



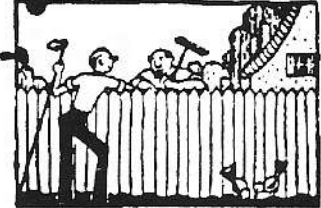
The Garden Spray

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



Affiliated with The Gardeners of America and the Minnesota State Horticultural Society

November, 2000, Volume 58, Number 11



November's Dinner Meeting

Annual Business meeting-----Election of the board (see page 10)

Program-----Orchids by Steve Gonzales

As a child Steve Gonzales grew up in San Juan, Puerto Rico. In San Juan the rains are brief and temperatures range 75-80 degrees. A wonderful place to grow orchids. His grandmother grew orchids in her backyard and introduced Steve to orchids at a very early age. By Junior High School he was involved in the Orchid Society in San Juan. Growing orchids is a life long hobby for him. His wife, Liz, says it is in his blood. Steve's job allows him to travel to the Latin America Countries of Central America, South America and the Caribbean Islands where he regularly connects with orchid growers and visits their growing areas. This background and travel opportunities should make for an interesting program on orchids.



When, Where and How Much

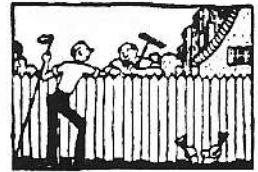
Date: Tuesday, November 14, 2000
Dinner: 6:30 PM
Business: 7:00 PM
Program: 7:30 PM
Location: Lake Harriet United Methodist
49th and Chowen Avenue South
Cost: \$9.00 if reserved in advance, \$10.00 at the door if extra meals are available.

Reservations are necessary.

Call in your reservation if you are not on the permanent reservations list.

Details

Call Mary Maynard to make your reservation or to adjust the permanent list. Check your mailing label. If it has a "p" or "pp" (one or two reservations) you are on the permanent list. If there is no "p" on your label, you are not on the permanent reservation list and must notify Mary Maynard by Friday November 10, 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 cost of your dinner. Mary can be reached at 612-926-7506. Leave a message on her voice mail if you can't reach her in person or send her an e-mail at mary.j.maynard@healthpartners.com. If you have reserved a dinner and on Monday or Tuesday you have an emergency where you find you can't attend, call Dave Johnson of Fridley telephone 763-571-2713. If the reservation can be sold to latecomers or drop-ins, you will not be billed.



Editorial Enticements

Chuck Carlson Editor

The Mid America region in Des Moines was another wonderful gardening experience as well as being enjoyable. It was well attended with around 95 attending this one day seminar. It was also well put together and gave us a chance to meet a few new friends. Our last speaker, Stephan Siemens, gave us an entertaining finish for the day but also gave us something to think about as well.

His talk was about five words that can make a difference in your life and the life of others, These five words are; seeds, cultivate, optimistic, perspective and enthusiasm. The following is a short summary of his talk. Sow the seeds of kindness and gratitude. Even provide some random acts of kindness and be sure to plant the right kind of seeds. Cultivate some wonderful opportunities and memories. Be optimistic when you plant the seeds and expect them to grow. Don't lose your perspective and be sure to keep it positive. Negativity is always a downer. Have the right attitude and by all means do it with enthusiasm. A one sentence recipe for making a difference and feeling good about yourself is to; Plant your seeds, cultivate them, be optimistic, keep a good perspective and do it with enthusiasm. A way to remember this is the word SCOPE. Use scope in your daily life

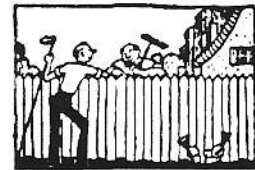
and you will have a good taste in your mouth.

As you see below is the logo for the 2001 Convention. Planning sessions have and are in process. A Minneapolis Mens Garden Club web site is being developed. Andy Marlow has the first page completed and is working on others. Plans are to have a registration form for all to use for the convention. We hope that the site will be a benefit to the club. Also this is a cost free operation thanks to Andy. If you can be of service give Andy a call.

Another thing in process is generating a method to send those on the internet the newsletter via email. It will be a process to have the newsletter received in all its glory. That is to say, when it is received, it will be in exactly the same form as those who will be mailed. All that will be needed by the receiving computer is a program called Acrobat Reader which is free download from adobe.com if you don't have it on your computer. The advantage of emailing the newsletters, is a savings to the club for printing and postage.



**If the grass looks greener on
the other side of the fence,
plant flowers!**



President's Column

MGCM President Richie Miller

Ritchie's Ramblings

By the time you read this, I hope you've already sent your dues to Jackie Overom, but, if you haven't, please do so right away. I also hope that you all have indicated the two committees on which you want to serve. The work of the club is all done through the committees. The more hands to pitch in, the less work for each member.

There's also more fun and fellowship with more people.

Now, a job for each club member. Invite one guest that you believe would be good member to our club meeting in November, January

or February. That's a challenge that you can really accomplish if you try.

Please invite any past members to the November meeting to see Lloyd Bachman presented with an award for 50 years of continuous club membership. What an achievement!!

The November meeting is our annual meeting at which we will select the officers and directors for the year 2001. Maybe there will be a tight contest and you will certainly want to be there to cast your vote if that happens.

Fall is a wonderful season and it has arrived. The frost, however, has been a little spotty. Impatiens are still blooming in locations near our house. Geraniums, alyssum, lobelia are just blooming their

little hearts out. The fall bloomers, like mums, are just gorgeous. Many trees are in full color. Fall is truly a beautiful season. Enjoy it as much as you can.

Enough rambling. See you at the November dinner meeting.

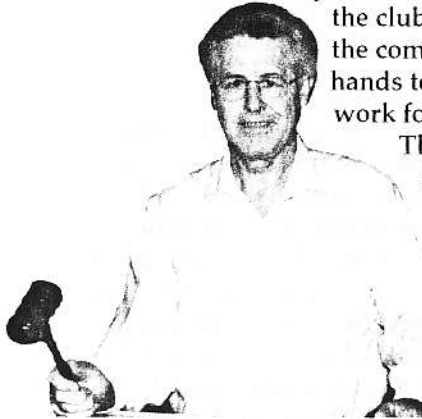
October Program Report

By Chuck Carlson

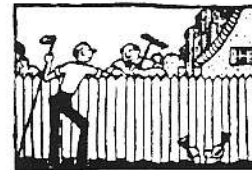
To get you this report I asked Eldon Hugelen our October presenter and club member for a copy of his notes. He graciously provided these for which I am most appreciative. I forgot to ask someone to write up the program and was in a bind since I took no notes. Though my memory is good, it is short. Reporting the programs is another area which needs a gracious volunteer. If someone is so inclined to write up our programs for the *Spray* let me know.

The October program was titled, *Immigrant Plants in the Garden*. It was a program which gave a blow by blow discussion of how Eldon got started finding plants that he must have in his garden. I must say he does have a number of plants in his garden which we all covet. I also must say he has supplied many of us with his offspring and has supplied our plant sale with many plants we can't possibly live without.

In the 80's Eldon started to look at the classified sections of garden magazines to find sources for interesting plants. He found many nurseries offering many wonderful plants that are growing in his garden today. Some were local nurseries



Ritchie Miller
Photo by Chuck



October Program

(Continued from page 3)

like Ambergate Gardens in Chaska, Shady Oaks Nursery in Waseca and Borbeleta Gardens in Faribault. They are convenient plant sources and can even be visited. He found that the catalogs and plant lists were more detailed than most garden center employee could give. He also found that plants ordered by its scientific name will get the right plant.

Most mail order nurseries are small and are operated by people who love plants. Many have day jobs and work off-hours to keep the business in operation. Some are getting the kids through college, and some are there only for a while until the key owner runs out of energy or dies.

In the early 1990s there was a mail order nursery in Hillsborough, NC called Montose Nursery. It was operated by Nancy Goodwin. She and her plants are often spoken about by garden writer, Allen Lacy. Many great plants in Eldon's garden came from her in the 10 short years she was in business.

Today another good plant source from NC is Plant Delights, owned by Tony Avent. He's the fellow who runs to Japan with our Bob Olson and Roger Koopmans looking at hostas in the wild.

Most catalogs cost from \$1-\$4, Tony Avent asks for 10 stamps or a box of chocolates, At \$16.00/lb. for chocolates that is a bit pricey. Many nurseries are also on the internet. A handout was supplied which provided a list and their addresses. They may have their entire plant list with pictures on the internet or may have just a 'teaser'. Most nurseries will send you catalogs two years following your order.

The catalog will start by a statement of purpose or a letter giving a personal glimpse of nursery activities for the year. Plant descriptions can be as simple as the

name, special features, sun or shade. But, others will give details of plant, leaf descriptions, bloom information, height, hardiness, cultural advice, origin of plant, plant combination suggestions and pictures.

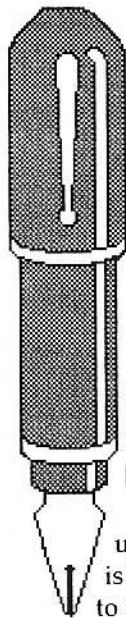
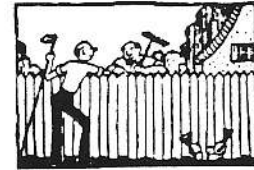
Eldon found the best time to order is early March. He stressed that it could be earlier but he waits for the Ambergate Gardens catalog to arrive so he can peruse that for any plant gems before ordering other items. If you're ordering from the East or West coast, their spring season is more advanced than ours thus, their season is winding down as ours is getting started. This could mean they would be out of stock by April.

The next thing to consider is delivery time. Eldon has found he likes the end of April. Most mail order houses use three day United Parcel Service (UPS). UPS doesn't deliver on weekends so most nurseries ship on Monday or Tuesday so you will receive it on Thursday or Friday. Eldon's advice is be home so the plants can be taken care of as soon as possible.

The cost of plants varies widely. Bare root plants are basically the lowest. Not all nurseries will tell you how they will come so be ready to plant them outside or in pots..

If some plants are not available at the time of shipping, the nursery may back-order the item. That is, they will send it later when they receive additional supplies. On your order form many nurseries ask if they can substitute another plant if something is not in stock, Eldon's opinion is this defeats the purpose of ordering by mail. If you really really want the plant tell them they can substitute by size only, but it may cost you more.

Eldon finished the program with about 20 slides of plants he ordered via mail order. Thanks Eldon for your informative and interesting presentation.



Board Meeting Summary

Margaret Hibberd, Secretary

For October, 3, 2000

Those present: Carole Ann Brekke, Margaret Hibberd, Eldon Hugelen, Tim McCauley, Ritchie Miller, Kay Wolfe

President's Report

We have a skeleton website up. A 2001 convention meeting is scheduled for October. We need to consider sending submissions for national awards. The 2001 Budget Committee will be called by Carole Ann.

Vice President's Report

2001 dates are set for member events and Board meetings. It has been suggested that we return to discussion topics at the dinner tables and have question cards on the tables.

Monthly Reports

The secretary's and treasurer's reports were given and approved.

Committee Reports

Membership

The dues letter is out with additional committee options for Youth Gardening and Valley Fair work. Occupations are requested for our database but not for publication in our directory. Apparently there was no feedback on our dues structure.

Auction

We still like the idea of individual packs of annuals for sale in the Country Store. Wish lists should be collected earlier and include requests for annuals. Early in the year the newsletter could

have articles promoting the sale. Have mentors of favorite plants that are expected to be at the auction write them up for the Spray and talk them up at the Country Store.

The Spray:

The newsletter till needs articles.

Old Business:

Horticultural Meeting

Margaret reported on the September 23 meeting at Minnesota State Horticultural Society (MSHS) for clubs that are members of MSHS. There is interest in keeping up good club relationships and concerns about dues and member privileges were discussed.

Arboretum Meeting

Ritchie and Margaret attended the September 14 Arboretum meeting for member clubs and plant societies. It was conducted by Peter Olin. Progress made since last year was reported. The Plant Information Fair will again be held on April 21, 2001, but we will probably not participate so we can direct our energies to the convention. The Arboretum is willing to cosponsor events involving significant outside speakers if clubs have ideas. Other news is that the Snyder building should be air-conditioned by next summer.

Mid America Region

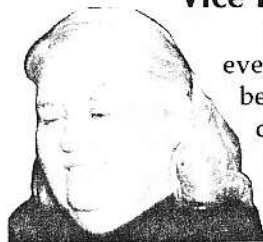
Ritchie reported on the September 23 Regional Meeting in Des Moines. It was well attended (90 plus) and they had excellent speakers.

New Business

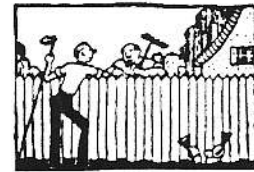
Scholarship Brainstorming:

Kay suggested we take some of our scholarship money and endow an education internship at the U of M Horticulture Department for a student to work on the perennial gardens. It was suggested that this would be a Scholarship Committee decision and if thought to be of value, should be coordinated through Neil

(Continued on page 8)



Margaret Hibberd
Photo by Chuck



Getting Started

By Don Morganweck

Editors comment: Don is giving all of you a challenge. He decided to write this after reading Fertilizer Beyond Compare. He asks others: How Did You Get Started Gardening?

I think it's interesting hearing how club members became interested in this avocation. Many of us probably began because of happy garden-related experiences early in our lives.

I grew up on a family farm in Kanabec County. It was the usual diversified small farm operation, which included a large vegetable garden. My mother and the neighborhood women practically had a contest each summer to see who could put up the most canned fruits and vegetables for the winter.

Dad planted corn with a hand corn planter and in late winter he would check out the germination rate of the seed he had saved, by planting in an inside window box. By the proportion of germinated seeds, he figured out how to set the corn planter to be sure of having the proper amount of seeds fall into each hill.

By age five, I had become interested in this corn planting process and decided I wanted my own little cornfield, and I was thinking "little" in all respects. For my field, I was given a small plot of ground, about 12 feet square. Dad helped work up the soil, but I planted the seed. To my delight, it wasn't long before rows of corn appeared. What fun to play with my tractor, trucks, and cars among the growing corn. Soon it was up to my knees and then to my head. This surprised me. I had visualized a miniature field on the same scale as my toys, but I couldn't stop

the corn. It was soon higher than my dad's head, and I had a forest instead of a miniature cornfield.

Later another incident added to my interest in gardening. My mother ordered the Ma Perkin's Old Fashioned Flowers Seed advertised on the radio. However, she never found time to use this seed so she gave it to my brother and me. Chickens had free range all over the yard and their scratching and digging caused problems in the garden and flower beds, so Dad enclosed an area with chicken wire for us behind the garage. There was no time to make a gate, but we devised a way to climb over the fence. We planted the Ma Perkin marigolds, zinnias, calendulas and poppies. My parents donated radish, lettuce, and carrot seed. We enjoyed working on this special project all summer, however, it wasn't always that much fun working in the large family garden.

As the years went by, I spent time each spring studying the Farmers' Seed and Nursery catalog from Faribault. Gladiolus were my hobby for a while and by the time I was in the eighth grade I was saving money for a flowering shrub or two each spring.

After many busy years with little time for gardening, we became owners of my parent's farm and spend our summers there. Keeping the family tradition, we had a large vegetable garden, sweet corn, strawberries, raspberries, apples, plums, currants, and gooseberries. Our children were eager to help and their first task was learning to plant sweet corn and peas, and in following years they continually became more involved. It was a pleasure to see these city kids taking great interest in watching the progress of the growing plants. Now that phase of our life is also long past, and with our three daughters growing to adulthood, I can see how their early introduction to gardening made a big

(Continued on page 9)

Mediterranean Gardens and Landscapes

By Bob Voigt

During the last two weeks in September, Mavis and I had the opportunity to join an Elder hostel program visiting 18 major gardens in southern France, all the way from Arles, Avignon, Aix to Cannes, Nice and Menton. We also spent the first week in October visiting other gardens not included in the program. Our tour leader focused on formal landscape designs of the 17th, 18th, 19th and early 20th century, and the current restoration of these former estates by wealthy individuals and public agencies.

Provence and the Cote d'Azur offers a mild microclimate where it is possible to grow almost every kind of naturalized plants from all around the world. The only native plants that survive the region's rocky, arid, limestone soil are the wild olive, myrtle, carob, spurge, hermes oak, rock rose, thyme and juniper.

Most plants were brought to this region by the Roman, French and European aristocrats, English settlers, plant lovers and botanists. They also left their mark, with castles, manor houses and large estates. These people were world travelers who gathered thousands of exotic plants that have adapted to the hot, dry and windy conditions by often developing leathery, waxy, or thorny leaves to resist evaporation.

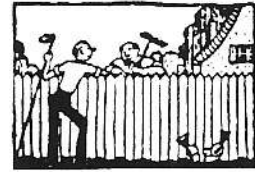
The region has been inhabited for many thousands of years and the people adapted to the relief and steep slopes by terracing the hillsides. Initially this was done for agricultural purposes and to facilitate irrigation. Irrigation has been

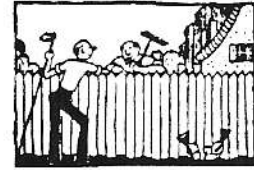
and still is essential. Water, fountains and sculpture are also an integral part of the landscapes.

Mediterranean gardens generally follow a very formal design and are constructed on several levels. They form series of terraces opening into the landscape via steps and balustrades. They respond to the beauty of a site by framing a magnificent view. The effects of nature are spectacular. Exotic trees and plants are everywhere. The gardens contain pergolas for shade, herbs chosen for color and fragrance, and functional and decorative paths made from bricks and pebbles. These gardens were quite a contrast to Minnesota gardens on level land. It took time to appreciate these different concepts, and to walk up and down the ever present hills.

Most city parks and public gardens are watered and provide colorful displays. There are also beautiful fruit, vegetable and flower markets in almost every city. The countryside is loaded with greenhouses and intensive growing fields, which gives the impression of a very prosperous looking area. The majority of people live in six story walk up apartment buildings in densely populated urban areas. Flower boxes are the norm and dot the many of the balconies. More expensive city neighborhoods have single family homes and yards. There are many palatial estates along the coast of Cannes, Antibes and Cap Ferrat that have large yards and private gardens secured behind walls and gates.

A very enjoyable trip that found only a few ideas that are applicable to Minnesota, but it was a nice place to visit.





Bachman-50 Years Service

Longtime member reaches 50 years of membership in the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis (MGCM). This man is Lloyd Bachman and he played a big part in the Minneapolis based Bachman enterprise that was established in 1885 by his grandfather. In 1948, it was incorporated as Bachman's, Inc. when the third generation, including Lloyd, assumed management.

Lloyd was also active in advancing the cause of floriculture in Minnesota and on the national level. Some of his activities include the following:

- Member of the Advisory Council of the College of Agriculture, University of Minnesota, for 22 years.
- Recipient of University of Minnesota Service Award in 1971.
- Charter member and past president of the Minnesota Commercial Flower Growers Association.
- Author of numerous articles for florists' publications.
- Was instrumental in developing plans the United States Department of Agriculture, Ornamental Plants Section.
- Life Member of Minneapolis Men's Garden Club with fifty years' involvement.
- Member of Royal Horticultural Society.
- Life member of Minnesota State Horticultural Society.
- Life Member of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum.
- YMCA board member for 17 years

We thank Lloyd for being a member of the MGCM and for his commitment in the field of horticulture.

Richard Coldren

Gardening friend Richard Coldren died last month. Richard joined the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis in 1996. Though he was part of us for only 4 years he will be remembered. He was a frequent worker at the perennial garden which was appreciated. He passed on at the age of 73, was a resident of Lakeville and a retired 3M employee. I received a note from his wife Maxine and I will post it on the board at the next meeting. It had a line by Martin Luther in it that was indicative of Rich. The day he died he was in his garden all day. That line is; If I knew the world would end tomorrow, I'd still plant my little flower today. We send our sympathy to his family and our condolences to his wife Maxine. We pray you can live each day to the fullest and hope you can push the sunbeam through the clouds. So long Richard and we hope you have a garden to appreciate forever.

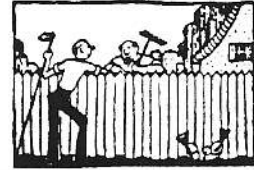
Board Meeting Cont.

(Continued from page 5)

Anderson at the University. The student might help in producing the documentation of the trial results. It should be investigated how much a student hourly wage might be. Also suggested was that Neil should meet with club to get an idea of possible interactions.

2001 Club Tours

It was suggested we not have any club tours to dilute summer effort from the convention, but it was also suggested that everyone might enjoy a bus tour to St. Cloud to see the two big public gardens there in early August. Carole Ann will bring this idea to the Tour Committee.



This and That From the Avant Gardener

Homocote

From an article in *America Rose*, a Maine rose grower developed a system to protect roses over the winter. He made two foot high boxes out of Homocote put these over his roses and then covered the box with clear polyethylene to keep it dry. He reported all his canes were green in the spring and had many more blooms than his previous method of covering with dirt. Homocote comes in a 4 by 8 foot sheet.

For Photographers

Derek Fell has a new book about garden photography, called *Flower and Garden Photography*.

Mushrooms

Dr. Raymond Chang of Cornell Medical College reported finding of a study that mushrooms boost the immune system's ability to fight bacterial and viral infections. Most effective was the Shiitake mushroom. So eat garlic and onions for the heart and mushrooms for the immune system. More and more, it says eat a little of everything and you will survive.

Soil Sterilization

A University of Florida study debunked the use of plastic film as a cover to kill weeds and pathogens via soil solarization. The heat was insufficient to kill the unwanted items.

Egg Shells

We all know that egg shells are a good thing to put in the compost heap but, birds can use these also. Bake some at 250 degrees for an hour, then crush and put them near your feeders.

Cut Flowers

We have been led to believe that cutting flowers under water makes them last longer. University of Florida tests say not necessarily so. In fact Gerberas had a vase life decrease of two days. No effect was noted for roses, mums, daisys, alstromerias and snaps. One flower did show a increased life of two to four days, it was the carnation.

From Minneapolis Tribune

Kay sent me an email about this next bit.

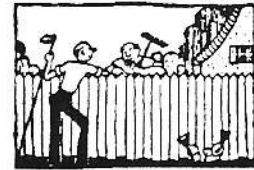
Do you want to get your plants to do better? "There's a book you should read: "Prayer is Good Medicine" by Dr. Larry Dossey, a physician fascinated by studies of prayer's effects on healing. This book's main thrust is the healing of people, but, other tests also showed that seeds that are blessed give higher yields. These are controlled experiments, 'hard' data, according to the book.



Getting Started Cont.

(Continued from page 6)

impression. Whether they live in Bloomington, Ramsey, or the African Congo, they try their best to grow some flowers and vegetables each year. Jody in Africa, tells me about her peanut patch and about the results of experimenting with the numerous seeds that she brought with her from home to try out in her garden.



Club News

Bill Hull Moves to *The Rivers*

Bill Hull has moved from his residence at the Walker Methodist residence and is now living at The Manor at Rivers. His new address and phone number is below. I know he would appreciate hearing from any of the MGCM members.. His new Phone is 952-736-2730 and the address is:

The Rivers
% Bill Hull Apt 261
11151 River Hills Drive
Burnsville MN 55337

Membership Renewal

Have you sent in your membership renewal? They were due October 31, so do it now. Send it to Jackie Overom at 14024 Frontier Lane Burnsville MN 55337-4728

Service Award

Lloyd Bachman to be given 50 year service award at the November meeting. It is requested any older members or past members be there to greet and honor him.

If you know of someone who is not a member and knows Lloyd invite him as your guest.

Future Board meetings

Tuesday, November 7, 7:30 PM
Board of Director's meeting
Carole Ann Brekke's house

Tuesday, November 28, 7:30 PM
Board of Director's meeting
M. Hibberd's house

Need Writers

The MGCM newsletter still needs articles. Now that you can't garden outdoors, please consider writing an article. You know things the rest of us don't know. Let us benefit from your knowledge.

Proposed Slate-Correction

The annual meeting will be held during the business meeting on November 14, 2000. Last month a proposed slate for the board of directors was given. It was in error, below is the corrected slate.

- President—Carole Ann Brekke
- Vice President—Warren Nordley
- Recording Secretary—Margaret Hibberd
- Membership Secretary—Jackie Overom
- Treasurer—Howard Berg
- Past President—Ritchie Miller
- Director—Dave W. Johnson (Fridley)
(Dave will also serve as acting treasurer when needed.)
- Director—Tim McCauley
- Director—Wayne Engleman

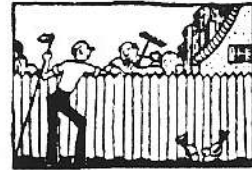
Klier's Wreath Making Party

Don't forget the Wreath making party at Klier's Garden Center on November 24. No reservations necessary, just come and enjoy. Make a wreath, a swag or a centerpiece. Bring you own wire cutters and pruners. Everything else is available for purchase from Klier's. Wreath making machines available or you can wire wrap them yourself. It is a party with treats supplied by the Kliers. Come and bring a friend and enjoy. The party begins at 5:30 pm. and runs until closing.. The address is:

Klier's Garden Center
5901 Nicollet Ave South

2001 Calendars

If you haven't ordered your 2001 calendars yet, be sure to do so as soon as possible. This is one of the club's money making projects and we have kept the price very low at only \$4.00 each so that all members can make a purchase. They will be on sale at the November meeting or else call Dave Johnson (Fridley) at 612-571-2713 to place your order. We are counting on your support.



Annual Holiday Party

You and your guests are invited to the holiday party to be held on Tuesday, December 5, 2000 at the Lake Harriet United Methodist Church on 49th and Chowen. Reservations are needed. A form is included below for your convenience. We are limited to 150 attendees because of available dinner settings. Also reservations must be received by Friday, December 1 in order to make all preparations. Thus, get your reservations in early.

We will have our normal social hour, a sit down dinner, and entertainment by a quartet called "The Accents". Social hour begins at 6:00

pm., dinner at 6:30 with awards and entertainment following dinner. Scholarship winners have also been invited. A voluntary contribution of boxed or canned foodstuffs will be accepted for the food shelf.

Come and meet your friends, the scholarship winners, the bronze medal winner and the winner of the business beautification award. This is the social event of the year for the club and if the party runs true to form, the green decorations will also be awarded to the lucky. All this for \$20 and I am sure you will have a good time.



Holiday Party Reservation

Please reserve _____ places for _____ and my guests.
My guest(s) are _____

We would like to sit with _____ (optional) _____

Reservation limited to 150 and none excepted after December 1, 2000

Cost is \$20, Enclosed is \$20 x _____ = _____

Send form and remuneration to
Marta Hult
3220 Minnesota Lane
Plymouth MN 55447

MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.

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	Reservation Policy

CLUB OFFICERS:

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