



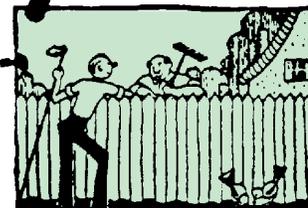
The Garden Spray



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

Affiliated with The Gardeners of America

June 2002, Volume 60, Number 6



The June Dinner Meeting

The Program

All you want to know about fruit breeding at the University of Minnesota

Dave Bedford is our June speaker. He has been a research scientist and apple breeder at the University for 23 years. If you thought Gary Johnson's work with urban trees was a passion, you will feel the same way about Dave and his work with Minnesota developed apples.

The University's fruit breeding program has been in existence since 1908. During that time it has developed and introduced 97 names varieties of fruit. The breeding program has released named varieties of: apples, blueberries, currants, cherries, gooseberries, grapes, peaches, pears, plums, raspberries and strawberries. There have been 23 varieties of apples released from the program including Haralson, Fireside, and the two most recent releases Honeycrisp and Zestar.

Come and learn about Minnesota developed fruit and particularly apples.



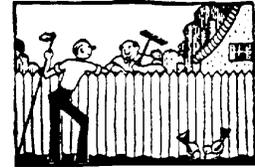
Honeycrisp

See page 11 for time place & dinner reservations.

Also come and vote on disaffiliation

Coming Club Opportunities

July 13 & 14	Biennial Tour-Open to the Public	October 12	60th Anniversary Luncheon at the Arboretum
August 11	Members Garden Tour	November 12	Dinner meeting Susan Davis Price on Minnesota Gardening History
August 17-18	Food Flower & Foto Show (FFF) At the Arboretum	November 29	Wreath & Holiday Decoration making at Klier's Garden Center
September 10	Dinner meeting Joan Bethiaume on Mr. Wirth and the Park System	December 3	Holiday Party
October 8	Dinner Meeting Program is Roberta Sladky Director of Como Conservatory	January 2003	Andy Marlow on Africa



Editorial Enticements

Yes or No

This month I am giving the column to people expressing their views on disaffiliation.

Comments by Dr Robert Olson

Despite all of our efforts, membership on the MGCM has plateaued at about 115 members—down from a peak of over 130 a couple of years ago. This is discouraging. There are several reasons for this. One important one is that our dues are quite high—it is expensive to belong to the MGCM. I am afraid that these costs are not only discouraging people from joining, they are dissuading them from continuing their memberships. They can join other garden clubs and get many similar benefits at a fraction of the cost.

Why are we so out of line with the other clubs? Our club is tied to a national organization that clings tenaciously to plans and programs that are either outdated or simply no longer workable. The national group deems it absolutely necessary to maintain a headquarters building and full time paid employees. The cost of this is enormous. As a result, the quality of the national publication(s) is poor and getting worse. The MGCA sponsors but a few programs and scholarships and little else. Yet it is responsible for over half of our dues each year and recently was increased. There is not much we get as a benefit of national membership and we pay a heavy price reflected in our local dues.

Many of those who have spoken in favor of continued affiliation are (like me) already life members of the national organization and would not be affected by the club's decision to disaffiliate. None of us has to pay the \$20 each year. It is neither fair nor a good policy for us to force membership in a dying and draining organization on the others—particularly when it has the potential to price our

club membership out of range of many fine people who may otherwise join. Getting new and enthusiastic members with new and interesting ideas is the key to keeping our club vibrant and energized.

Comments by Russell Smith

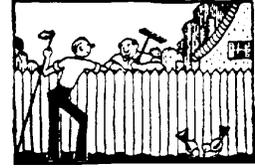
There are many reasons why the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis should not disaffiliate with TGOA/MGCA (formerly Men's Garden Clubs of America). The six reasons for not disaffiliating as submitted by the Board of Directors are very good reasons. In addition, there are many other programs available for club members to participate in such as, a gardening library, Gardening From The Heart, Environmental Issues, Scholarships, Shows & Judging, Photography and Youth Gardening. Obviously, not all of these programs apply to all, but some will apply to most members.

The 7 reasons submitted for disaffiliation, except Item #1, Financial and item #5, Stability of the National Organization, apply only to some individual members. Items #1 and #5 are perhaps the ones which need discussion here. As to Item #1, I do not dispute that the \$20 annual dues may be of importance to those members with limited assets. As to item #5, The Stability of the National Organization was a temporary problem resulting from the treasurer's resignation. I too was concerned. That problem has now been resolved, as I discussed in my Director's Report, which was emailed recently.

The MGCM was chartered some 60 years ago. There are some 30, which are Life Members, nearly 1/3 of MGCM. Disaffiliation will cause those life members to lose some benefits if MGCM is no longer chartered as a TGOA/MGCA club.

Also, I am not certain whether MGCM as a club can legally disaffiliate under the club's bylaws. The bylaws, Paragraph # 1 History states: *The Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis was chartered by the Men's Garden Clubs of America*

(Continued on page 10)



President's Column

MGCM President Warren Nordley

The Vote

Okay, the time has arrived to make our decision on the national organization. At our June meeting, we will have a discussion and then a secret ballot vote on whether to disaffiliate from National or to retain our membership. You must be in attendance to vote. Whatever your persuasion, I strongly encourage you to participate in the voting process and help determine the best course for our club.

Valley Fair

What a great success story at the Valley Fair project that raised \$1250 for our club. It's really heart-warming to see so many people respond when they know their efforts go directly into the club treasury. A big thanks to Dave Moehnke and everyone involved.

The Perennial Garden

Another rewarding turnout was to be seen at this season's first Perennial Garden session. Task-master Kay Wolfe made good use of her strong entourage and much was accomplished.

The Plant Sale & Auction

Doug Whitney and his committee deserve accolades for a well-executed plant auction. The preliminary financial figures appear to be better than norm although down somewhat from a stupendous event last year. Thanks again, Doug and company for yet another successful happening.

The June Meeting

Remember, we'd like to see everyone there at the June meeting. Thanks.



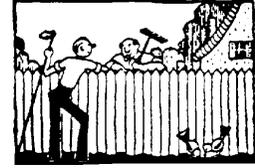
Stan Crist

For you who don't get my E-mail notes I have included a message just in case the grapevine hasn't reached you with the information. It is from Bob Olson about Stan Crist's health problem. ---Your editor

"I went to see Stan Crist at North Memorial Hospital this afternoon. He looked fine and sends his thanks to all of you for your kind thoughts and messages. He told me I could tell you about his heart problem.

On Tuesday he roto-tilled the garden at his apartment complex where he has assumed responsibility for the garden and landscape—as you would expect him to do. It was "just too much" for him to do all that roto-tilling in one afternoon. He is 85 now and hasn't got the energy he once did. He felt terrible all night, and no so good the next day—exhausted. On Thursday he had a half-hour of chest pain just before going to his church to assist and direct the mass plantings of annuals. He could do no more than give some directions to the others and then drive to his physician's office. There an EKG was performed and he was sent by ambulance to North Memorial where blood tests confirmed that there had been some damage to his heart. He was treated promptly with "clot buster" medications and today went to the cardiac cath lab where an angiogram (X ray of the blood vessel of his heart) showed a very significant blockage of one of his coronary arteries. They were able to open up the blockage and insert a "stent" However, the special X rays of the heart showed that there were parts that were not contracting perfectly.

Stan was eating his dinner when I stopped by (he didn't eat all his vegetables) and was very chatty. They tell him he will be out of the hospital by Tuesday. He was a bit concerned about making certain the gardening projects would be completed. I told him he had a lot of good friends and they would make sure that anything he considered crucial would be taken care of."-----Bob Olson



Insight In The Phosphorous Free Fertilizer Ordinance

by Jack Kolb

The cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul along with more than a dozen other Twin Cities communities have passed ordinances limiting the amount of phosphorous in the fertilizer used to fertilize your lawn. The state legislators are looking at passing a law making uniform and standardized restrictions across the state.

For so-called environmentalists the bill is a victory since this nutrient can be a primary cause for lake enrichment leading to growth of algae and weeds (a process called eutrophication) in lakes, ponds and streams.

When a proposal of this sort is developed there usually are scientific studies and some definite facts proposed in the discussion, there is also a great amount of emotion. When scientific fact is at odds with emotion; Emotion will win every time!

Phosphorous enrichment in a body of water definitely will produce an abundance of undesirable vegetative growth (that is a fact). How that high nutrient level gets into the body of water is where the lay-person law makers are misled.

Phosphorous in heavy or organic soils is relatively immobile, that is, the bond between the phosphorous element and colloidal materials in the soil is such that the element does not leach (wash-out) nor vaporize into the atmosphere. Thus the only way soil bound phosphorous could get into a body of water is by erosion. The fact that this element is so strongly bound to the soil particles and stable in nature explains somewhat the reason that it

is not necessary to add much in your lawn fertilization program.

Phosphorous is one of the three main elements necessary for a plant to grow. The most important element to a plant is the one that is missing or in short supply. It is a fact that high phosphorous content in the soil supporting your lawn is undesirable. The element "P" (phosphorous) in excess in your lawn-soil will tend to support seed production in certain varieties of grass and you would be encouraging annual bluegrass *poa annua* to be your dominant variety along with a healthy production of crab-grass.

Now let us discuss where much of the "P" leachate comes from; Minneapolis lakes showed little or no difference in "P" content of storm run-off between areas fertilized with phosphorus-containing fertilizer and areas fertilized with phosphorous-free fertilizers.

A study (1) of spring-water-run-off around lake Itasca showed more phosphorous content than the water in lake Calhoun. Observation of this early spring phenomenon is amazing where the runoff water from snow melt will be the color of tobacco juice and heavily laden with the soluble nutrients (phosphorous abundant) of the deciduous leaves of the forest floor.

The bottom line is that you do need the element "P" to grow good turf. Most good soils will contain a near adequate level. In any case, to be sure it-is-adequate, have a soil test done on the soil of your lawn. At the time of applying fertilizer avoid doing the driveway and the gutter of the street in front of your residence.

A good tip in buying your lawn fertilizer — buy the bag that has Potash ("K" element) equal to the amount of Nitrogen ("N"). Remember your three major elements are NPK.

(1) Shapiro, J. and H.O. Pfannkuck. 1973. Interim Report No. 9; Limnological Research Center



Board Meeting Summary



Ellyn Hosch Secretary

Board Meeting Summary

Meeting Date: 14 May 2002

Board members Nancy Bjerke, Carole Ann Brekke, Lynda Carlson, Ellyn Hosch, Dave Johnson, Dave McKeen, Don Morgenweck, Warren Nordley and Jackie Overom.

President's Report

The turnout for the Valley Fair workday was applauded. This clearly demonstrates that members of our club will invest of themselves when they understand the benefit to the club.

Vice President's Report

Nancy Bjerke has confirmed all speakers for this year. The January 2003 meeting will feature Andy Marlow discussing his trip to Africa this coming summer.

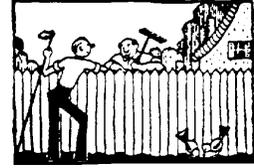
Secretary's Report

The April meeting minutes were approved as submitted. .

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report was approved as submitted by Dave Johnson. Dave reported several items of note. First, we budgeted \$750 of revenue from Valley Fair for 2002, and will receive \$1250 for the first workday alone. Second, the revenue from the Plant Sale and Auction will be about \$1,000 less than budgeted, but consistent with historical figures. Final numbers will be available next month. Third Chuck Carlson generated \$120 in revenue for slide show presentations, which is \$20 over the annual budget amount.

To help educate the general membership on the club's finances, the board approved a motion to have a summary annual financial report for the previous year published in



February of each year. This report will highlight the actual revenue, expenses and cash balances for the previous year.

Membership Secretary's Report

As of 14 May 2002, we have 115 members. This compares to 129 members last year. Jackie Overom presented one applicant for membership upon which the Board voted approveal. Jackie reported that the new membership brochure has been drafted and will be ready for printing prior to our July tours. We will use the brochure at our tours to attract new members.

Other Committee Reports

60th Anniversary

Lynda Carlson gave the 60th Anniversary Committee report. We are finalizing the details of the October luncheon at the Arboretum.

August Members Tour

Kay Wolfe, Howard Berg and Mary Maynard are organizing the August Member's Garden Tour.

July Biennial Scholarship Tour

We are getting July tour inquires and ticket sales via our website. Additionally, the Minneapolis/St. Paul magazine for information has contacted us.

Old Business

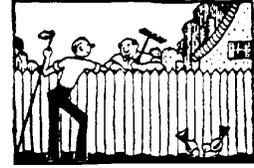
The Arboratum Project

Eldon Hugelen has drafted a plan for landscaping the cabin that is being restored at the MN Landscape Arboretum. We are still in the discussion stages with the Arboretum around the landscape plan, our financial contribution to its implementation and our ongoing responsibilities, if any, for maintenance. The details will need to be approved by both the Arboretum and the MGCM Board and general membership before a firm commitment will be made.

The Church Project

Plants are available for the church planting. Dave McKeen, Carole Ann Brekke and Eldon Hugelen will coordinate the actual

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Confessions of a Lazy Gardener

By Mary Maynard

If we're considering foliage color in garden design, it would be very hard to overlook gray and silver tones. In general, silver-leaved plants are tough and easy to care for, requiring very little coddling. In fact, they tend to like it best when soils are on the lean side and well-drained (i.e. not watered). Lazy Gardeners love these! Here are some of my favorites:



RoseCampion

Lychnis coronaria (Rose Campion). This is a short-lived perennial that is said to reseed itself freely. I've had this for a couple of years, and it's very nice so far. The foliage is silvery and a little fuzzy, and it has hot pink flowers for an extended time, and they'll rebloom after shearing. I had a little trouble finding this old-fashioned flower around town, but I just noticed that Malmborg's has it again this year. RoseCampion doesn't make a huge bold statement, but it's a nice contrast to all that green.

Macleaya cordata (Plume Poppies). For a bold statement, it's tough to beat. These will get ten feet tall, with large oak-leaf shaped leaves that are blue-gray with bronze tints. As a bonus, they have large, long-lasting flowers that come out in late summer. Plume poppies are getting increasingly popular, even though they can be overly enthusiastic in their search for garden space domination. I planted these in our park garden two years ago, and last year we had new shoots coming up 10 feet away from the parent plants. But the dramatic effect is worth the effort to corral it a little bit. By the way, they look really ugly after a frost. Not a candidate for "winter interest".

Artemisias. It would be very difficult to

write a piece about silver foliage without covering artemisias. They are tough and resilient and some of them are very striking in the garden, especially in contrast to red and purple foliage. It is embarrassing to admit that I don't have any artemisia's in my garden. I had high hopes for A. 'Valerie Finnis', but it didn't come back the second year (although it's running all over my park garden). And, of course, we're dreaming if we think we'll ever be able to winter over A. 'Powis Castle'. I say we should just grow this one as an annual. And I'm actually afraid of some of the other artemisia's, since they have a reputation as thugs in the garden, requiring more energy to control than the typical Lazy Gardener can summon up. I haven't tried it yet, but Mel Anderson had a fabulous hanging basket of *Artemisia* 'Silver King' at FFF last year. It was stunning!

Dusty Millers. There are some nice Dusty Millers, I guess, but I've never gotten into them very much. Maybe because they're generally too small for my cluttered garden.

Centaurea Gymnocarpa 'Colchester White'. Some people have described this as "Dusty Miller on Steroids". This is a tender perennial (i.e. annual for us) that forms a nice airy 24-30" mound of near-white fuzzy leaves. I got this last year from Avant Gardens, and it was a hit in my garden. I'm seeing a few more references to this locally, so I'm hoping it will be available from one of our stores soon. I was not terribly successful in my attempts to keep cuttings over the winter.

Helictotrichon sempervirens (Blue Oat Grass). I really like this grass. It's nice for the front of the border — gets no more than 24" tall. This grass is neither too upright nor too floppy, always looks neat and tidy, yet relaxed. The color stays true throughout the year. Flowers are insignificant, if you get any at all. There's a cultivar called 'Sapphire Fountain' (or 'Saphirsprudel' for the purists), which is also nice, but not enough different from the species to spend a lot of time finding

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Thoughts on Designing Borders

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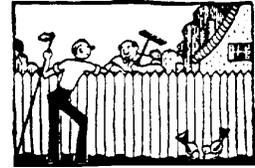
By Phil Smith

I should initially pay respect to member Rog Koopmans whose mind always seems to flow with many creative design ideas. He has helped me lay out gardens in three different states, often to emphasize what may appear around the corner or next viewscape.

The term "border" is an English garden term, which to me merely means a flower or shrub garden on the perimeter of the property normally placed in back of or bordering an expanse of lawn. The plantings used will depend on the available depth of the area and the desires and preferences of the gardener. If enough space is available, a typical border may feature flowering shrubs or evergreens in the background, fronted by a framework of hardy perennials, and highlighted with colorful annuals. I like to include drifts of spring bulbs, over planted after blooming with summer annuals.

A favorite design of the writer is a long sweeping curve at the front of the border, ending in a teardrop shape at the wider end. Another pleasing feature is to place evergreens or shrubs at the end of one space (such as at the end of side yard garden) to partially block the next area, so that when one reaches such end and the beginning of the next area, there is the surprise of a new lane of view to behold.

With respect to edgings, I like to use one color of an annual to line the front edge of each border, such as alyssum or fibrous begonias. However, if a landscape has significant changes in elevation, it can be nice to construct the border like a raised bed with a low retaining wall in front. This also provides good drainage.

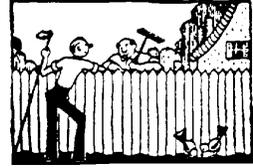


As to dimensions, I prefer at least ten feet in depth to design a nice border. Otherwise, perhaps just a planting of shrubs or perhaps a specialty grouping (such as hostas) will suffice. When deciding how to arrange the desired plant material, the general idea is to place the taller types (such as delphinium, foxglove, monkshood) in back, intermediate heights in mid range and dwarf varieties in front. However, I also like to occasionally feature some highlight "points" in the front area by inserting a taller prize plant near the front.

People some times work hard to achieve a desired color arrangement, such as yellows with blues and purple, reds with pink, blues with whites, etc. However, I normally follow just one rule, and that is, to include a generous amount of white, which sets off the other colors. Doing this, it seems that the other color arrangements pretty much work without much effort in laying out color patterns. We sometimes read about gardens with the various plants all of the same color. I will always cherish the all white garden at Sissinghurst Castle in England. It has for many years been my dream to design and plant such a garden but to date I have not yet got it done.

As to spacing and grouping of plants, I like to use groupings of three or five of the same perennial, spaced according to variety. For example, I would space delphiniums in the background about three feet apart, but a grouping of aquilegia or dianthus near the front might be spaced 12 inches apart. Perennials in Minnesota sometimes do not survive a hard winter, despite best efforts at drainage and covering. Some loose covering is usually preferred, but sometimes with a wet spring the soggy covering may do more damage than good. This is one reason it is desirable to have a nursery area and grow some perennials each year from seed. The gardener will then have a supply of plants each year to replace those lost to the winter. Spaces can also be filled with

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Thoughts on Borders

(Continued from page 7)

plantings of colorful annuals, which I prefer to plant in "drifts" of several plants of the same color in one area

The planting of a so-called mixed border emphasizes the need to prepare the soil well when the border is first constructed. Incorporation of gypsum and lots of organic material is highly beneficial. Gypsum is a calcium sulfate product and very useful for breaking down clay soil. However, I have always also considered calcium to be number four in the group of nutrients required by plants, that is, nitrogen, phosphate, potash and calcium. When a mixed border is planted, it is of course not possible to dig or spade over the soil each year, unless one removes all the perennials, which is not practical and also quite hard on the plants. Accordingly, what one can do is spread a layer of organic in the open spaces between the perennials, add some gypsum, and dig over the soil in the spaces and around all the perennials. When living in Minnesota, I preferred to do this chore in the autumn so the soil would mellow with the freezing and thawing over the winter.

The design and layout of a flower border is highly personal in nature, and the rules can usually be ignored in favor of personal preferences. Just do not expect your effort to be magazine perfect right after planting. One pleasing benefit of gardening is the chance to be creative. Good luck with your efforts this coming season.

**Always remember this...
A smile is such an easy thing to
pass along the way,
Like a ray of summer sunshine,
On a somewhat gloomy day!!**

Greeters Still Needed

By Nancy Bjerke

Nancy Bjerke is the coordinator for the Greeters/Monitors which are needed for the Garden Club tours, July 13, and 14, 2002.

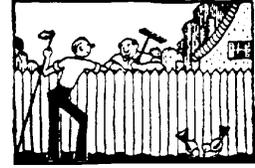
Volunteers are needed. They can work for one, two or part days to help greet, answer questions, take in club memberships and punch tickets at one of the tour gardens. There are 3 gardens in Minnetonka, 2 in Minneapolis, 1 in Egan, 1 in Bloomington, 4 south of the Minnesota River and 1 in St Paul, Highland area. I am looking for 52 volunteers thus you are needed. Let her know your preference for location and/or date. Do this by E-Mail [bbjerke@msn.co] or contact me by telephone 952-476 8057. Do it as soon as possible since this is one of the tasks that takes time to organize.

Overheard at the Auction.

As Eldon was walking up to pick up a rose bush he bid on, He commented, "I might as well kill it now".

Public Comments on the Vote

If you wish to make public comments at the June club meeting regarding the vote on disaffiliation from the National Club, please contact Ellyn Hosch via phone or email. Her phone number is 612-377-4864. Her email is ELHOSCH@mn.rr.com. Each member requesting to make public comments will be scheduled for no more than two minutes of time.



CONFESSIONS CONTINUED

(Continued from page 6)

it. This grass will do fine either in full sun or in partial shade. Go for it!

Panicum virgatum (Switchgrass). Speaking of grasses, there are a few prettcool switchgrasses that can make an impact in the garden. My favorite is the old standard 'Heavy Metal', because of its upright form. For those who find this one too stiff, there are several other recent introductions that may be slightly more blue or a little more relaxed. "Dallas Blues" and "Prairie Skies" are two that come to mind.



Heavy Metal

Stachys byzantina (Lamb's Ears). I still remember the first time I saw Lamb's Ears. It was in 1988 at Burton Deane's garden. I was on the MSHS Garden tour, and Burton's garden was one of many highlights. I was smitten! Even when I found out that it spreads vigorously, and that the flowers are ugly, and that it tends to rot out in the middle of the clump, and it goes to seed everywhere, and not everyone likes the way it smells, I still wouldn't be without it. It is growing very happily right under my black walnut, too, which is a bonus. If I were going to actually go out and buy this, I'd go for one of the larger-leaved cultivars. 'Helene Von Stein' comes to mind.



Salvia argentea

Perovskia's (Russian Sage). It would be hard to talk about silver foliage without talking about Russian sage. In full sun, with well-drained soil, Russian Sage can be striking indeed. It's one of my favorites, although some people don't feel that they really have room for it. It can indeed form a large shrubby plant, getting to be more than 3 ft. tall and at least two feet wide. In less than full sun, it can be a little floppy, as well. But it's

hard to beat the silver foliage and blue-purple flowers that last well into the fall. Even in winter, the stiff silvery stems can add interest. I have just the regular *Perovskia atriplicifolia*. I believe a smaller cultivar has been introduced recently, which might be useful if space is an issue.

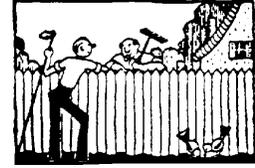
Sedums. I love sedums. I like the large ones like *Sedum spectabile* 'Autumn Joy', which isn't all that silvery, but its fleshy leaves have a nice gray cast to them. And I like the smaller ones, like *Sedum cauticola*, which can be an interesting addition to a rock garden or the front of the border.

Salvia argentea. This is not like any other salvia you have seen. I saw this first at Norenberg Gardens, where it made a striking accent. It's not supposed to be hardy here, which is actually ok, because it forms a very nice rosette the first year. In the second year, it sends up very large flower stalks with not terribly attractive white flowers. After they flop all over everything, and you finally get around to cutting the flower stalks off, you are again left with the large silvery rosette.

It's an attention-getter in the garden, without a doubt

It's quite easy to start from seed, if you can find the seed. Also, don't believe the people who say that this is a biennial. I've had some of the same plants for at least five years. Oh, and one more thing: if you get some seeds and get 15 seedlings, don't feel obligated to plant all 15 of them in one area. Fifteen is too many. Trust me on this.

Lamiums, lamiastrums and pulmonarias. I don't have very much direct experience with any of these, particularly pulmonarias, but they look very interesting for shady spots. I am looking forward to studying up on pulmonarias, especially. Right after I get all that buckthorn out of the back yard.



Editorials Continued

(Continued from Page 2)

on December 1, 1942. (The bylaws then were amended on several occasions but to the best of my knowledge, the charter was never cancelled). ARTICLE X **Affiliations**, states: *The club may affiliate or disaffiliate with other clubs..... It shall require a two-thirds vote of the members present to pass.*

Does the word **OTHER** in the bylaws negate the ability of the club to cancel the original charter?

If the majority of the current members of MGCM vote to disaffiliate from TGOA/MGCA, what about those members desiring to continue to keep the Club with the original charter in force and keep the name, The Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis? It would seem that they or the National Organization might have legal rights to the name.

As for those primarily interested in saving the \$20.00 annual dues to the National Organization, or believing that they receive no benefit from belonging to the National Organization, I have a simple solution. Those not interested could form their own club and have their own agenda and name. This would allow those of us who realize that they do receive some benefit from belonging to TGOA/MGCA to continue to operate as the MGCM.

Comments by Duane and Patti Reynolds

Our thoughts on disaffiliation are as follows: MGCM needs a connection to an organization outside the club. For years TGOA/MGCA tried to serve this function, but during my time in the club it didn't succeed as well as our non mandatory relationship with the Arboretum or for a while our mandatory relationship with the Horticultural society. Our members seem more closely associated with these two organizations than the national. We have history with these two organizations and we think a sense of pride.

The only organization we belong to that

mandates payment to a "national" is MGCM, all others are optional. Having a dual membership in this case means the dual member pays an additional fee for no benefit-no reduced class fees-no reduced tour fees and they don't even get their name on the magazine mailing label.

We could debate the pros and cons forever, each of us have our own opinions. Frankly, the times have changed and the idea of a "national" is not needed to maintain our club. what may be needed more than anything is a reasonable membership fee- our fee schedule results in sticker shock for prospective members. The club took advantage of the Minnesota State Horticultural Society's change in policy and made joining optional. We have never "pushed" Arboretum membership and it is time to make TGOA/MGCA optional.

Board Meeting Cont.

(Continued from page 5)

planting.

Club members wishing to provide public input prior to the membership vote can do so by requesting time to speak at the June meeting. Warren will ask Chuck to send an email to remind members of the opportunity to comment.

The photo album should be ready for the September meeting.

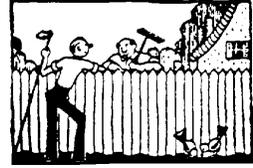
New Business

Several club members submitted a written petition to honor Howard Berg for his outstanding service to the club making him an Honorary Member. The unanimously approved this request.

Warren attended the MN Landscape Arboretum Annual Spring Garden Show on April 13th. About 200 people attended the show. The board will consider having a booth at the show next year.

Next Board Meeting

The next board meeting will be held on 4 June at 7 PM at the home of Don Morgenweck.



The Gleaners at the Prenal Garden Cleanup

The June Dinner Meeting

Date: Tuesday, June 11 , 2002

Permanent Reservations are in effect.

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 by Friday June 7.

Call or email Carole Ann Brekke

(phone 952-435-6029)

(E-mail numsix24@usfamily.net)

**for your reservation if you are not on the permanent reservations list
or**

you need to cancel your permanent reservation.

**For last minute cancellations on Monday or Tuesday call Dave Johnson
Phone (763-571-2713). If he can sell it, you won't be billed.**

MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS, INC.

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CLUB OFFICERS:

President: Warren Nordley
14001 Frontier Lane, Burnsville, MN 55337-4741
Vice-President: Nancy Bjerke
1035 Heritage Lane, Orono, MN 55391-9342
Recording Secretary: Ellyn Hosch
436 Sheridan Ave So, Minneapolis, MN 55405-1913
Membership Secretary: Jackie Overom
14024 Frontier Lane, Burnsville, MN 55337-4728
Treasurer: Dave Johnson
5291 Matterhorn Dr., Fridley, MN 55421-1324
Past President: Carole Ann Brekke
709 Rushmore Drive, Burnsville, MN 55306-5161

DIRECTORS:

Lynda Carlson
5105 Halifax, Edina, MN 55424-1419
David McKeen
2834 Vernon Ave So, St Louis Park, MN 55416-1840
Don Morgenweck
4708 West 41st St, St Louis Park, MN 55416-3244

THE SPRAY

The Garden Spray is published monthly by the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc. for its members. The Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis is a not-for-profit, equal opportunity organization.

Managing Editor & Production Manager-----Chuck Carlson

The committee: Fred Glasoe Mary Maynard Robert Olson Rich Van Sickle Lloyd Wittstock

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The Garden Spray

Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, Inc.
Charles J. Carlson, Managing Editor
1001 Hackman Circle
Fridley, MN 55432-0463

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