Member-Mens Garden Clubs of America. Minnesota State Horticultural Society

July 1977, Volume 35, Number 7

GARDEN TOUR -- FOR WIVES, FAMILIES, FRIENDS -- SUNDAY JULY 17
(By Reservation Only. Use Form at Bottom of Page.)

MEET AT LAKE NOKOMIS COMMUNITY CENTER (Minnehaha Parkway adjacent to Woodlawn Boulevard) AT 1:30 P.M. Buses will leave at 1:35 and 1:50. Those who plan to drive on their own pick up direction sheets from Jim Fishbaugher upon arrival at the meeting place. For complete detail read THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER.

THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Spring flew by so fast this year that it seemed as if summer was upon u by the time I got to my garden planting. Every week I hesitated to stamy plants because I was sure we would get that sudden cold dip in tempe ture which would kill off any early plantings that had been started. Some folks were brave and planted very early and have already been eatiproduce from their own gardens and enjoying early blooms.

Our Minneapolis Men's Garden Club has for many years planted a beautifu garden for the Minneapolis Center for the Blind at Bryant near Franklin It has always been much appreciated and many apartment dwellers in the area near Becky's Cafeteria look forward to the new show of color each year. This year many people thought we might not be back because the early spring brought with it the warmth of summer and the flowers in th Community Garden had not appeared. On June 11, as always, a loyal grou arrived, led by Archie Caple with a truck and station wagon loaded with petunias, snaps, marigolds, pansies and an assortment of fragrant geran and herbs for the blind to enjoy. Because Carl Holst retired, our usua source of supply, the park board greenhouse, was unavailable to us, but the generous Bachman family came to our rescue and let us pick and choo with orders to be sure to take all we needed. To that wonderful three (Continued on page 6)

RESERVATION(S) FOR MGCM TOUR SUNDAY JULY 17. (Return this form with your check to Fred Glasoe, 518 E. 58th St., Mpls., 55417 by Wednesday July 13.)

| I | 'll need both bus and meal. | Reserveplaces for me. (\$5.50 each |
|---|-----------------------------|--|
| I | plan to drive but reserve_ | dinners for me. (\$4.25 each). |
| I | won't eat but reserve | _places on the bus for me. (\$1.50 each) |
| | Check for \$encl | osed in the saturday mornibaso |

THE GARDEN SPRAY - Bulletin of the Men's Garden Club of Minneapolis, In July 1977, Volume 35, Number 7

Deadline: the 15th OF EACH MONTH.

MGCM PRESIDENTS: JAMES E. PERRIN, 1974

Jim Perrin was born in Kitchener, Ontario, Canada where his grandfather, father and other family and friends shared in gardening interests both vegetable and flower. He says, "My early impressions were the pride people took in their homes however affluent, modest, or outdated relative to current buildings. Almost everyone had well kept lawns and flower gardens plus a vegetable garden tucked away somewhere. My first gardening experience outside of helping Dad was designing, planting and maintaining a Victory garden for a school competition during World War II. It was a 6 ft. square plot designed around a central V and planted with mostly vegetables.



Jim Perrin

"We moved to Minneapolis in 1945 where I attend— ed school. I graduated from North High School and subsequently the University of Minnesota with a BA in Economics and a Minor in Naval Sciethen served 2 years with Uncle Sam mostly in the far east. I was married in 1959 to Barbara Bradley and we "produced" three lovely children, Greet Vicki, and Susan aged 10 to 17. In 1962, I joined the Welander-Quist fill where Walter Quist and I shared many visits on the subject of gardening. He invited me to an MGCM meeting and I applied for membership, I believe in January 1964."

Jim has served the club as Director '72, Treasurer '73, and President '74 and on several committees. During his presidency he introduced the informal type of garden visits we call Mini-Tours. He has been with Independent Film Service since 1969 and currently is Vice President and General Manager. The firm does the physical storage and handling of theatre films distributed in Minnesota, eastern North & South Dakotas at western Wisconsin.

Responding to a final query Jim answered, "My current gardening interest are similar to those of my parents and grandparents—to attempt to creat an attractive setting for the family home and to tuck away a small but practical vegetable garden for the use of the family. Our son has built an attractive cedar Gazebo, mostly of fence posts, for our back yard and a modest pond of Oriental impression for goldfish, waterlilies and a fountain. The girls have been helpful in maintaining the flower border and vegetable garden."

That grandfather Perrin "wrought greater than he knew" for his enthusias for gardening has continued "even unto the third and the fourth generation"!

Have you heard the rumor? We're riding deluxe in Jefferson Lines air conditioned buses on the August tour.

"May 18, 1957. On this Saturday morning some fifteen of our members met at the Lyndale Gardens and planted 24 evergreens and 30 clematis vines is collaboration of our Eifteenth Birthday. The project was a success in ever

EDITOR'S NOTE: Many of us are inexperienced and incautious. More of us are so experienced we've grown careless. It well behooves us all to pay for a moment and think before using pesticides. Stan Crist in a recent Minnetonka MGC bulletin article based on the notes he took at a lecture by Mark Ascerno U. of M. Extension Entomologist provides a timely summar as follows:

PESTICIDES - THEIR USE AND MISUSE

READ THE LABEL. THEN FOLLOW DIRECTIONS CAREFULLY. This is the cardinal rule for the use of all pesticides.

It appears the time may not be far off when the average gardener will not be permitted to buy any but the least toxic pesticides, unless he has fireceived special instruction and then received a license to use pesticide. There already exist a multitude of regulations on the use of pesticides. Use of a pesticide in any manner not authorized on the label is a violat of law.

The basic premise to be kept in mind is that ALL PESTICIDES ARE POISONOL including organic pesticides. The term "pesticide" includes herbicides, insecticides, miticides, fungicides, rodenticides, and nematocides.

The law requires that the label on all pesticides must show the name, contents, registration number, ingredients, directions for use, and class contextoxicity. There are three classes of toxicity (indicated by labelling):

I - Skull & Crossbones - most toxic and dangerous

II - Warning appears on label
III - Caution appears on label

Chemically, commonly used pesticides are classified as follows:

Chlorinated Hydrocarbons (usually long life)

Examples: Chlordane (availability limited - under investigation)

Methoxychlor Thiodan

Organo-phosphates (generally have a short life)

Examples: Malathion Meta-Systox R

Diazinon Parathion (very dangerous)

<u>Carbamates</u> (break down rapidly, more toxic than chlorinated hydrocarbo Examples: Sevin Temik (very dangerous)

Botanicals (all very toxic)
Examples: Rotenone Pyrethrin Nicotine

When resistance to an insecticide is suspected, an alternate insecti<mark>cide should be selected from a different chemical group.</mark>

Pesticides are usually available in the following formulations:

EC - Emulsifiable concentrates
WP - Wettable powders
Granules (usually for soil application)
Baits (such as mesurol or metaldehyde for slugs)

Dusts Aerosols

continued over)

Phyto-toxicity is a term referring to susceptibility to damage to plants from use of pesticides. If in doubt about damage to plants, make a test on a few plants before spraying the entire lot.

Formulations vary in phyto-toxicity. Dusts, in general, are less phyt toxic than other formulations.

Temperature is also an important factor. The higher the temperature, the higher the chance of damage. Avoid all pesticide applications whe the temperature is over 85.

Moisture also plays a role. Plants are more susceptible to damage if wet.

Plant varieties also vary in their degree of susceptibility to damage.

Emulsifiable concentrates (EC) are more phyto-toxic than dusts or wettable powders (WP). However, EC generally last longer than WP.

Precautions: Cucurbits are easily damaged by EC.

Malathion will injure ferns.

Spraying problems

Timing is critical. Avoid spraying when plants are in blossom.

Residue. Be sure to observe waiting period indicated on label.

Local situations. Be sure to consider effect spray may have on other nearby plants. Avoid drift by spraying on a quiet day.

In general, spray when the wind is calm, when the temperature is under 85, and when the plants are dry. You will find that <u>early evening</u> mee these conditions best. Be sure to spray the underside of leaves, and the bottom part of plants. Use a fine spray and keep the nozzle a reasonable distance from the plants.

Handling, Safety & Storage

The most important rule is apply only as directed on the label.

Pesticides are absorbed in humans through the nose, mouth, and skin. Therefore, avoid inhalation. If any is spilled on your skin, wash off immediately. Wash hands thoroughly after mixing or spraying.

Buy only enough for one season's use. Store pesticides in their originabeled containers only. WP and dusts should be stored in a cool, dry place, out of sunlight. EC should be kept in a cool place, but not freezing, out of sunlight.

Do not reuse a container when it is empty. Dispose of it in the garba

SEVIN is probably one pesticide that the average home gardener will fi most useful. It provides very effective control (particularly good fo cabbage worms), and there is not a long waiting period before vegetable can be used after spraying. However, there is one thing to watch out for: Sevin is very toxic to honeybees, so do not use it when there are

SUMMER TOURS AMONG EARLIEST CLUB ACTIVITIES

by Bill Hull, historian

Our club started in May 1942 and just about the first activity was an August 22 summer tour of members' gardens in the Lake Minnetonka area, wives invited. Five gardens were visited, the tour ending at Upsher Smith's home, with its thousands of glads and dahlias. The meal cost 50c.

The tours continued regularly thereafter. In 1944, Herb Kahlert's "nervous prompting" made ten garden visitations per evening possible. Gardens visited included Ed Montgomery's and Walter Menzel's. Ed, noted for originality in gardening, showed visitors sweet potatoes, peanuts, apricots, beautiful perennials and brocolli "ready to cut". Walter's rock garden was delightful, his pool churning with hungry goldfish, a blooming lemon tree and glowing poinsettias. This was the first of three tours that year.

In 1945 we had a walking tour. Members took a Como Harriet streetcar to the Morningside of Jim Christman. There were at least two tours that year, included one to the Eloise Butler Wild Plant preserve, followed by an auction.

In 1946 we again had tours of nine and ten gardens, including that of G. Victor Lowrie, who lived on Aldrich Ave S., at that time. Vic's garden was described by Jack Cohen or Ed Montgomery, writing in Spray, as being "one of the best gardens we saw...sets a fine example for the rest of us...specializes in getting striking color throughout the summer months...close competitor to Harold Kaufmann with his excellent tool department."

In 1949 we were still being ramrodded by the great Herb Kahlert, seeing as many as ten gardens. When the national convention of MGCA was to be here (1949) Herb was general chairman and tours were on the agenda. A complicated judging system of all gardens on the tour was established, but apparently the tour didn't start soon enough in the day because all gardens were not visited and only 25% of the conventioneers participated. That convention with its 251 registered men (424 total) was said to be the largest up to that time.

Tours continued to be a major part of our activity. Year after year we have shared the pleasure of opening our garden gates to our friends. A few innovations were made. When I was either president or on the board, about 1966, we initiated the rented bus for transportation and started using DeLaria's chicken for food. The first time we rented busses, I remember because I arranged it, a bus cost us \$20. Chicken was about \$1.50 delivered. We've come a long way since those prices, much less that original 1942 tour meal which cost 50¢. But costs are minor factors. More important is the fun we still have, the gains we get from seeing how our friends handle problems and grow things successfully and, sometimes, remember how we had superb gardens when some of us had more time and energy.

Tours are one of our major activities. Try not to miss them.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER (from page 1)

generation group we give a resounding thank you from all of the club members. Thank yous are in order also for the devoted gardeners who turned up that Saturday morning.

Club members do not always get into the area where the garden is planted but those who participated in its creation should know that many, many citizens who have no gardens to enjoy make it a point to visit the garden daily and weekly. It provides a great alternative to a hot summer room in the shadow of the downtown skyscrapers. So many men do so much for so little by putting together this lovely little corner in the city. Special thanks go to our club members Archie Caple, Chairman, Darwin Price, Don Hardesty, Vern Carlson, Bob Livingston, Paul Lindstedt, Nate Siegel and Sherm Pinkham.

Now that summer is here and our spring flowers are bearing fruit, all of us are looking forward to the July and August tours. These tours are intended for club members and their families and also for any friends that they wish to bring. The July tour will have a bit of everything. We will be seeing one of the best displays of annuals at the home of Chuck King. We will meet Mr. Rose Grower of Minnesota in Ted LeBoutillie garden. A beautiful arrangement of perennials, annuals and vegetables wibe next at Jerry Shannon's, followed by a shade garden of cool delight at Fred Lang's. Just around the corner from Fred's, a neighbor, Dr. John Haas, has consented to let us visit his Japanese garden with fish pools, bonsai trees and shrubs designed in the Oriental manner. It will be a wide assortment of gardens. I have been told we are going to start with the Glasoes' garden, and this means you will see a partially kept, not completely weed-free back yard that is much enjoyed by a busy family. This garden was included so that the members could see that the club is not all pure perfection.

Food from DeLarias after the tour will feature their famous chicken and those good, good ribs that we all enjoyed last year. The spot is the new park building at Lake Nokomis on Minnehaha Parkway. The weather should not be a factor, since we can be either in the building or out. Our biggest hope is that all of our members will send in the reservations early and include a check for full payment. We must have an accurate bus count and we must be sure we have the right count for the food. Money and late reservations will not be accepted that weekend or that day. We want ever club member and guest, but be sure we have your return count and payment by Wednesday, July 13. Then, even the committee and the officers will enjoy the day. Be sure to bring friends and fellow gardeners and be assured they won't be disappointed.

-- Fred Glasoe

Albert Wilson a 1972 MGCA gold medal winner has a witty demonstration tal entitled "How to Prune Everything" which enlightens and delights audience He comes with a great bundle of cuttings. (He is an advocate of summer pruning) and snips as he chats. Sample advice and wit:

Lift the fruit off the spur. If you break off the spur that ends production. An apple spur should last 10 to 12 years...Prune suckers any time you see them; cut back side shoots in summer; top the whip in midsummer. "Waltz out in the summertime and take out the cross branches." In mid-July all plants finish their growth for the season.