summer 1996 *Garden, Patio and Landscape Planner* special interest issue of *Better Homes and Gardens* is on the newsstand featuring the Edina gardens of Clyde and Virginia Thompson and their neighbors. A nine page spread includes many pictures of the gardens we toured in July. Clyde says, "Get a copy and plant your neighborhood!"

Foto Show Results

(continued from page 4)

- Special Award (Print) - Logs, Rocks & Rapids by Henry Orfield

	Ribbon Count		
	1st	2nd	3rd
Henry Orfield	12	7	10
Eldon Hugelen	5	7	5
Lloyd Wittstock	2	8	7
Chuck Carlson	3	3	7
Sher Curry	1	1	3
Gary Geister	-	3	3
Duane Reynolds	1	-	3
Ruth Berg	1	-	3
Mel Anderson	-	-	1

Chuck Carlson, Foto Show Cochair

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