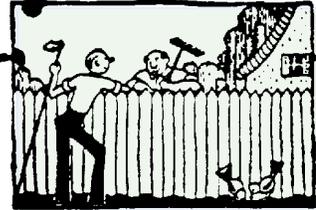




Bulletin of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc
2003, Volume 61, Number 7



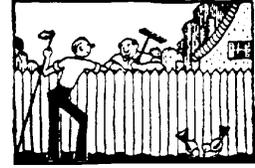
This Month at MGCM

**Tuesday, July 15 Garden Tour & Picnic
Lyndale Park Gardens & MGCM's Perennial Garden**

- 6:00 Picnic Supper Supplied by the Committee**
- 6:30 Neil Anderson, University of Minnesota Professor of Floriculture, will speak about the Perennial Trials. Tour of Trial Garden led by MGCM Committee Members.**
- 7:15 Tours of Peace/Rock Garden, Rose Garden, Annual & Perennial Gardens, and Park Arboretum led by the Lyndale Park Tour Guides**
- 8:15 Dessert Contest and Gluttonous Consumption of the Epicurean Delights**

**See page 10 for more Details and Page 11 for
Reservation Form**

Permanent reservations are not in effect.



From the President

By Nancy Bjerke

A Tasty Tour

Imagine eating a picnic lunch with Mulberry wine as the beverage, salad greens plucked right out of the garden served with your favorite dressing, and sitting at a table with roses as the centerpiece. This may not seem like a garden tour but the ones we visited on our club outing could have been the originators of such a picnic. It was a delightful evening in spite of the threatening storm and the bus wandering around the city.

In the above picnic Ada Hegion provided the wine, Kent Petterson the salad greens and John Dahl the roses for the centerpiece. Each of the three gardens we visited were truly gems in the city.

The extensive feeding tubes for John's roses reminded me of a commercial greenhouse irrigation system only his was concealed under fragrant cocoa bean hulls. I fell in love with Pride a beautiful yellow rose.

Ada's garden was like visiting a small nursery with many different plants including a catalpa tree. The trunk bent toward the neighbor's house than straightened up and found a spot to break out into the sunlight. Imagine a backward "S" shape and you have the picture of this tree. Her yard was a peaceful place to drink coffee, read the paper and let your imagine expand.

Kent's vegetables must be striving to win first place in the FFF show. If my resident rabbits knew what a treat was on the menu in his SE Minneapolis garden, I am sure they would hop to it.

This July the members will picnic at the Perennial Garden and visit the many offerings located in the Lake Harriet area. Kay and

Carole Anne, co-chairs for the 2003 tours and the committee is also developing an August tour. Will it be the dessert for the tasty tour in June?

Be sure to volunteer your garden for the tour or if you are asked, don't say no. By going to the June tour you know it doesn't have to be a big garden to be appreciated by other members.

We truly had a good time on the tour and thanks to Ada, John & Kent for being our hosts in the garden. Also thanks to the tour committee for arranging everything. I can't wait for what they will arrange for the July & August outings.

This & That

From the Arboretum Newsletter

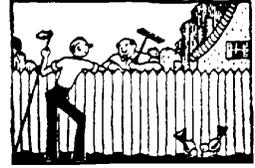
Monday, the 28th of July, 12:30 - 3:00 PM, the Auxiliary will hold a dedication for the renovation and opening of the Beren's Cabin. After the dedication the cabin will be open to visitors as a history center.

NEW BLOOMS

Minnesota School of Botanical Art
Exhibition at The Bakken Museum
July 12 through September 13, 2003

(Minneapolis, May, 2003) The Minnesota School of Botanical Art will exhibit student botanical art from July 12, through September 13, 2003 at The Bakken

Museum. The New Blooms exhibition will include a variety of media, including watercolor paintings, pen and ink, and pencil illustrations of plants. An opening reception will be held on Saturday, July 19 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. and artists will be present.

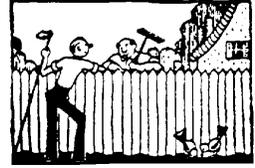


The June Tour Hosts



Clockwise from the top John Dahl, Ada Hegion and Kent Petterson. Photos by Chuck Carlson





June Tour Scenes

Above and right, scenes from John Dahl's Yard and one rose garden.

Below; It could be titled, How many MGCM members can be put in Ada Hegion's back yard.

Comment: It was too dark to get any photos at Kent Peterson's garden and his new addition on the House. Both were great.



Board Meeting Summary



*Summarized from
Mary Oelke's Secretarys Report*

Tuesday, June 3, 2003

Board Members Present: Rudy Allebach, Nancy Bjerke, Lynda Carlson, Dave Johnson, Dave McKeen, Warren Nordley, Mary Oelke, Jackie Overom. Absent: Ellyn Hosch

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report

\$7800 was taken in at the Plant Auction. It is estimated that the profit from the event will exceed \$4000. A check for \$1000 was received from Valley Fair.

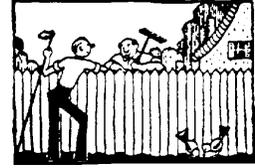
Since the treasurer needs to keep a record of attendance at Garden Club Events, it is requested that members who come for the meeting only check in with Dave or Joe. The treasurer's report was approved as submitted.

501(c) 3

After securing copies of the original Articles of Incorporation and the two amendments made in later years from the office of the Minnesota Secretary of State, Dave Johnson is ready to resubmit the application.

A motion was passed to amend articles 2 and 3 by adding the verbatim statements from the IRS which will clarify the non-profit nature of our organization.

Dave Johnson was thanked for all the work he did in securing the information needed to process the 501(c)3 application.



Membership Secretary's Report

Brenda Reeves has rejoined MGCM. The total club membership is 121.

Unfinished Business

Dave Johnson looked into the price of calendars which would be \$2.75 each. After some discussion, it was decided not to sell calendars this year.

Eighteen MGCM members have belonged to the club for 25 years or more. It was decided that these members should be recognized at the September meeting.

New Business

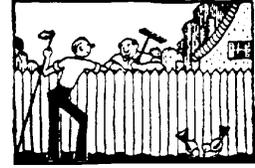
Warren Nordley received a call from Lake Harriet Methodist Church requesting outdoor plantings again this year. Dave McKeen volunteered to take charge of this project.

The next board meeting will be held at the home of Warren Nordley on Tuesday, July 1.

New Members

I normally list new members when they are initiated into the club but because of our summer activities, this won't happen until later this fall, so below are a list of those joining since the last initiation. We welcome them all and hope they find the club to their liking.

Cory Swingen
Janet Tolzman
Paul Tolzman
Sudie Hofman
Bev Hofmann
Sharla Aaseng
Brenda Reeves
Donald Untiedt
Bobby Schauerhamer



Confessions of a Lazy Gardener

By Mary Maynard

Lazy Gardener Favorites

Those of you who remember my “Less is More” columns, may think that I have abandoned all but a few sturdy perennials. Of course, those of you who have seen my garden know better. I’m pretty sure I will never abandon all those other things in my jumbled borders. Here are a three of my favorites.

Polemonium (Jacob’s Ladder). This is a great little perennial that I’d hate to do without. Polemonium caeruleum, which is the regular Jacob’s Ladder that we find in nurseries around here, has blue flowers on stems that reach about 18 inches above nice neat pinnate foliage. It blooms in May and June, and will rebloom if deadheaded. It also grows well in full sun and part shade (although it doesn’t thrive in deep shade — under a great big white pine, for instance). This looks very nice in clumps of three or more, where the effect of the delicate blue flowers is magnified.

There is also a new cultivar out called “Purple Rain” (Polemonium yezoense) that I found last year. It’s particularly cool! Its leaves are tinged with red/



Polemonium (Jacob’s Ladder)



Filipendula ulamaria ‘Aurea’.



Eryngium (Sea Holly)

purple, (more so in the spring) and the flowers are a deep purple. Plus, it survived last winter, which is more than can be said about its cousin “Apricot Surprise”, which I am mad at. And, of course, there is the variegated cultivar ‘Brise d’Anjou’, which I have killed twice, but other people have better luck.

Eryngium (Sea Holly). I was so sure that Sea Hollies weren’t hardy here that I didn’t try them for many years. But three years ago I tried some seeds and got four good seedlings that formed rosettes of shiny green leaves (with little prickles on the leaves). I fully expected them to die over the winter, but they didn’t, and last year they shot up nice tall stems covered with very interesting blue-gray flowers which were really stunning, even in the goofy spot I had them in. After last winter, I really expected them to die, but they were all back, ready to get going again. Plus, they had gone to seed and I had a few new seedlings for my friends. Sea Hollies seem to grow well in either sun or part shade. Moving them is not a trivial thing, since they send down a pretty big taproot, so it’s best to plant them where you can leave them alone for a while. But they can be moved if you take the time to get as much as that taproot as you can and if you coddle the transplant with extra watering and patience as they recover. Sea hollies bloom in June and July, with blooms that last a long time. If they have time in the fall, they may rebloom if the first flower stalk is cut down.

Filipendula ulamaria ‘Aurea’. This is such a great

(Continued on Page 9)

A Railing Not A Railing ©

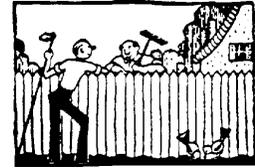
By Phil Smith

This is an idea I had for seating around a deck, but including some decorative planters. It works for us as an alternative to a railing, and is quite more useful and functional.

At our new home in Montana, we have front and back decks adjacent large windows with views of the mountains and our gardens. The drop off to the ground is about 18 inches, and we have been told that building codes here do not require a railing if the drop to the ground is not more than 18 inches. However, we entertain quite a bit and were concerned that even an 18 inch fall off an open deck was not very safe, particularly for elderly people or those having an extra drink. Remember the saying, "one martini, two martini, three martini, floor."

We were concerned building railings which would hinder our views, since the code here requires railings of 40 inches high and pickets not more than 5 inches apart. I therefore came up with this design which is useful, decorative, provides a safe barrier to prevent someone from falling off the deck, and provides extra seating which we needed when hosting larger groups. It is emphasized that where we built these planter-seats, no railing or barrier was required, and we have done so as an extra precaution. Codes in your area may differ and the writer makes no representation about this design complying with any building codes anywhere. At least, the design may be useful at a ground level area.

The basic idea is to have some easily maintained planter boxes, separated by seating. This design, in my view, is rather contemporary and sturdy looking, and still functional. I think the proportions are



attractive, but admit that I was primarily concerned with using up left over lumber. I had a supply of left over 2x6 Douglas fir lumber and some 5/4 decking. Also, I wanted planters wherein a special liner did not have to be made for the planters nor the soil removed in the winter, and removal or protection of the plant container was not a big problem.

The accompanying sketch and photo shows the general design.



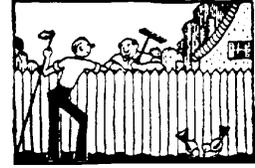
Photo By Wanda Smith

The boxes are built to use a standard 5 gal. plastic bucket as the planter. Placing a piece of 2x8 or 2x10 in the bottom, makes the bucket top out at nearly the top of the wood box. Should one wish to secure the planters to a deck, the 2x8 bottom board may be secured to the box by screwing horizontally from both ends of the planters and then vertically screwed to a deck surface.

In planting, we drill a few 1/4 inch holes in the bottom of the buckets for drainage, put in an inch or so of gravel, and then three inverted 4 or 5 inch plastic pots to save soil and reduce weight. Over this we fill the buckets with a nice planting mixture, and in most pots plant just one seedling of Wave petunias. Each planter is soon covered with the spreading plant, which in our short (six-week) growing season, will spread to at least three feet.

Each rectangular planter is made of inside and outside boxes of 2" X 6" lumber. The inside box has 3 layers with alternating corners for strength, requiring 4 pieces 12" long, 4 pieces 20", 2 pieces 15", and 2 pieces 17". The outer box has only two layers of 2 X 6 lumber, spaced 2-3/4" from the top and

(Continued on page 9)



Getting To Know Our Past Presidents

*Data collected by our Historian
Howard Berg edited by Chuck Carlson*

Editors note: This is a series of past presidents in the club who are still members in the club. The selection process will be to present the earliest presidents that we have history available. Get your bio sketches to Howard. This is an attempt to make the club a bit more personable by getting to know our members better.

Chester Groger

Chester Groger is another one of our past presidents. He was born in 1916 in the town of St. Charles, Minnesota where he also graduated from high school. He spent his work life as a salesman of Industrial and Construction Equipment for Midway Ford Tractor Company.

Organizations to which he belongs are the Masonic Lodge and the Edina Golden K. Kiwanis Club.

He joined the garden club in 1972 when invited by Otto Nelson. He was on the board for many years serving as Secretary, Vice-President, President. Served on many committees and was Chairman of Calendar Committee for many years. He also spent many hours showing slide shows for the club to many groups throughout the Twin Cities area. In 1983 he was awarded the Bronze Medal

When gardening he was a grower of vegetables and perennials. He says the club has changed and has new ideas but it is always good to associate with gardeners. Chet and his wife Em presently reside at 7500 York.

Russell C. Smith

Russell C. Smith born, raised and educated in the Minnesota town of Princeton, Minnesota. It all started in February 14, 1923. This was also the place that he met his wife, Janet. Russ attended the University of Minnesota and earned a BA degree. After this he started a business called ,Russell Smith Associate which provided real estate Appraisals .

He belonged to many organizations, such as; TGOA (The Gardeners of America), Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, Master Gardeners, and a Computer Interest Group. Also a number of societies which included; State Horticultural, Lily, Hemerocallis, Hobby Greenhouse and Hostas.

As a member of the TGOA, he attended many of the conventions around the United States and was a major contributor to the four conventions held in Minneapolis. He was also a director of TGOA and our club's representative for many years.

Russ joined our club in 1980 and was sponsored by Stan Crist. He has worked on many committees five of which are; Tours, Plant Auction, Fragrance Garden, Perennial Garden, Holiday Party. He was also the official garden inspector for the club as remembered by Bob Olson. Russ was president of the club in 1984 and received the Bronze medal in 1990.

He joined the club to learn which he did but still considers himself an old fashion "Dirt Gardener".

His most gratifying experience in the club was being asked to be President and when he was awarded the Bronze Medal. He didn't say this, but I think the most disappointing moment was when we disaffiliated with TGOA.

Russ and Janet live in Wayzata where he still gardens, has a greenhouse and raises orchids among other things. He also feeds the deer, rabbits, woodchucks and other critters.

Getting To Know Our Members

Data collected by our Historian Howard Berg edited by Chuck Carlson

Phil Peterson was born in Chisago City, Minnesota in the year 1910. His high school education was in Moose Lake, Minnesota after which he attended and graduated from St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota. He retired in 1978 after working for years in Sales- Equipment and Supplies for the dairy industry.

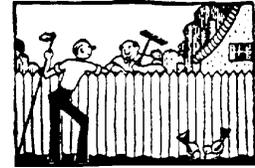
Phil was a member of the Richfield Lutheran Church where he was a choir member, an usher and a member of the Woodchucks men's group.

He joined the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis in 1978 and served on many committees but two committees he spent most of his effort in were the FFF and the Sunshine. He was the chair of the Sunshine Committee for many years. 1992 was the year he was awarded the Bronze Medal

Phil's primary interest in gardening is general gardening and always grew annuals, perennials and vegetables. When he moved in to an apartment complex he spent many hours beautifying the complex ground and organized a community garden for other apartment dwellers.

He says gardening is the best therapy there is. Archie Caple was his sponsor. Phil said his most gratifying experience in the club was having members visit my garden and yard. As others have said, Phil also reiterated, the club gave him a great group of friends.

Phil presently lives in The Colony of Eden Prairie with his wife Eleanor.



Confessions Continued

(Continued from Page 6)

plant in part sun or shade. I love this thing! In the shade, the leaves are a nice chartreuse, an excellent complement to gold and green hostas. It lights up a dark shady area like nothing else I know. The more sun we have, the more yellow the leaves are. Filipendula 'Aurea' emerges early and glows in the garden. It puts up a plume of white flowers in June, but the flowers are pretty insignificant compared to the wonder of the foliage. This cultivar is getting a little easier to find at nurseries, but it is still pretty uncommon. It can be found at a couple of on-line sites.

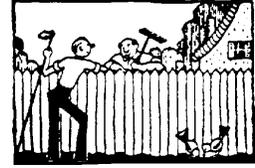


Not a Railing Continued

(Continued from Page 7)

bottom which is half the 5-1/2" width of the 2 x 6. The outer box requires 2 pieces 15" long, 2 pieces 23", 2 pieces 18" and 2 pieces 20". Each joint is fastened with two galvanized.. screws 2-3/4 or 3 inches long. It is a good idea to drill 1/8" pilot holes to prevent splintering of the wood. Each piece of the outer box is also screwed to the inner box with a couple of screws.

I made the seats out of 5/4 western cypress deck lumber I had left over, using 5 boards 3-1/2" wide or 3 boards 5-1/2" wide. Two by four or 2 X 6 lumber would also work fine. The ends of the seat boards are screwed to the top of the outer box of the planters. It is preferable to have the seat boards shorter than about 48" in length to prevent bowing in the middle. Depending on the length of deck edge requiring the planters and the number of desired planters, the length of the seats can be determined by subtracting the 23" length of the planters.



The July Tour

By Kay Wolfe

TOUR OF LYNDALE PARK GARDENS

Date: July 15, Tuesday evening

Join us for a picnic supper and tour of the gardens at this most popular Minneapolis Park. Located near scenic Lake Harriet, this is the sight of the Perennial Trial and Display Gardens that are being created and maintained by MGCM members. Don't miss this fun evening!

Times and Events:

- 6:00 Picnic Supper (Bring your own lawn chair, blanket, table etc.)
- 6:30 Neil Anderson, University of Minnesota Professor of Floriculture, will speak about the Perennial Trials. Tour of Trial Garden led by MGCM Committee Members.
- 7:15 Tours of Peace/Rock Garden, Rose Garden, Annual & Perennial Gardens, and Park Arboretum led by the Lyndale Park Tour Guides, most of which are Master Gardeners. They will share with us the horticulture and history of the gardens, stories about unique plantings, and history of the fountains and art. We will divide in to small groups for these tours.
- 8:15 Dessert. ! Carole Ann Brekke is bringing A cheese cake and challenging all club bakers to create a dessert as good as her most recent cheesecake creation. It is said to be the greatest and a hit at recent parties

Location:

Meet at the Perennial Trial Garden. The garden is east of Lake Harriet and the Peace Garden on Roseway Road. Roseway Road also intersects with Dupont Avenue South / King's Highway; go west to the Garden. In case of rain, we will meet at the Roberts Bird Sanctuary shelter located near the parking lot.

Parking:

Along Roseway Road. Meters in the lot across from the Rose Garden. Remember parking permits are required in all Minneapolis parks lots. This lot is north of Roseway Road and directly west of the Peace/Rock Garden. Parking also available on residential streets.

Reservations & Cost:

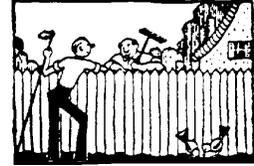
Reservations must be made by Friday, July 11. The Permanent Reservation List is not in effect. The cost for the picnic is \$11.00 per person

A Dessert Contest

As part of the July outing at the perennial garden, we are asking club bakers/cooks to bring a desert. You must have a favorite and maybe you can be the winner of the 2003 MGCM dessert contest. Carole Ann claims her cheese cake will win so bring one and try to claim the bragging rights. There will be prizes and certificates awarded. We will have an illustrious panel of judges to decide the winners. Please note on the reservation form if you are bringing a dessert.

P. Garden Sat. Work Detail

Your Saturday work leader, Bob Redmond, reminds the "Saturday Crew" of the Perennial Garden clean up on July 12. Just for a couple hours in the morning (9 AM start). He wants to make sure the garden is in ship shape for the tour on the following Tuesday. Anyone is welcome to come and pull a few weeds and clean up the area.



The 2003 Schedule of Events

July 15, Members Tour	September 9, Dinner Meeting
Perennial Garden Tour	October 14, Dinner Meeting
August 16, FFF Show at Arboratum	November 11, Dinner Meeting
August 17, FFF Show at Arboratum	November 28, Wreath Making
August 24, Members Tour	at Kliers Garden Center
Grasses & Fall Gardens	December 2, Holiday Party

July 15, 2003 Tour

Reservations

The Agenda

Reservations must be made by
Friday, July 11.

Picnic

The Permanent Reservation List is
not in effect for this event.

Perennial Garden
Information & Tour

Tours of Lyndale Park Gardens

Reservations and payment must be
sent to Carole Ann Brekke. See the
reservation form below.

Dessert contest
and the eating

The Meeting Place

We will all meet at Lyndale Park Gardens
near the perennial garden.

Please reserve a place for myself & guest at the picnic supper

Members Name: _____

I/We will bring a
dessert _____

Guest Name(s): _____

Enclosed is my check for _____ @ \$11.00 each for a total of \$ _____

Reservation and payment must be received no later than July 11.

Send to Carole Ann Brekke,
709 Rushmore Drive, Burnsville MN 55306-5161



MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.



CLUB OFFICERS:

President: Nancy Bjerke
 1035 Heritage Lane, Orono, MN 55391-9342
 Vice-President: Ellyn Hosch
 436 Sheridan Ave So, Minneapolis, MN55405-1913
 Recording Secretary: Mary Oelke
 5745 Duncan Lane
 Edina, MN 55346-1603
 Membership Secretary: Jackie Overom
 14024 Frontier Lane, Burnsville, MN 55337-4728
 Treasurer: Dave Johnson
 5291 Matterhorn Dr., Fridley, MN 55421-1324
 Past President: Warren Nordley
 14001 Frontier Lane, Burnsville, MN 55337-4741

DIRECTORS:

Rudy Allebach
 3414 The Mall, Minnetonka MN 55345-1239
 Lynda Carlson
 5105 Halifax, Edina, MN 55424-1419
 David McKeen
 2834 Vernon Ave So, St Louis Park, MN 55416-1840

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THE SPRAY

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July