

Celebrating Our 55th Year

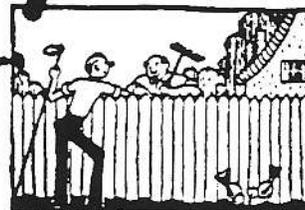


The Garden Spray

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

Affiliated with Gardeners of America and the Minnesota State Horticultural Society

August 1997, Volume 55, Number 8



Join Us for a Sunday Afternoon Garden Tour!

- Event: Club Garden Tour and Supper in Minnetonka and Wayzata
Date: Sunday, August 3, 1997
Time: Tour: Buses depart at 1:00 p.m. sharp and return about 5:00 p.m.
Supper: Hot buffet served at about 4:00 p.m. at RidgePointe.
Departure: Ridgedale shopping center parking lot. Buses will load in the southwest corner of the lot. From I-394 exit Ridgedale drive; go south and follow the curve to the west. Turn into parking lot by J.C. Penney across from the pond and library. Immediately turn left and park in the far southwest corner of the "Turtle" lot.
Cost: \$13.00 per person, includes bus and supper.

The Tour

Noerenberg Gardens

Located on the shore of Lake Minnetonka, the estate of the Frederick Noerenberg family is now a Hennepin Park. The gardens are beautifully designed and maintained. A commemorative arbor/colonnade stands on the site of the family home. A boathouse, barn and water tower remain from the original estate.

Garden of Lynette Uzell

A charming front cottage garden welcomes you to *God's Little Acre*, Lynette's name for her garden. Along the side grow vegetables and a berry orchard. Stroll through arbors to the back garden with waterfalls, pond, pergola covered deck, and path into the woodland. A beverage will be served at this stop.

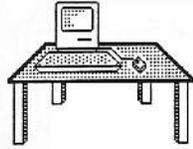
Garden of Marilyn Brummer

After traveling down a quaint street with a *mall*, colorful front gardens and wide sweeping lawn greet you. A vegetable garden is entered through an arbor. Perennials border the length of the back of the lot. A shade garden is under a large pine, and a homey porch extends from the house for garden viewing.

RidgePointe Gardens

The RidgePointe complex received the MGCM Industrial Beautification Award for 1996. Colorful gardens cover sloping banks and border terraces and stairs that lead to a lower level community room. Smaller beds edge the parking lot and traffic areas. The gardens are maintained by MGCM member Stan Crist. We will have supper in the area called *The Atrium*. Look for the MGCM award in the lobby and an oil painting of the gardens done by a resident!

Guests and spouses are invited to attend this event! The permanent reservation list is not in effect. Please mail your reservation with payment to Kay Wolfe by Wednesday, July 30. (Sorry, we cannot refund the bus portion of the tour if you drive your car.) **The reservation form is on page 4.**



The Editor's Desk

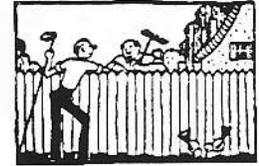
Andy Marlow

Last month I told you that I was going to rent a digital camera from Kinko's - actually use a coupon to rent it for free - to take some pictures to add to the hosta photos on my home page. Well, turns out the coupon was expired. Instead I got a chance to use a much nicer camera from the office, a Kodak DC120. Very slick!

It has the same features as the 35 mm camera I own—zoom, auto focus, auto exposure and a flash. These automatic devices can be overridden if you want more control. The macro lets you take photos as close as 9". Through-the-lens focusing lets you frame the shot. Afterward you can check the picture on a small LCD screen on the back of the camera. If you don't like that shot, erase it and take another. The camera stores 24 photos; an optional card can handle another 64.

But the best part for a computer junkie is that you dump the photos directly into your computer. Until now I have had to take the photos, get them developed and printed, and scan them into the computer. This can take a week or more. Talk about instant gratification! I walked in from the garden, plugged the camera into my computer and within a couple of minutes was looking at the shots on the big screen.

I wish I could tell you to go look at the photos on my web page right now, but getting photos into the computer and making them part of the web site are two different things. I'll let you know when you can take a look. They'll be additional hostas, plus shots of some of the more interesting ferns in my garden.



Coming Attractions

Sunday, August 3—1:00 pm
Members and Guests Garden Tour
Leaves from Ridgedale Mall
Minnetonka

Tuesday, August 5—7:30 pm
Board of Directors' Meeting
Chuck Benson's house

Saturday & Sunday, August 9 & 10
Flower, Food & Foto Show
Minnesota Landscape Arboretum
Chanhassen

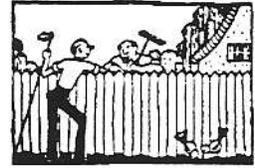
Tuesday, September 2—7:30 pm
Board of Directors' Meeting
Kay Wolfe's House

Tuesday, September 9—6:30 pm
MGCM Dinner Meeting
Lake Harriet United Methodist Church
49th & Chowen Avenue South

Tuesday, October 7—7:30 pm
Board of Directors' Meeting
Bob Stepan's House

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.....Chuck Carlson,
Richard Coldren, Sher Curry and
Robert Olson



Maury's Musings

by Maury Lindblom, President, MGCM

There are a lot of plant and varieties that have become "trendy" in recent years. Often it is because they are publicized widely in magazines or widely used by



Photo by Lloyd Wittstock

landscapers. People see them a lot in gardens and their popularity grows. These are generally good plants and plantings, but one wishes that there could be a little more variety and imagination used.

Some of the older garden plants that were used for years

have fallen by the wayside and are seldom seen any more. A revival of many of these would be refreshing. The other day as I was working in my garden a neighbor stopped by to chat. As we talked about various flowers I mentioned that one garden bed contained both Hollyhocks and Four O'Clocks. Her face lit up as I pointed them out and she exclaimed "I haven't seen those for years! My Grandmother used to grow those!" I am sure that thinking about her Grandmother's garden evoked a lot of pleasant memories for her. Fortunately this year a lot of seed and plant catalogs contained "heirloom" plants and seeds for sale.

Gardening can be a social function as well as a hobby. The neighbor I mentioned in the last paragraph was someone who I hadn't met before. She came into the yard because she saw all of the bright blossoms. I have had several similar experiences this year. One day a lady that lives across the street came by with her neighbor and we chatted for some time about various

varieties of plants, the problems with the deer and geese and, of course, the weather. I enjoy meeting neighbors who I otherwise would not get to talk to, and discussing flowers and gardening with them.

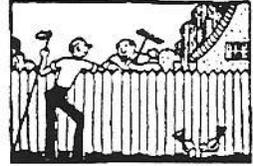
Front yard gardens are increasingly popular these days and I am sure they serve a "welcoming" function as well as provide beauty. Let's all be sure that we welcome our neighbors into our gardens and share with them our gardening interest and knowledge. Whether it be a dooryard garden or a backyard garden let's "Greet with gardens"!

Trial Garden Planting Set

The first planting of the Perennial Garden Trial Garden at Lake Harriet has been set for August 2 at 9 AM. This is an open invitation to all who are interested. Come to Lyndale Park, the area is north and east of the rock garden (King's Highway and Roseway Road). For further information contact cochairs Dave Moehnke or Bob Redmond.

Nominees

The Nominating Committee is recommending that Margaret Hibberd be the new MGCM Secretary replacing Walt Muehlegger who resigned because of his wife's health condition and Ritchie Miller complete the one year Director's term of Bill Jepson who resigned because of his own health condition.



Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis

We have ribbons and trophies
galore for you to win at the

Flower, Food, and Foto Show

at
The University of Minnesota
Landscape Arboretum

August 9 & 10, 1997
Saturday 12:30 - 4:30
Sunday 11:00 - 4:00

How to Enter

1. Choose the flower and/or vegetables you want to exhibit.
2. Carefully check the schedule of entries, pay attention to the number of specimens needed.
3. Check in with the registration clerk and sign up for an exhibitor number.
4. Prepare your material for display. Consult other members on the proper procedure.
5. Put your entry on the display table near the number of the appropriate class.
6. Wait until the judging is over and come back to count up your ribbons.
7. If you have questions call Duane Johnson, 824-0295, or Mel Anderson, 727-3015, show committee cochairmen.

Bring Us Your Extra Plants

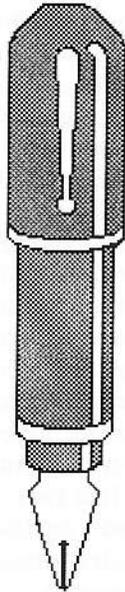
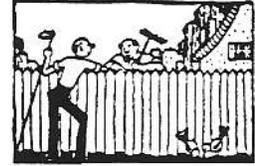
Pot your interesting and surplus plants for sale at the MGCM Flower, Food and Foto Show August 9 and 10 at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. The last few years we have offset the expenses of putting on the show by selling plants. If you can help, bring your plants to the show or call Eldon Hugelen for details, 431-4334.

Please reserve a Buffet Supper and Bus Tour for myself and my guest(s) for the MGCM July Tour on Sunday, August 3. Enclosed is \$13.00 per person.

Member name: _____

Guest name(s): _____

Return by July 30 to Kay Wolfe, MGCM Tour Chair, 2740 Florida Ave S,
Minneapolis, MN 55426. Phone: 922-0762.



Board Meeting Minutes

Mary Maynard, Vice President

July 1, 1997

Present: Howard Berg, Chuck Carlson, Bill Jepson, Maury Lindblom, Mary Maynard, Bob Stepan, Kay Wolfe. Not Present: Chuck Benson, Walt Muehlegger.

The meeting was called to order by President Lindblom at 7:40 p.m.

Old Business

Secretary's Report: Chuck Carlson suggested a correction to the June meeting minutes, reporting that he was working on lining up photography judges. Minutes were approved as corrected on motion by Bill Jepson, seconded by Kay.

Maury reported that Walt Muehlegger will not be able to continue on the Board this year, due to his wife's illness.

Treasurer's Report: Report was approved as presented on motion by Bob, second by Mary. Howard is redeeming CDs needed for this year's scholarship awards.

FFF Show: Next committee meeting on July 17. Foto judges close to being lined up. Hard to get outside judges without paying fees, and no fees were budgeted for foto judges.

Perennial Garden: Planting to be toward the end of this month..

Scholarships: The Scholarship Committee has recommended three scholarship winners out of eleven candi-

dates. They are:

- Andrew Riegert (Hennepin Tech)
- Doreen Gunderson-Dunn (Dakota Tech)
- Anders Johansson (University of Minnesota)

The Board approved the committee's selections on motion by Howard, second by Chuck.

Holiday Party: Marilyn Brummer asked the Board's opinion on entertainment alternatives for the holiday party. Some people have suggested that we eliminate entertainment, others have suggested other alternatives. One possibility that the board considered worth exploring was to have "local talent" from within the club.

New Business

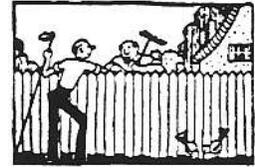
Board Vacancies: Bill Jepson and Walt Muehlegger have both submitted their resignations from the board. Bob Stepan will convene the nominating committee to identify candidates to fill out the rest of their terms.

Liability Insurance: Howard has received the bill for this year's liability policy. Premium is \$290. Howard will ask insurance company about possible rider to cover the treasurer in the event that he needs to have a lot of cash/checks in his possession.

Request for assistance: The club received a request from the Crestview Nursing Home in Columbia Heights for volunteers to plant and maintain their gardens. The Board decided that MGCM should focus on public gardening efforts, and not on private enterprises.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned on motion by Bob, seconded by Kay.

Next meeting on August 5 at Chuck Benson's.



Chuck's Chestnuts

by Chuck Carlson

To garden you must have heart, be patient and wait for things to mature. This sometimes takes years. Even if you grow annuals or plant mature perennials you still have to wait months to see results. But, I think there is anticipation for any wait.

A lot of people don't plant biennials because they have to grow them for one season without seeing a flower. This is too bad since there are some wonderful biennials flowers available. Perennials also require a wait and, if raised from seed, it can be even longer. Fortunately the wait is usually worth it.

I raise rock garden plants from seed and I always wait in anticipation to see the plant and the flower. They are not always what I want and sometimes they are not planted where they will do well, but it is always an interesting learning experience.

I had a *Potentilla, atrosanguinea* in a prominent spot in the rock garden. The description of the plant is fantastic: "Fiery scarlet flowers above strawberry like leaves that have silver edges. Plus an extended summer bloom period".

The first year it grew in size and had wonderful leaves. The second year the scarlet flowers came, but last year it outgrew its location. It overshadows other plants. In fact when I moved it I discovered two other plants it completely covered. During the move I divided it so I suppose I will have to wait for the flowers to bloom again. But now I have two other plants to watch.

I started a zone 8 plant called *Agapanthus* from seed and kept it as a potted plant; moving it to the basement

garage each fall to over winter. This year I will see it flower. It has two buds forming and by the time you read this I will have completed another enjoyable wait.

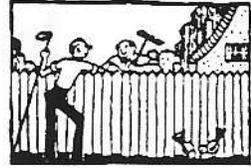
Eldon Hugelen always supplies some seedlings to the country store. I look for them because I know it will be an experience to grow them to maturity. One of these was a seedling of the "Beautybush", which is also known as *Kolkwitzia, amabilis*. It is an upright, vase-shaped shrub that blooms for about 3 weeks with bell shaped pink flowers having yellow throats. I grew it for 2 years in a pot and then transplanted it to its present location. This year, after a four year wait, I viewed a smattering of flowers. Now I wait for next year to see the whole bush covered.

A bush covered with flowers is a sight to see. This year one of my shrub roses, a *Morden Centennial*, was absolutely covered. It provided a fantastic show and provoked many comments from the neighbors and those walking by. It has been growing for 3 years and is about 4 feet tall and 3 feet across. It must have had 200 blooms—all open at the same time. Now I have to snip, shape and shear to bring on a second flush. It is a wonderful rose that requires little or no winter care. I have been so impressed that this year I also purchased two other *Mordens*; 'Fireglow' and 'Ruby'.

I am also patiently waiting to see flowers on the *PJM Rhododendrons* I started from cuttings. I know what they look like but I still want to see my efforts come to fruition.

Now for a plant warning—Eldon Hugelen graciously gave me a plant called *Rumex, sanguineus sanguineus*. With a name like that, it should be a super addition to the garden. It is a nice foliage plant with a red veined green leaf. Even

(continued on page 7)



Do You Do E-Mail?

by Chuck Carlson

Below are e-mail addresses for members of MGCM. We'd like someone to be the keeper of the list and become a focal point for relaying MGCM messages to the list when applicable. It could serve as an emergency net and as a backup for the calling committee. The 1998 directory will also include e-mail addresses.

The list is being published in the *Spray* to find others who might have been missed. If you have any additions or corrections let me know. This list has been sent via e-mail to those listed. If you didn't receive it let me know and I will try to find the problem.

- Chuck Carlson
Charles.J.Carlson-1@tc.umn.edu
- Margaret Hibberd
mlhibberd@mmm.com
- Maurice Lindblom
mlindblm@famprac.umn.edu
- Andy Marlow
amarlow@mail.cee.umn.edu
- Mary Maynard
mary.j.maynard@HealthPartners.com
- Tim McCauley
scicom@ix.netcom.com
- Bob Olson
ROLSON@mis3.sprnc.healthpartners.com
- Henry Orfield
roseatrix@aol.com
- Fred Pearson
fpearson@minn.net
- Clyde Thompson
76513.363@compuserve.com
- Kay Wolfe
Opperwolfe@Worldnet.att.net
- Lloyd Wittstock
lwmppls@concentric.net

Chestnuts

(continued from page 6)

though it is a variety of dock I thought it would add some garden texture. To my dismay it is invasive and shows up in all parts of the garden. I think Eldon wanted to test me on this one, though he claims he was duped by the seller who said it wasn't invasive in North Carolina. Sometimes even experts are fooled. An update from the North Carolina catalog stated that in cooler climates this plant will set seeds. I never realized that cold will cause a plant to propagate but I guess it must think winter is coming and its demise is on the way.

There are many plants I wait for to mature and others I wait for to reappear each year. This is what I mean when I say that gardeners must have heart and be patient.

I hope you all found some new plants to try while on our July tour. Congratulations to the tour committee for a great job. Thanks to Gary, Walt and Carole Ann for letting us tramp down their grass. You have some wonderful gardens. You made me think how I could improve my garden to bring it up to your level. You all obviously have heart and patience.

The Tip

Below are a few twists on some old familiar sayings. I hope you are not too young to remember the original.

- The grass is always greener—when you leave the sprinkler on.
- The grass is always greener—when you put manure on it.
- If the grass is greener on the other side of the fence—fertilize.
- Speaking of fertilizer, did you know a bird in the hand is a real mess?

Inside:

- Page 2/ **Editor's Column
Events Calendar**
- Page 3/ **President's Column
Perennial Garden Planting Set
Nominees**
- Page 4/ **Flower, Food and Foto Show
Bring Us Your Plants
August Tour Clip-out Reservation Form**
- Page 5/ **Board Meeting Minutes**
- Page 6/ **Chuck's Chestnuts**
- Page 7/ **Do You Do E-Mail?**

MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.

CLUB OFFICERS:

President: Maurice Lindblom
5219 Malibu Drive, Edina, MN 55436
Vice-President: Mary J. Maynard
4375 Dart Ave. So., St. Louis Park, MN 55424
Secretary: Margaret Hibberd
1850 Roselawn Ave., Falcon Heights, MN 55113
Treasurer: Howard H. Berg
10107 Lakeview Dr., Minnetonka, MN 55305
Past President: Bob Stepan
7717 Riverdale Dr., Brooklyn Park, MN 55444

DIRECTORS:

Chuck Benson
5808 West 78th Street, Edina, MN 55410
Chuck Carlson
1001 Hackman Circle, Fridley, MN 55432
Ritchie Miller
4249 Twin Oak Lane, Robbinsdale, MN 55422
Kay Wolfe
2740 Florida Ave. So., Minneapolis, MN 55426

Return to:

The Garden Spray

Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc.
Andrew J. Marlow, Editor
10700 Minnetonka Boulevard
Hopkins, MN 55305-4404

First Class Mail

FORWARDING AND RETURN
POSTAGE GUARANTEED,
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED