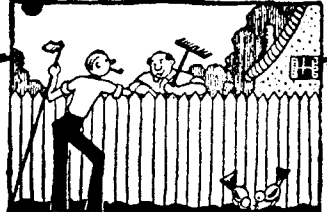




The Garden Spray

BULLETIN OF THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF MINNEAPOLIS

Member--Men's Garden Clubs of America • Minnesota State Horticultural Society



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William H. Hull, Editor, 7017 Dublin Road, Edina, Minnesota 55435
Associate Editors: G. Victor Lowrie, Charles R. Proctor, Harold Kaufmann,
Phillip H. Smith & Archie Flack

Club Officers: President: Frank P. Vixo Vice President: G.R. Christenson
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N A T I O N A L P R E S I D E N T H E R E
FOR OCTOBER 10 MEETING
T W O M A J O R T A L K S -
WE ARE DOUBLY HONORED

Dr. Joseph E. Howland, President, Men's Garden Clubs of America, is making two special trips to Minneapolis to meet with us and our guests from the Richfield and Minnetonka clubs. Editor of "Lawn Care," he probably will talk on that subject.

Dr. Leon Snyder, Head, Department of Horticulture, University of Minnesota, will also speak. Leon's topic will be the initial talk of the series on botany and plant culture.

The Details - October 10, Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church
5:45, \$2.00, this is, of course, a stag meeting.

SPECIAL NOTICE

We are back at Mount Olivet Lutheran Church.

OVER THE GARDEN GATE

by Bill Hull

Thor Solem's delightful speech at the September meeting almost sold me on dahlias again. I wonder if others don't also go through cycles of growing the single plants, only to replace them with another single-plant interest? Thor's talk can be found in the book "Garden Lessons We've Learned."

Remember - Leon Snyder's invitation to the Annual Arboretum Day - on October 14. He estimates the leaf coloring should be at its peak during that week. October 14 is also Yom Kippur, probably considered the most important day of the year to our Jewish friends.

Attention: Those interested in roses, dahlias, mums, etc. Each year you are involved in special one-plant shows, which would also be of interest to our members. Will you keep your editor posted on these events at least a month in advance - so we can help you publicize them? Our members would like to be informed of such events as those and others like the Park Board Mum Show, the St. Paul Conservatory show, and even any outstanding flower show like the Edina and Richfield affiliated shows. Please!

Bill Cowcill gave us a dandy talk on carrying over plants into the winter. Thank you, Bill. If you need any help emptying those beer cans, let us know. He makes superb small scoops out of them. They could be used for kitchen scoops as well as potting scoops.

Rose cutter wanted. Once I saw a device for cutting or pruning roses which intrigues me but I can't locate it. It was perhaps a foot long, made of a $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch aluminum rod, with a finger trigger on one end and a blade and stem holder on the other. Very effective, it enabled one to reach into canes and prune or cut easily. No manufacturer's name was thereon. Help.

We have just recently seen a leaf net for carrying fallen leaves. Made of plastic it is 8' x 8' (64 sq. ft.) and very lightweight. It is made in St. Paul by the Conwed Corporation, and should be available at \$3.95 at the usual sources.

Sorry About That! The reason the convention photos were not on display at the September meeting, as promised, is that the photographer, on a job in northern Minnesota, hit two deer (he missed three!) and was unable to get back to Minneapolis in time for our meeting. We'll try again.

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And you must save time for non-work! How can you evaluate the worth of an hour in the garden, a stolen ramble in the woods? Their value is immeasurable, irreplaceable. They offer relief, renewal, replenishment. Without some time to ourselves we could not survive.

AMERICAN HOME Magazine
on Leisure, April 1967

YOUR PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

by Frank Vixo

As you have no doubt already heard, Dr. Joe Howland, President of MGCA, will be our guest speaker at this meeting. The Minnetonka and Richfield clubs have been invited to attend. Let's have a good turnout for Joe. See you at the church - Mount Olivet that is.

Don't let Les and Evald down! Let's help them make this month's flower show the biggest ever. It's the last show for the year. We can make it our best.

A reminder not to forget the open house at the arboretum for members and supporters on October 14 as announced by Dr. Leon Snyder at the September meeting.

Some of you missed Thor Solem's crusty and refreshing talk on raising dahlias. Those of us who heard him knew that behind it all stood a master grower whose modesty is exceeded only by his ability to put out the product. A job well done, Thor.

Your Convention Committee consisting of Dwight Stone, chairman; Bill Hull, Charlie (Pete) Proctor and Bob Smith, vice chairmen; Bud Christensen, secretary and Frank Vixo, treasurer, have consented to serve as the Christmas Party committee. The date has already been set as Tuesday, December 12 and the place - the Thunderbird Motel. The program and menu is being "dreamed" up. All that's missing is your decision to "make it" this year. More later from Dwight. You know what that means.

Just a follow-up on Dale Durst's announcement at the last meeting concerning his possible need for checkers to verify pumpkin weights and sunflower head sizes. A call from him means a chance for you to help in the operation of this worthwhile event being sponsored by MGCM.

We welcome Donal O'Donnell to membership. He lives at 3851 Beard Avenue. Home telephone WA6-7159. Business telephone FE2-6123, Ext. 2479. Sponsored by Roy Orr. Add this to your membership list.

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MUMS FOR COLOR

by Roger Koopmans

If you like Autumn -- that glorious season of the year when nature shows off her gorgeous array of colors; when the days are bright and breezy and the nights are cool -- then you will love MUMS. For what other flower blooms so brightly and lasts so long? It is a must to include MUMS in your garden.

The name "chrysanthemum" is derived from chrysos -- gold, and anthos -- a flower. They were cultivated in China at least 500 years before the birth of Christ. From Asia they spread to Japan and Holland. In the late 1700's they were introduced to France and then to England. They came to America about 1800 but have gained wide popularity only during the past 35 years. Hybridists have made such improvements in their quality that the Mumhas become the most popular autumn flower.

Garden chrysanthemums are about the easiest of all plants to grow. They produce an abundance of flowers the very first season. They can be had in many types and colors. There are quality hybrid Mums to please every individual.

The five basic points to consider when growing Mums are:

BUYING -- Buy from a reliable grower. The best Mump plant is a well-established potted plant grown from a cutting and about 5-6" tall.

PLANTING -- Plant in the spring - about apple-blossom time. Spring is also the time to divide old clumps; this can be done when the new shoots are about 6" tall. Mums do best in an open sunny location, free from other roots and with good air circulation. Even a small amount of shade will tend to stretch them out.

Mums grow well in any type soil. However, a loam is preferred. The soil should be worked deeply and mixed with organic matter and fertilizer. Space the plants 15" apart on an average. For the best effect, use 3 to 5 plants of a variety in a group.

FERTILIZING -- Begin fertilizing immediately at planting time with a complete water-soluble compound. Make a saucer-like ring around each plant and give it a good soaking with the solution. This process should be repeated at one month intervals during the summer for a maximum growth. Give Mums plenty of water. The best way is to make a depression around each plant and let the water run slowly from the hose. A thorough watering should be sufficient for a week. Cultivate the soil around your Mum plants regularly.

PRUNING -- To have good Mums you must pinch the terminal shoots once or twice during the season to encourage sturdy and well-branched plants. The first pinching should be done when the plants are about 6" tall. Do not pinch after July 15 as the plants will soon be forming flower buds.

If you have two-year old clumps of Mums, it is best to use a pruning shears and cut the plants halfway back. You will be surprised how repaidly the plants will outgrow this cropping and how nicely they will flower.

A well-pinched plant will not need staking or other support. The growth will be strong and sturdy enough to stand erect.

.....continued

MUMS FOR COLOR

(continued)

SPRAYING -- The most common insects attacking Mums are aphids, tarnished plant bugs, red spider, and leaf hoppers. A common disease is Septoria Leaf Spot. This is an infection starting at the bottom of the plant and spreading upward. Small, round, brown spots on leaf turn the leaf brown, yellow or reddish and then black. To keep Mums free from such insects and disease it is best to spray or dust them three or four times during the summer months. Start the first of June using an all-purpose insecticide-fungicide mixture such as Phalton & Isotox. A pre-emergent insecticide such as Systox can be used for controlling foliar nematodes which cause browning of a pie-shaped section of the leaf usually between two veins. These nematodes move from leaf to leaf through a film of moisture on the surface of the leaves and stems. Mums generally are not susceptible to disease if they are strong and well cultivated.

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POINTERS ON "PUTTING YOUR LAWN TO BED" FOR WINTER

by John L. Kolb

1. Continue to water when needed. Keep the soil moisture at optimum range all fall right up to freeze-up.
2. Mow when needed. It is fallacy to allow your lawn to turn to hay for the winter. The matter of root development and food storage is connected more with soil temperatures and leaf surface (area) than it is with length of top growth.
3. Do not fertilize at this late date (Oct.). Lawns should have been fertilized with inorganic, complete fertilizers in late August or early September.
4. Prevent all forms of traffic from frosted grass.
5. Seeding is generally not recommended at this time, but if you must seed, do so before snowfall in late November (dormant seeding).
6. If your turf is of a strain that is susceptible to snow mold, then apply a fungicide at latest possible date before permanent winter snows set in.
 - a. Allow soil to freeze hard and deep before permanent snow cover will deter cold tolerant fungi.
 - b. After freeze up of soil, keep a good cover of snow on grass during deep and late winter to prevent dessication of plants.
 - c. Items A and B above are not always man-controlled, but small areas can be cleared of snow to allow freezing of soil when premature heavy snows occur in early winter. By the same token, snow cover can be encouraged by snow-fence traps, tree branches (brush), etc.
7. To stimulate early spring greening, a heavy application of dark or black organic fertilizer should be applied to turf in late November (Milorganite).

SOME GOODIES WE LIKED --- and need to clean out of our files.

The coffee break is the pause that refreshes.

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It was in the laboratory of the great English physicist and chemist, Michael Faraday. An assistant had inadvertently dropped a silver cup into a jar of acid. The cup was nearly consumed before it was discovered, and before long was completely dissolved. The incident brought up a discussion about the indestructibility of matter. How could that theory be right, when here was a sizable chunk of silver completely disintegrated, not even a tiny pile of ashes or a streak of rust left to mark its place?

Faraday had a ready answer. Adding a chemical to the acid, the invisible silver was precipitated back into a solid. Retrieved and sent to a silversmith, it came back to the laboratory once more a silver cup. Nothing had been lost.

All matter, the scientists say, is like that. Nothing is ever lost. True, not everything that is "destroyed" can be restored to its original form. At least not yet. We can collect all the carbon, all the metal, all the other elements, but we cannot restore them in the form of the flower, the tree, the great painting they once were. We are not yet that intelligent. Nevertheless, nature's alchemy is constantly replacing that which has seemed to be wholly lost. A forest giant falls, decays, becomes dust. From that dust and decay rise new giants, taking their life and strength from the old.

From "A Magazet", Dec. 1966.

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Budgeting is a family's attempt to live below its yearnings.

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Her sister, Marry, married the painter John Blank and occasionally exhibits herself. (Bangor Daily News)

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Everyone knows that whatever is pleasant is apt to be immoral, illegal or lethal, says Dr. Warner F. Bowers, medical director of Medical World News (August 25, 1967 issue). Take food (but don't take too much -- it's fattening): Eggs and cheese and butter are forbidden if you want open coronary arteries, and the singed fat of broiled steaks is carcinogenic. Coffee must not have sugar because of its bad effect on blood lipids, nor cream because it is as bad as butter. Even black coffee contains caffeine, which flogs the tired heart. The solace of tobacco certainly is taboo because cigarette paper is poisonous and tobacco has tars to cause cancer and nicotine to contract vital blood vessels. The pipe naturally is outlawed because it engenders lip cancer. Newspapers and magazines contain such lurid items that blood pressure is unduly elevated. Movies and TV shows are dangerous because they are so sexy or horror-ridden as to deplete the adrenals. The air is so polluted that you can't go out without getting emphysema, and if you do venture out, you'll be mugged, raped, stabbed, or struck by a car. Any of these is more risky than fighting in jungle country. Sex, of course, is too stimulating and too fatiguing, resulting in strokes or other consequences. Since everyone knows that more people die in bed than anyplace else, be sure to sit indoors in a chair.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT STEPS IN WHEN STATE AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES
FAIL TO ACT ON AIR POLLUTION

The 90th Congress is going to concede the failure of state and local governments to prevent and control air pollution. It will do so by giving a deadline for action and by empowering the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare to take action if the states fail again. After 12 years following the 1955 legislation to deal with air pollution, only 14 states have started to implement their authority to adopt air quality and emission standards. Fewer than 100 local governments have air-pollution control programs. Only one-third of the 212 standard metropolitan-statistical areas in the nation are served by meaningful air-pollution control programs. And there is not a single effective interstate air-pollution control program in the nation.

Senate bill 780, as amended, was passed by the senate on July 18 by a vote of 88-0. It gives federal authorities permission to seek court injunctions in proper cases. It gives the states 15 months in which to adopt air-quality standards and gives the federal government authority to step in when the state and local authorities don't act.

HEW's National Center for Air Pollution Control has issued a list of the twenty cities in which air pollution is the worst. It lists five areas alphabetically as being the worst five: Chicago, Cleveland, Los Angeles-Long Beach, New York and Philadelphia. The next five: Boston, Detroit, Newark, Pittsburgh and St. Louis. Ten additional areas rank third in severity: Akron, Baltimore, Cincinnati, Gary-Hammond-East Chicago, Indianapolis, Jersey City, Louisville, Milwaukee, Washington, and Wilmington.

Will there come a time when Minneapolis-St. Paul will be on that list?

(Source: "The Conservation Foundation" newsletter, 7-21-67)

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1967 MGCA BULLETIN AWARDS

The Top Dozen:

1. THE COLD FRAME - MGC of Staten Island, N.Y., Rolf Dallmer, Editor
2. THE YARDNER - MGC of Houston, Texas, F.A.C. McCulla, Editor
3. THE SHOW-ME GARDENER - MGC of Webster Groves, Mo., Earl L. Caldwell, Editor
4. THE GARDEN SPARY - MGC of Minneapolis, William H. Hull, Editor
5. GARDENING AROUND HERE - MGC of Santa Clara Co., Calif., J.W. Stephenson, Editor
6. THE STAMEN - MGC of Pittsburgh, Pa., J.L. Montgomery, Editor
7. THE BLACK ACRE NEWS - MGC of Findlay, Ohio, Fred Craig, Editor
8. GREEN FINGERS - MGC of Toledo, Ohio, William H. Bahrs, Editor
9. BACKYARD PESTS - MGC of Kent, Ohio, W. Fletcher Simpson, Editor
10. THE GREEN THUMB - MGC of Dallas, Texas, Joe M. Woodard, Editor
11. THE GARDEN GATE - MGC of Richfield, Minnesota, Marlin C. Gilhousen, Editor
12. THE SECATEUR - MGC of Libertyville-Mundelein, Ill., Lynn J. Arthur, Editor

YOU TELL ON YOURSELF

You tell on yourself by the friends you seek,
By the very manner in which you speak,
By the way you employ your leisure time,
By the use you make of a dollar or dime.

You tell on yourself by the things you wear,
By the spirit with which your burdens bear,
By the kind of things at which you laugh,
By the records you prefer on phonograph.

You tell on yourself by the way you walk,
By the things of which you delight to talk,
By the manner by which you bear defeat,
By so simple a thing as how you eat.

By the books you choose from the well-filled shelf,
By these ways and more you tell on yourself.
But there's really no particle of sense
In an effort to keep up false pretense.

You tell on yourself if you are a nurse,
How you treat your patient with love or silent curse.
When you see them they're physically or mentally not well.
Are you an angel or wish them in hell?

You tell on yourself when a doctor you would be,
Also part preacher, psychiatrist, all three.
By the way you treat all your patient's ills,
And prove your skills by both devotion and pills.

Frank H. Leech
Syracuse, N.Y., MGC

Delivered at 1967 MGCA Convention in Minneapolis.