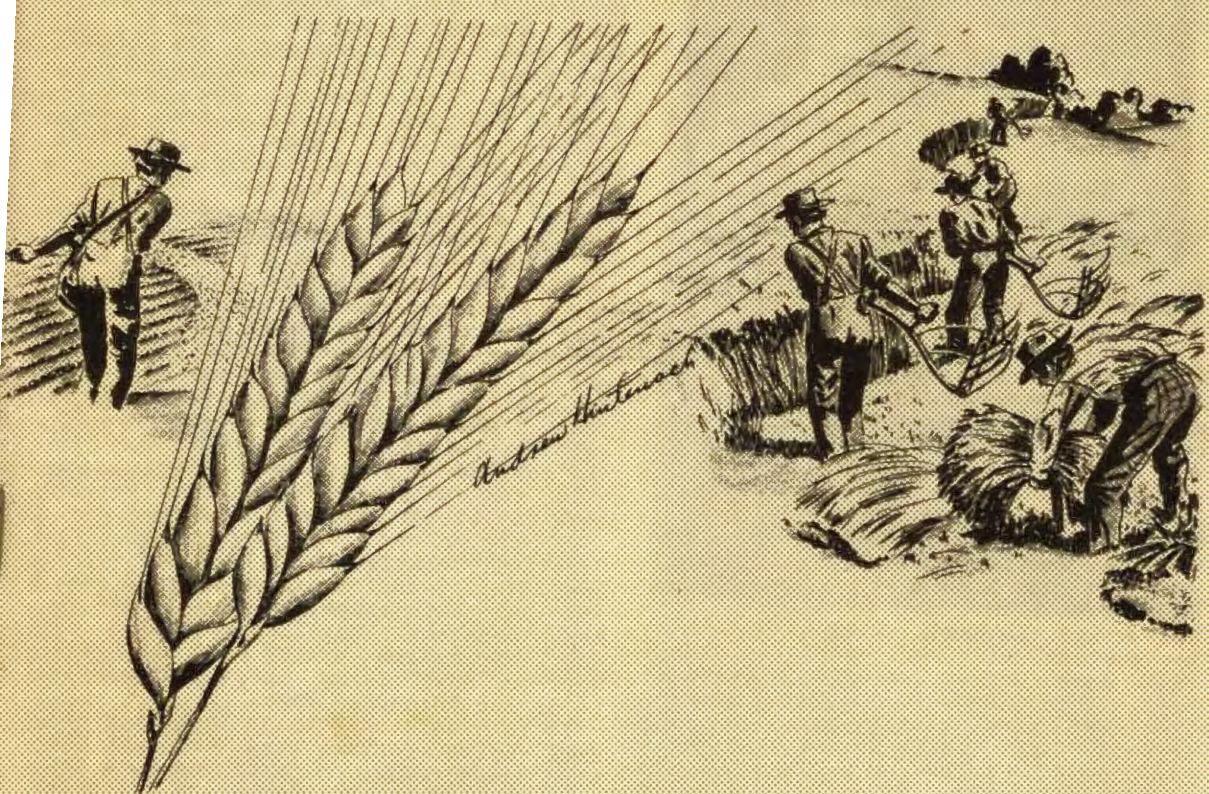


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# OZARK GARDENS



**A GARDEN MAGAZINE FULL OF PEOPLE**

**"HARVEST TIME"**



# Ozark Gardens

R.D. 1, BOX 227

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Published Monthly

## T. C. LEOPOLD

Editor and Publisher

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## EDITH BESTARD

Associate Editor

Eureka Springs, Arkansas 72632

ADVERTISING DEPT.

CAROLINE JOHNSTON



THE MILL HANDS

"Harvest Time"! Webster's Dictionary defines a harvest in these words. "To reap and gather, as a crop; to win, as a reward or gain from service or investment!" Three months ago the "Harvest Issue" of Ozark Gardens was but an idea, a dream, but you are holding in your hands a 40 page "Harvest Issue" of OG. I want to use three words that Webster mentioned and the first one is reward. This big issue is your reward, each subscriber, each contributor that has worked so hard. I could not begin to mention all you wonderful people that have worked so hard to bring OG back, this issue is dedicated to you. The next word is service. Each contributor that is in OG has done their very best to bring you a bigger OG and the Harvest Issue. To each contributor this is your reward for your service to OG. Investment, to each person that has renewed and given a gift subscription, or has invited a garden friend to join us, this is your reward for your investment. "Harvest Time" is also inventory time. Will our harvest last we thru the winter and spring months until we can plant and harvest again. Here I want to say Ozark Gardens harvest is bountiful, in fact I'm sorry that I had to leave so many wonderful articles out of this issue. I have a great number of informative and also entertaining columns coming your way starting next month.

Mrs. Hugh Campbell of Iowa, I have been waiting to resume our little talk. Now you didn't tell anyone what you and I talked about last month did you? Good

because now we will tell everyone about it. When I was after information many weeks ago for the harvest issue and was in touch with all the contributors, the more I talked with them, the more excited I became and often said to Mrs. Leopold I wish the readers really knew these wonderful people like we do. A few weeks ago we started a new column and contacted our first contributor for "Meet Our Contributor." You readers will be thrilled as I was to meet these wonderful people. Each contributor will be asked for their story, an autobiography. Now we realize that most people are against talking about themselves, but do trust that each one will let us meet them. Your Editor will not choose the contributors in order of their preference to him, but will choose them in different parts of the country. Our first contributor has been contacted for November. We will not tell you who it is, but let it be a surprise to you. I also realize it will be difficult for our first contributor to break the ice, so to speak, but trust will not hold out on us. It will be much easier for the rest from then on.

We are sorry to report that Mrs. Caroline Johnston has lost her loved one, Mr. Johnston passed away on Aug. 15, 1966 our sympathy is extended to Mrs. Johnston. Caroline Johnston is our information writer and is Ozark Gardens advertising agent. Her photo is on the Chit-Chat Page.

It is also disheartening to have heard from Edith Bestard that Verda Cox has also passed away. Many of you knew her from the Back to Eden which she published. I feel very good that I had the chance and privilege to write both Mrs. Cox and Mrs. Call before their death. I have letters from both and some day will print them for you to read.

Although your editor is a cactus fan, I would like to say my love of flowers or plant life does not stop here. We grow many varieties of flowers, you will see our large bed of petunias on the back cover this month. We are in constant search of new articles for you readers on all subjects of nature. I have searched for many weeks for someone to write on Succulents other than cacti, and this month we bring to you succulent only fans Mr. Lester E. Rothstein of New York City.



## NEWS FROM SPINY RIDGE



Edith Bestard  
Eureka Springs  
Ark. 72632

Trying to think of something to write for Ted's "Harvest Issue" of OG caused me to take stock of the results of the growing season just completed, with an eye to making plans for next year on the basis of successes and mistakes made this year.

Despite a trying six weeks in midsummer when no rain at all fell, the regular rains which followed restored everything to lush greenness and produced lovely flowers. The Texas bluebonnets, which had bloomed early, began again and are still a lake of blue. A few calendulas near them make such a pretty effect that I hope to find a spot where I can have calendulas in quantity grouped behind the bluebonnets. Many little plants of the latter are coming up now, and they will be husky and ready to go by spring.

For the first time, my yellow cleome (*C. lutea*) performed beautifully. Last year I had one plant, which bore so few blossoms that I did not gather any of the seed, hoping for volunteers. Three appeared last spring, and the late rains spurred them into luxurious growth, with numerous heads of golden flowers and an abundance of seed pods. I am going to plant them in a bed this fall where they will not be mixed with smaller varieties of plants, and they will be more showy. If anyone has the pink cleome with the enormous heads, I will be glad to exchange some seed, but please write first. I also have the purple variety.

The loveliest shrub in my yard this fall is undeniably the blue althea, blue bird, a patented plant which was put on the market about three years ago. It is simply loaded with large blossoms of a most heavenly shade of blue, and from the number of buds still developing, it will bloom until frost. It sets seed, but I have not been able to get it to germinate. If it is a hybrid, perhaps that is why.

My sunflower crop was quite satisfactory this summer. I grew the red, the Italian white, the double (and were they double), and the mammoth Russian. The birds have not left single seed except in some heads that I enclosed in cellophane bags. The little yellow finches adore sunflower seeds; one little bird sat on a head and regarded me quite defiantly from his beady black eyes, never moving even when I was close enough to touch him. Rather than try to deprive them of such desired tidbits, I just buy seed every spring.



Front of my home in winter time



Part of my cactus collection

How many of you are familiar with the very pretty wildflower called partridge pea? It is as pretty as anything you could have in your border. The foliage is fern-like, and the pure yellow flowers grow along the stems. They have dark stamens and five petals, one of which is cupped. The pods that follow contain small, hard seeds much relished by quail in winter. A row of partridge peas behind blue ageratum or torenia makes a pretty combination.

Several years ago I obtained some seed of wild pepper from a Texas lady who said the birds greatly relished them. They are very pretty plants, and the first year I kept the two that I grew in the greenhouse over winter, for fear of losing them. This summer they grew so well and are so loaded with small, pointed red peppers, that I will trust them to reseed. I have also, at last, started several vines of the "red gourd", or deer apple, *Ibervillea lindheimeri*, which I have wanted for so long, but I must confess, alas, that





MR. RAY WETHERBEE  
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Culver City, Calif. 90230  
RAY'S HALF ACRE RAMBLINGS

Here it is mid August again, and hot, and no rain to speak of for a long time. By keeping the sprinkler going every day and adding more mulch from the huge amounts of material grown on my place to hold the moisture, everything grows tremendously. I just recently clipped all the yellowing and dead leaves from the banana palms nearly surrounding the whole place, and by running them thru the shredder, they make nice feathery mulch. Before running them thru the shredder, I cut them into short pieces since they are so fibrous that they wind around the drum of mowing machine blades in the shredder and have to be unwound from time to time. Four-o'clocks grow rank all over the place and make more nice mulch. Since the avocado trees are evergreen, they shed their leaves throughout the year, so have to be raked off the garage and patio roof from time to time to sandwich in with the other mulch. When the avocado and some other trees extend their limbs too far over the garden they have to be cut off. The leafy twigs are shredded and the woody parts given to the trashman to haul to the dump. Most every kind of vegetation on the place, with the exception of citrus, berry and rose trimmings are used for mulch, as they are full of

thorns and sometimes have plant scale on them. Whenever the banana palms grow too numerous and have to be removed, I dig them out, cut the stumps off for the dump and split and bury the logs between the rows for the earthworms to work over into growing humus and fertilizer.

The fast-growing tall tomato plants are taller than I am on the rope-trellised bean poles and need pruning from time to time to keep from growing too many surplus branches. The tomatoes have to be picked nearly everyday, as do the summer squash and pole beans to supply natural-grown produce for the neighbors. Western Concord grapes are fast ripening and have picked a few figs from the "three-to-a-pint" Thompson trees. Of course the birds like them too, and after the birds peck on them the ants try to take over. Since I have been told the birds don't like to fly under the grape arbor, I spread old window screens over the tops. To keep most of the ants from the figs and other fruits, I put ant powder around



the base of the trees and trim off all leaves and twigs that touch trellis poles and wires. Leave it to an ant to find a "NEW" road into a fruit tree. The Chinese chestnut tree is full of burs, and a few walnuts setting on the black walnut tree. Have quite a few apples and pears, some of which will be used this winter. Last year the Ozark persimmon tree gave me ONE ripe fruit and I have seen TWO green ones on the tree so far this year. New raspberry





By Cactus Pappy  
114 Natal Way  
Vista, Calif.  
WESTERN NOTES

Last day of August, a real cool one, overcast, and with a cool wind. Sort of has the touch of autumn in it. We have had a fine summer although very little real warm weather. Now Labor Day, school then will start and the summer season is over. I've had a delightful summer. Many visitors, picnics, and garden club meetings all made it nice. The time goes past so fast, The Lord willing and the creek don't rise, I'll be eighty years young Oct. 4 but still going strong. I am always busy, so time never drags. Now I have promised a half day twice a week for the hobby department of the Vista Boys Club. Vista has built them a fine modern building and Sears gave them twenty five hundred dollars in tools, so it's a pleasure to go there and help out. Rev. Keith Fortner is in charge of the



crafts and it is indeed a pleasure to work with him. When I get too old that I can't be of some service to others, then I want to pass on. I will have the pleasure of speaking to the Rancho Santa Fe Garden Club in Oct. and am looking forward to a pleasant day of it.

Dahlias are on their way out and I'm gathering seed for next years plants. They have been so pretty that I hate to see them go. I've grown twenty-five plants of the Jerusalem Cherry, which is an ideal ornamental plant for Christmas and they should be full of those bright red pods at that time, I'm also growing some ornamental peppers that make nice pot plants. Butterfly bushes have been so pretty. Have separated the Iris and put out the new plants for next years bloom. Received six nice Japanese Iris from Marx Iris Farm in Oregon. They are so attractive and I like them very much. Jeane Cole of Santa Ana sent me some seed that came to her from Louisiana, called Forest Fire plants. They have red stems, red leaves and red flowers. They should make quite a splash in the garden next year.

I'm wanting either seed or a few plants of the Dictamnus or Gas plant. If any of you readers have it, please



write me. I'll either buy or trade. I can't find it here on the west coast. Several have told me that they had seen it back east. It comes in two colors, a rosy pink or white. I'd like some of each. If you have small plants I'd rather have them. Fuschias and coleus are a splash of color now and the plants in my shade house are sure putting on a show. I'll soon cover it with clear plastic, as sometimes we get a surprise frost here, so I'm always prepared.

My Echinopsis are still blooming and many of the echeverias are blooming too. Big Rose of Sharon bush on my patio is covered with pink blooms with wine colored centers. The hummingbirds love them. I'm sure looking forward to the Oct. issue, the special one that Ted is getting out, for I know it will be fine. So many people write me how happy they are to have the good Ole Ozark Gardens coming to them again. You all keep happy, Love the Lord, and remember, "To look to the sun, and the shadows will always be behind you. Mommie and I both send our love and best wishes to you all. Vya con Dios.





MARGARET DRAKE ELLIOTT  
1513 Nelson St.  
Muskegon, Mich. 49441  
Ag-Kaa-Noo-Ma-Ga-Qua

God must have loved a garden or He would not have placed Adam and Eve, our first parents, in one. Inherited or not, one cannot say, but within each of us there seems to be that instinctive affection for a garden and a desire to work as a partner with the Master Gardener in making green things grow.



As a small child I shared this affection and desire and lived in a small Michigan village where on our corner lot we had an extensive garden. After leaving for college and then marriage for almost twenty years, I had no garden of my own. Then in 1942 during World War II Victory gardens were the order of the day and rationing taught us how to use cheaper meat cuts, among other things. Herbs and seasonings to make these tasty and more palatable were not being imported, so to have them one must grow his own. It was from this war-time necessity that my herb garden came about. From 1942 to 1948 I had a small herb plot at 1582 Beach St., Muskegon and then buying our own home, we moved only one block and in April 1948 the Oasis Herb Garden came into being. Many of the perennials were transplanted from the old site which was really in a city street (but that is a story in itself.) After six years of experimentation with herb culture, I knew exactly what I wanted and set about to have it. The patch is small (kept that way so I can do all the work myself) but very adequate for our needs and those of our herb-loving friends.

Basically, now it is two levels and the length of it runs north and south at the east (back side) of the house (an old-fashioned summer cottage winterized for year around use.) The upper level is built around two wheels, one of thymes and the other of mints. About these is a figure 8 path. At the south is a moist area and a shady section, while at the north is a wide sunny



patch. There are border-like beds on the east and west. A few years ago this area proved too small and so I expanded the garden to the north adding about half as much, so now it runs across the entire back (east) side of the lot. This addition is four steps down from the old garden and at the north end it has a ground level bird bath with a statue of St. Francis so we



call it "The St. Francis Garden". Its pavement with thyme as a ground cover has a wide border with many of the perennials and it is here I usually have the annuals, marjoram, basil and summer savory. In these two sections, at last count, there were 67 different kinds of herbs, which is not bad for a city lot. Of course, of some there are only specimen plants, but for the most part this small garden supplies our needs both for kitchen and gardening.

In 1963, at the death of my father, the old home in Breckenridge was left to me and the first thing I wanted to do was renovate and renew the old gardens. For years I had read of Mary-Gardening and so in the summer of 1965 we placed a statue of Our Lady and dedicated the first portion of the renovated gardens to Mary, in memory of my two grandmothers, Mary and Margaret, for whom my cousin and I are named.

So, God placed man in a garden to dress it and to tend it, and in our gardens amid beauty and promise, we meet God face to face.





### THE FASCINATING WORLD OF HERBS

Above is a snapshot of my shipping department. Some might think one would have to go to elaborate preparation and a large outlay of cash to become a miller of crude botanical drugs, but this is not true. The machinery is nothing more than a huge electric hammermill with a number of various size screens.

The finishing screen is constructed of silk Georgette (same material that was fashionable in ladies dresses at one time.) The important factor in milling the crude drugs is to comply with the ruling of the Food and Drug Administration, and of course the proper identification of each botanical and its preparation is of the utmost importance.

I have been in the wholesale botanical drug business since 1924. We sell wholesale only to drug manufacturers throughout America and foreign countries. I list here just a few of the many medicinal roots, herbs, barks, berries, leaves, flowers, pollens and molds we sell in ton lots and up.

Aletris Root	Echinacea Root
Alfalfa Herb	Elder Berries
Adonis Root	Elder Bark
Agrimony Herb	Elder Leaves
Beth Root	Elder Flowers
Black Alder Bark	Fringtree Bark
Balm of Gilead Bud	Great Plantain Herb
Black Haw Bark	Gum Plant Herb
Blood Root	Gypsy Flower Root
Buffalo Herb	Golden Seal
Brier's Hip	Horse Chestnuts
Bull Nettle Root	Horse Chestnut Bark
Blue Flag Root	Horse Chestnut
Calamus Root	Leaves
Catnip Herb	Helonias Root
Cranesbill Root	Hounds Tongue Root
Crawl Grass	Horse Nettle Root
Devil's Shoestring	Hip Fruit
Root	Heaven Tree Leaves
Deer Tongue Leaves	Indian Turnip Root
Dandelion Root	Indian Elm Bark
Dandelion Leaves	Iris
Dogwood Bark	Jersey Tea Root
Knot Grass	Ragweed Herb
Knob Root	Rose Hips, Fruit
Lily of the Valley	Red Root
Root	Star Root
Lobelia Herb	Sumach Bark



Another shipment of Herbs for INDIANA BOTANIC GARDENS, Hammond, Indiana from

Dr. R. L. SANDERS  
Prairie Point, Miss.

I get hundreds of letters asking if they can obtain various herbs from me, but we do not sell retail. There are a number of retail houses where "Mary and John Doe" can obtain the herbs they might need, one in particular is Indiana Botanic Gardens, Box 5, Hammond, Indiana. This fine firm has been milling botanical drugs since 1910 and I consider them to be a fine retail outlet for fresh herbs of all kinds.

Licorice Root	Sumach Leaves
Mandrake Root	Sumach Berries
Milkweed Root	Sassafras Bark
Magnolia Bark	Sarsaparilla Root
Mistletoe Herb	Slippery Elm Bark
Mullein Leaves	Skunk Cabbage Root
Nettle Leaves	Snake Root, Va.
Nutmeg	Solomon Seal Root
Orange Peels, Sweet	Stillingia Root
Orange Peels, bitter	Serpentaria Root
Oregon Grape Root	Thyme Herb
Pleurisy Root	Twin Leaf Root
Prickly Ash Berries	Ulmus Fulva, Powder
Prickly Ash Bark	Unicorn Root
Pink Root	Va. Snake Root
Poke Root	Violet Leaves
Passion Flower	Vervain Herb
Herb	Water Cress
Plantain Herb	Wild Cherry Bark
Leaves	Wild Yam Root
Pine Needles	Wild Sunflower
Pitcher Plant Herb	Water Eryngo
Prunus Spinosa	Xanthoxylum Bark
Queen's Root	Yellow Dock Root
	Yellow Root
	Zea Mays



# MAE DEES

# BEAUTY FOR YOUR GARDEN

Mae Dees, Rt.1 Coldwater. Mo.63934

gorgeous  
azaleas  
in  
a brown  
pitcher  
adorn  
the  
pool  
→



Dorothy  
Perkins  
Rose  
Beside  
the gate  
→



Little  
Things!

wind  
break  
of  
blue  
goose  
plums  
→



Have you ever paused to figure out just how much each tiny bright spot in your little garden means to you? Just what does beauty in your garden mean? To me it means a lot of little things, achieved day by day, season by season, and the leisure to enjoy it all.

Take the problem of hot, dry winds blowing from the southwest. No amount of sprinkling could produce satisfactory results. The hot wind just drank up the water from the thirsty plants. Well once I put my mind to it, I did something about it. Down in the pasture a thicket of blue goose plums grew wild. "You aren't thinking of bringing that junk to your garden are you?" my husband said. Yes, I was thinking, but I did not set the little sprouts inside the fence, but just outside I planted a row of little switches. In just three years the young trees were loaded with the most fragrant, snowy white blossoms. The breezes make music among the willow branches and leave that strip of the garden moist and productive. As a wind break those plums are superb, not to mention the sour plums in July. Rows of sparkling jelly, delectable and pure, adorn my shelves and delight my family and friends. In the autumn I trim out any threatening sprouts and limbs and throw a few shovelful of chicken droppings under the trees. This wind break cost nothing, adds beauty and food for us and the birds and will last for the rest of our lives. Another delight is the pink rambler rose that came from my mother's garden. It has bloomed for twenty-five years beside my garden gate. Not only has it delighted me and everyone who sees it, but it makes a perfect home for nesting

birds. No cat or snake is brave enough to face all those thorns. There are two empty nests between rose and the wire netting right now. They are gold finches nests and, they come back each year. I hope I am a good grandmother. Take Elora and Gary Ward, my daughter's children.

"He's a pigweed grandma, if you watch him eat", Elora will say. "Well, just look at her", Gary retorts, "She's a Jimpson, all thorny and poison, that's for sure". But they both laugh and have lots of fun.

Every Mother's Day their father brings me a huge bouquet of azaleas, cut from a secret wooded place on one of his hillsides. I place them in a big brown pitcher and they grace the garden for days. They love it there by the little tub pool and the big crane and the azaleas make a picture in the blue water, too. My son-in-law is thoughtful and his mother and I look forward to our bouquets.

I also strive for contentment, which aids my beauty program. My husband loves all these beautiful things too, but I sometimes wonder if he wouldn't trade them all (except the grand children of course) for one big clump of red rhubarb. The rhubarb is not only beautiful but useful to keep him supplied with pies and cobblers. Oh, the world could all be so beautiful and filled with love if we all would just start with our own small gardens. A garden isn't a place to slave just for gain and to save money on the grocery bill, but for me the little garden and its activities is a wonderful way of life!



## Flower Ranch News

MRS. HATTIE H. DAVIDSON  
Rt. 1, Box 204  
West Palm Beach, Fla.



We are still enjoying lots of good showers, have not used any sprinklers this summer. Now if we could control the growth of plants and weeds all would be ideal. It is interesting to note how the various plants and trees react to excessive moisture. The bulb plants growing in the ground and not in pots are responding to the rain. Day lilies, which started blooming in May are about finished, but now and then a new bud will appear.

We have several specie of Ginger (Zingibar), all of which bloom rather indifferently throughout the summer season. Right now Queen Lily (*Curcuma petiolata*) has been having gorgeous flowers. Close in to the strap leaves from the base comes a fat spike with lavender tipped bracts, as these grow taller they spread out and in each notch appears a cream colored flower. These grow close and add new flowers until the whole spike is eight to ten inches high. It is very plump. In the past these flowers were only about half the size of the ones we have now, Wish I had more bulbs, only have a half dozen.

A few years ago I started some Montbretia from seed and each summer have had a few blooms. The plants have multiplied, not always producing flowers. This summer there are many flower stalks. But a former problem still persists. All flowers lean over, sometimes almost flat to the ground. I would like to improve this. I have added soil around the bulbs, even used small rocks to prop the plant but nothing seems to help. The bulbs are not

large, evidently they want to rest above the soil line. I'd like to hear about this from others who grow Montbretia. They are also known under the name of Tritonia and belong to the Iris group of bulbs.

While all things have grown excessively, some plants have not bloomed as usual. Only one of our many tropical fruits had fruit. That was the Eugenia dombeyi called Grumichama in its native Central America. Even the common Surinam (*Eugenia uniflora*), also called Florida cherry, failed to set any fruit and the blossoms were scarce too. Some of the other fruit trees bloomed but no fertilization took place. Perhaps some of the heavy rains accounted for that. We were disappointed that there were no Jacaranda or Poinciana blossoms. The trees are heavy with foliage. The Grape Myrtle (*Legerstroemia*) is in flower now, it is mid August. I recall last year, which was very dry, they were blooming in June and after clipping off the faded ones there were more flowers in July. A second bloom is always welcome.

In a question and answer column in our Sunday paper, someone wanted to know just how much water to give their plants. The answer to that was that individual things have different requirements. One must watch their plant and try to gage the need. Some can take it very dry while others prefer much water. Again we have to learn by experience. As I have written many times, it really pays to make notes in that garden note book. Hope you all have some kind of garden scrapbook at least.

I guess when I used to hand water with the hose, the potted bulbs got more water than they do from the rain. A lot of the rain, although it strikes the plant directly will run off the leaves and soak away without really getting close to the bulb itself. That might account for the lack of flowers on our potted *Eucomis*, *Amarcrinum*, *Agapanthus* and others growing in containers. There were no night blooming *Cereus* this summer either.

In the ground we grow Rain lilies (*Zephyranthud*), have three or four clumps, some deep pink and others are paler in color. These have been blooming more than usual. The Society Garlic (*Tulbaghia violacea*) has been so lovely. The lavender flowers on a frail stem stand up proudly in all kinds of weather. Then the edging plant, Lily Turf (*Liriope*) has had more blooms than other summers. They are very attractive in a small vase with some fern or delicate greenery.

The accompanying picture was taken about two years ago at our front door step. I am the one with the green thumb and my husband has the strong back.

When this number of O.G. comes out we hope to be in the Smokie Mountains of North Carolina enjoying our annual brief vacation.





Ethel B. Korn

## On the subject of Cacti

1 Box 87 Canon City, Colorado 81212

How our cactus garden came into being was to begin with a "just happened." There was no forethought or planning.

We had our first cactus in pots, two of them, which we had collected just outside our back yard when we lived in Arizona. One was a *Ferocactus* (barrel) small at time of collecting, the other a *Coryphantha Arizonica* (golf ball). Also in same vicinity we brought a small agave. These arrived with our household goods when we moved from Arizona to Canon City, Colo. in 1930. They were kept in pots for several years, wintering indoors. But one night I put too much faith in the lengthening of a beautiful Indian Summer, by morning they were very frozen.



met with a fatal "accident". While I was temporarily hospitalized they were set inside, but it was the outdoor cave and the door was left open. Consequently when I returned home, they too had frozen. But cactus seemed to stick to me somehow. My next venture was some *Opuntia polyacantha* which was then (pre herbicide days) plentiful on the high plains of Eastern Colo. A fishing trip to Gunnison on the western slope (of the Rockies) netted me a handful of small *Pedeocactus Simpsonii* var *minor*. Next, seeking some wild Iris on the Raton Pass between Trinidad and Raton, N. Mex., I located my first *Echinocereus veriflorus* (also the Iris.)

These names, at that time, were as foreign to me as if they had none at all, but somehow or other I heard about the Cactus and Succulent Journal and thru Mr. Haselton I had purchased three cactus books (my first book was a gift from my brother and wife. "What Kinda



Our next cactus did not appear on the scene until after the fateful Pearl Harbor. My eldest son was with the Marines at San Diego and to see him I journeyed to that city.

Nearby where I was staying was a wreck of a cactus garden. My old interest was renewed, and when I came upon a branch of *Opuntia subulata* on the sidewalk I was fascinated, it looked to me like nothing more than a huge green worm! Before I returned homeward I had added a triangular semi-clunbes and a spinless pad of *Opuntia* to the "worm." Later a variety of *Sclerocereus* joined the collection. They grew rapidly. Fortunately the house was large and since only myself and husband occupied it, I had no cause to feel "crowded". Then was when we moved to Las Animas, also in Colo. However, they

Cactus Izzat" by Reg Manning.) So I added Colorado Cacti, Texas Cactus and California Cactus.

About that time I received a letter from a man who lived in New Jersey requesting several different Colorado cactus that grew in southeastern Colo. Then came the crucial point, to read the descriptions and apply them to the different plants. It was pretty much like reading Chinese characters at first, but I stuck grimly to it and finally coupled up some names. *Opuntia polyacantha* *Refinesqui* and *Phaeacantha* as well as *Coryphantha vivipara* and *Echinocereus vividiflorus*. It was years before I stumbled onto *Echinocereus caepetosus*, though I'd walked and searched many miles. I had not yet learned to size up a cactus producing location.



# ACTUS Tidbits

T.C. Leopold-R.D. 1, Box 227  
Fairview, Pa. 16415



Welcome to the "Wonderful World of Cacti" for Sept. How did your hobby start? Mine started this way. Almost five years ago there was a family that lived near us and by reasons of their own was gently put out of their rented house at a very late hour one evening. It was early winter, no snow on the ground but the temperature was about 15 degrees above zero. After snug in our warm house and having gone to bed for the night, my wife said to me, I cannot sleep thinking of those children down the road, for they had no fire in the house and had but 1 hour to be out of their had been house. We did get out of bed and dress and out into the cold night to their house and returned with three of the ten children to our home.

The next day the parents brought a car load of flowers for us to keep a few days, at least that is what they said. The plants were of many different kinds. Begonias, Impatient plants and many others were present, but in this group was a little elephant made of pottery. Planted in this was an Epiphyllum or an Orchid Cactus. I was fascinated by this odd looking thing that grew long flat leaves. Why was it different, what was it, where did this woman ever find a plant like that? The other flowers grew well with my wifes care and love for plants. It was all new to me because in times past when Mrs. Leopold would report her flowers I would rather kid her and say "Honey" your wasting your time, why not do something better than fool with flowers.

Meanwhile back at the farm, as they say. This new cacti intrigued me as to why it did not look like other plants. This sent me to a seed catalog of which I never did look at and there I found cactus seed for sale. I thought where in the world did they ever get cactus seed from. My first packet of seed came and was planted, among these seeds

were some odd looking fellows to me, some black, brown, some flat. I thought maybe they made a mistake and gave me something else instead. But plant them I did, along with tomatoes, peppers, right in the same flat. The tomatoes came up first then the peppers and soon all that was left in my flat was the cacti seed, covered quite deep in the soil. After some weeks the first seed came thru the soil, my first thrill of cacti. Not all the seed came up and I did not understand why but now I know why, they were covered too deep and the only seed to come thru this treatment were some cereus and opuntia plants. I still have the first four plants that grew from seed, 3 cereus about 5 foot tall and one opuntia 3 foot high. The children?? Oh yes, I forgot, the parents came and took 2 of them after 3½ weeks and the last one after 3 months. The flowers?? Oh yes, five months after they had left them they came after them. I said er--ah,--lady,---we kept your flowers a long time, could I have the "Little Elephant" and the cactus plant please. After looking at it she said yes, just give me a leaf of it you may have the rest. I have not, even to this day, seen them since, I often wonder what they would say if I told them how their misfortune turned into a blessing for me. "Three Children", and a "Ceramic Elephant" starts a hobby, how did your hobby start???

Harvest time, is it all over for the year in cacti. Oh my no, as we approach the best holidays of the year our cacti have as much a part of it as the turkey for Thanksgiving and the tree at Christmas time. This is the time of year to prepare our Thanksgiving and Christmas cactus to bring an added thrill to our hobby besides what cactus fan ever had a Christmas without a full blooming Christmas cactus holding its flowers just as proud as any Christmas tree filled with lights and ornaments. You do not need to trim your Christmas cactus for Christmas, it will trim itself with flowers. How often we hear or read, I have had a Christmas Cactus for years and it has never bloomed, what is wrong? Often I will hear at a garden club, someone say, I must have a kind that does not bloom. This is not true of course, the reason is this. There is only one secret and that is light. The Christmas or Thanksgiving cactus is a short day plant. Now I can hear you say, what do you mean. We all know that the short daylight hours turns the double male flower of the tuberous begonia bloom into a single bloom, the short daylight hour causes the node on the leaves of trees to stop growing and showing the true colors of the leaves. The short daylight hours brings the fall mums into a bloom also. It also takes short daylight hours for your Christmas cactus to set buds. It must have more dark hours, than light hours in a day. If your cactus is still out of doors and you live in a frost area, place it indoors now, it



# We Hear By The Gourd Vine

BY: Fae Hecht  
27 New York Ave.  
Congers, N.Y. 10920



HARVEST INVENTORY

"You must have an enormous gourd garden; how large is your harvest?" These questions seem to pop up during every gourd discussion. Actually the size of a gourd garden isn't really important. For the gardener with limited space who employs a trellis can enjoy these cucurbits just as much as the farmer with acres at his disposal. Since I do not sell seeds or gourds, quantity does not interest me. It's the various species which intrigue me.

Living in the suburbs (but still quite rural) most of my property is landscaped, which doesn't leave too much of a large area in one place. So I've taken advantage of the layout and blended in the different gourd species wherever possible. The trellis (wood) framing my back entrance I reserve for the Lagenarias Long Handled Dipper and the Bottle. This can be seen from the street and draws many spectators. The wire fence which encloses my pet's playground (3 cats and a dog) has the large warted white pear of the Ornamentals on one side and Long Handled Dipper on the other. By August this fence is covered with the large elephant-ear leaves of the gourd vines, the Ornamental yellow and Lagenarias white flowers and of course the fruit of all shapes and sizes. And a more beautiful sight is hard to find. What had originally been planned as a grape arbor has become another gourd nook. But now that most of my trees have grown around it I find the sun disappearing and yet I manage to get quite a crop from this location. Here one finds an assortment of Ornamentals and Lagenarias. I usually get some of my best gourds right in the compost pile. This year the Sponge or Luffa gourd is rambling through its contents. Of course, the best location is in my vegetable garden. Very sunny and good soil because of my husbands tomatoes and vegetables. Grudgingly a portion of this "Fertile Crescent" was allotted me. The 10th Commandment or Crown gourd here is so far advanced that one would think the seeds had been sown earlier than the others. Not to take up too much room here (because I will be banished from



the garden next year) I made use of an old TV aerial. After running along the ground to the boundry, the vines climb up the TV pole.

In back of the garage the gourds really go to town. Since I have quite a large sunny section here, I don't bother to prune, just let the vines go wild. Another assortment of Ornamentals were tried here. A discarded flower bower also serves as a gourd bed. Several seeds which were sown a long side the house produced vines that are climbing up the chimney. Unlike the Ornamentals, the Lagenarias grow in one color only, light green. The yield from all these gourd beds varies each year. Some years as many as 200 are harvested, other years just 50.

## UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCES DAYS TO REMEMBER

Oh, to be in New England during Harvest Time. Pilgrims and Plymouth Rock come to life yearly at the Massachusetts Fall Flower Show in Boston. This event is sponsored by the Mass. Horticultural Society. In addition to the colorful display of fruits and vegetables the show features an outstanding Gourd exhibit. For it is in Boston that the Gourd Society of America met for many years. Their new headquarters are located in Elmwood, Mass. A member of the Gourd Society since 1948, and although my articles had been appearing in their publication since 1954, I had never met any of the members. My trip to Boston in Oct. 1964 not only afforded me the opportunity of meeting the members, but also enabled me to see a fabulous collection of gourds. The gourd exhibit was awarded first, second and special prizes.

Yes, there is a common bond among gardeners. I felt as if I had known them a lifetime. The surprise of the evening was a dinner where I was guest of honor in a restaurant in Boston's Back Bay section. Some of the members traveled about 30 miles to be present at this dinner. Until next month, bye for now, Fae Hecht.



**GOURDS** MRS. JOHN L. SPINKS, Sr.  
Route 2, Box 75  
Crockett, Texas 75835



Gourd show, Crockett, Texas. Mrs. John L. Spinks. Displaying Gourds.



Gourds in the breezeway of Mrs. Spinks.



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An assortment of Mrs. Spinks Gourds.



Longhorn Gourds growing.



Gourd used as a planter.



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### THE APPLE TREE

In spring she's like a shy and pink  
cheeked bride;  
A virgin, chaste and pure, arrayed in  
white.  
Her gown of blossoms scents the coun-  
tryside.  
But soon she changes to a dress of  
bright  
New green that hides the neavy limbs  
that now  
Begin to bend beneath the welcome  
weight  
Of fruit she cradles in each leafy  
bough.  
She is complete. She stands mature  
and straight.  
Too soon, cold days of fall make her  
aware  
Her fruit is gone, her branches are  
not green.  
She spreads her empty arms. There's  
nothing there.  
Then, gnarled and bent, she still  
remains serene  
And calmly waits for what the days  
may bring.  
She knows, for her, there is another  
spring.

Caroline McDougall

### OCTOBER

Frost on the ground, this morning,  
Better go get in the hay.  
Ol' Jack's sending a warning,  
"Winter's on the way."  
Shook down one last red apple;  
How about pie for dinner,  
Or maybe sauce with scrapple?  
(Lord, on that I'll not get thinner)  
Frost on the leaves of roses,  
The last bloom's in a black vase;  
The lovely ghost of Spring supposes  
It's bloom worthwhile, in any case.  
Cream is thick on soured milk,  
These chilly mornings, and the hens  
Enjoy the clabber, smooth as silk.  
I churn by the fire, just as day ends.

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## NOTICE



IF THERE IS AN X in THE BOX, your sub-  
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## BIRTHDAY CLUB

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OG's Birthday Club. Shower honorees  
with cards, letters or items of the  
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MRS. JAN SIMS, 12 Babbacombe Ave.,  
Otaki, New Zealand BD Oct. 26, 1902.  
Interested in seeds of all kinds, es-  
pecially cacti, mint USA stamps and  
salt and pepper shakers and pen pals.  
(EDI. note) This is our writer of Gar-  
dens Down Under; a BD card sent air  
mail is 25¢ takes 5 days, sea mail  
takes 30 days.

CACTUS PAPPY, 114 Natal Way, Vista,  
Calif. 92083 BD Oct. 4. (EDI note)  
This is our writer on Page 5. We un-  
derstand Pappy will be 80 years young.  
Loves everyone and all of nature.

MRS. GERTRUDE STRUBE, 43 South State  
Street, Apt. 3, Painesville, Ohio  
44077. BD Oct. 27, 1903. I am a re-  
tired telephone operator, have been  
retired two years on Nov. 4, 1966. My  
hobbies are sewing and knitting for my  
nine grandchildren, birds and raising  
house plants.

ANNA R. HEIDE, 4943 S.E. 104, Portland  
Ore. 97266 BD Oct. 31, 1905. "The  
Goblins done brought me." Any more  
Goblins around? Hobby is cactus and  
succulents, geraniums of all kinds, es-  
pecially dwarf geraniums. Also fuschias  
and mums.

MRS. FLORENCE MUELLER, 111 E. Circle  
Dr., Jefferson City, Mo. 65101 BD Oct  
20, 1907. Interested in perennials  
with a few annuals mixed in. I also  
like house plants, have mostly African  
Violets. I love your magazine and  
read it immediately when it arrives. I  
like the birthday club idea, as people  
love to get mail. Guess we won't any  
of us get so bored or so far ahead in  
life that we won't like to get letters

MRS. JOHNNY BOURBOIS, 3419 Kinkaid,  
Houston, Tex. 77016 BD Oct. 9. My  
hobby is cacti and succulents, es-  
pecially variegated plants. Raise  
many, many cacti and other plants,  
trees and shrubs from seed.

MRS. MARY HULTS, Rt. 2, Box 181, Steph-  
enville, Tex. 76401 BD Oct. 2, 1897.  
Hobbies are house plants, cactus, rug  
making and fishing.

MRS. D. KLASSEN, Box 277, Carlsbad,  
Tex. 76934 BD Oct. 15, 1908. Will  
trade cactus seeds for Gold Bond Trad-  
ing Stamps. Also have view cards to  
send for G.B. stamps.

MRS. ZEPHIRIN VACHON, RR4, Powasson,  
Ont., Canada BD Sept. 26, 1899. Will  
exchange post marks view cards and  
stamps. Love to read and write. Love  
flowers and gardens. Would like pen  
pals, will answer all.



## HILLSIDE FLOWERS

Ruby Gold, P.O. Box 1034  
Basalt, Colo. 81621

The temperature got down to 40 today but the sun is shining so it will warm up in a hurry. It is with a sad heart that I must report we have had an infestation of earwigs and grasshoppers. So there will be no seed of the Rose-dawn or Grandma's flowers. Hate to use spray because of the birds. We will refund all money on the orders and will wait and see if we can get rid of the bugs. Do any of the readers know what to do? The Hollyhocks are blooming so very beautifully even if the grasshoppers have stripped the leaves. The Zinnias and Marigolds are so bright and the pink Pentstemon is doing so good. Our border of Castor Bean plants are high so will use them next year to hide the fence. We have one large sunflower left as there has been a bug on the rest of them. We sprayed the big one to try and save some seed. Last year we had sunflowers 1 foot in diameter. The hot, dry summer accounts for the bugs, I think.

Want to tell you that on our trip we found 34 different types of wildflowers. Some were breathtakingly beautiful. We all agreed He is the Best Gardener. Received a copy of Fragments of Life, Random Thoughts, The Twelfth Christmas, one book by Ora Jane Meens. These books sell for \$2 and we are using this means for helping our library fund.

My hands can spade the fertile soil  
There are seeds that I can sow.  
But rain and sunshine they must have  
God alone can make them grow.

Permission to be reprinted by Ora  
Jane Meens

Mae dees con'd from page 8



What does it take to make a beautiful garden? to me it takes color, life, contentment, leisure to enjoy it... My grand children are the greatest adornments, flowers, "He's a pigweed" Elora says. "She's a Jimpson; poison and full of thorns". Gary retorts but they have fun...

Harvest Time October 1966



"DOWN THE ROAD FROM MY HOUSE"

J.H. O'Brien

Past my house runs a pretty white rock road, down the old railroad grade through peaceful valleys and past beautiful green hills. There's beauty all the way.

Some early fall flowers were still blooming. The soft pink of the mint or bee balm, the sky blue of chickory and the snow white Queen Anne's Lace blending in. The pleasing yellow of the locust plant and the more changing color of the red clover. Once in a while a wild sunflower head appears, which the wild finch's cling to, even to the last seed. The more changing pink of different milk weed, the darker orange of the butterfly-weed, the dark purple blossom of the iron weed, the soft pink glow of the thistle, the spikes of blue vervena (Verbena), and in the open spaces the dark orange fringe of goldenrod, asters blue, purple pink and white making a soft carpet over hill and stretches away in the distance. Squirrels leap and play in branches overhead, rabbits dart in and out. Just as I crossed the creek and climbed up the bank, a covey of quails that had darted out of sight a few minutes before took flight from a clump of hazels near the creek. Many birds fluttered in the branches overhead. The sunlight filtered through the oak leaves touching the quail's color until they disappeared in the distance.

There before me under a mild evening sky stretched the tall joint blue-stem grass making a blue mist on the hillside. The morning chill had vanished, the afternoon had become warm. On the crest or higher part of the ridge my view was obscured by the oak forest. Soon a small clearing gave me a view of the valley below.

The fields, meadows and woods in patches appeared to be patchwork on a quilt. The breeze came in great waves over the fields of yellow corn, their tassels bending and nodding as if to say, "good evening." The valley lying between green and gold hills, their sides covered with woodland treasures. There were brilliant colors of autumn on the Sumac and Aspen, the wheat stubble are still brown, the woods russet. The whole world seemed to be tinged with a smoky blue haze which is always found in this part of the world at this -15-time of the year.



My reward for sending the "bits and pieces" to New Jersey was a box full of cactus, all of them hardy! I was in my lament for sure. (I still have many of those plants, although it is something like 25 years.) A trip down thru Texas then west to Tucson, Ariz. added a few but not for the garden. The pots began to appear on the window sill, cuttings of the other succulents joined them.

Mrs. Nipper of Chester, Ill. sent me a gift subscription to Cactus Digest, much to my delight. I began to think I was learning "all about cactus" (Hah! such conceit!)

Then one day the editor of our weekly (Las Animas) newspaper requested an interview, as he had heard about my queer hobby. I posed holding a potted "monkey tree" (anyone want a 7 foot monkey tree?) and both the photo and the story were featured on the front page. The editor ended the write up with the remark that I had a hobby that could easily pay off in cash. I was at once startled and thoughtful, for by then I had a flourishing winter hardy cactus garden. True, I still stumbled over identifications of the most common varieties. By the following summer I decided to give it a try and advertise in a popular bulletin which brought a number of inquiries. So I made up a list and had it mimeographed. One could probably make more errors, but I have my doubts! Whereas the gal that did the mimeographing added to them. Even then I had few more sales than I had ever dreamed. So I added a few more species and made up a longer list the next year. However, the mimeographer made even a worse mess of it than the previous year, so in desperation I went to the newspaper office. The editor agreed the job was "a mess" and so arrangements were made for a printed list. Any errors on that one was absolutely my own!

That was the summer I received some neobessyas. Somewhat dismayed, later I discovered I had used them instead of the Coryphanthas! Even now I sometimes have to study those two plants. In blossom or fruit there is no comparison but as young plants it not only can but did stump an expert. As I sent some to the New Jersey Cactiphile, now living in Las Vegas, Nevada, last summer who has made a speciality of neobessyas and it was some weeks before he was satisfied the plants were indeed neobessyas. My business grew, doubled, tripled and would do it over again if I made a real job of advertising. But actually I'd as soon quit as not, and one of these days I may just do that.

I still turn to my books, of which I have quite a library, as well as stacks upon stacks of journals. Thought I could just drop the Cactus & Succulent Journal of America this year, but eventually I had to admit it was like

losing my favorite garden tools. I still take the Cactus Digest.

Writing about these prickly things started when the editor of Cactus Points, but before that name was decided upon, suggested I could do so. How many years ago? Well, quite a few! I count my friends from coast to coast and foreign countries also. Quite a few have come here, too. And for the most part has been a pleasant experience but I won't forget the lady from an eastern state that stopped loaded up with plants and cuttings. Then to my astonishment loaded up herself, left, no thanks even. I sometimes wonder "did she enjoy them?" Afraid I would not.

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#### Cactus Tidbits cont'd from page 11

will not tolerate any frost. If your plant is growing and appears healthy, do not repot it. Now would you like it to bloom for Christmas? Check it for insects, give it a drink, place in a cool room if possible where it will not receive any artificial light what so ever. This is a must, no light other than the normal light from the out of doors that might come thru a window. It takes at least 8 weeks and sometimes 10 weeks for it to set buds. The dark hours each night, must not be broken, or it will delay the setting of buds. It is known that if a flashlight is flashed on the plant for even a minute it will delay it in setting buds. Place your plants in a protected area by Oct. 15 to have it in bloom for Christmas. More next month on this.

Mary Gnadl of Alma, Kan. wrote in last month saying she treats her cacti in this manner to keep them free of root mealybugs. She repots everything in Sept. and places a small moth crystal in the bottom of each pot, but in plastic pots be sure it does not touch the plastic or it will melt a hole in it. In the spring she inserts another crystal in the pots not going outside for the summer. Do you have a favorite way to do things? Send it in.

Mr. Harry Barwick and his son stopped in to see us a few weeks back. It was good to meet them both. Mr. Barwick is the Editor of The Little Cactus Corner.

Remember now to give your cactus full sun and decrease the watering. Will talk next month on watering of your plants thru the winter and more on care of the Christmas Cactus. Until next month, bye for now.

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# Lily Lore

Mrs. David R. Birch  
548 N. Rosedale  
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74127

Lilies are really catching on in our town and in the nation, witness the tons of bulbs sold each season. A trip to a national lily show can be a revealing experience. One never dreamed such beauty existed and each year adds to the varieties. The hybrids steal the show and they are so easy. Any average gardener can raise them. In fact, growers strive to produce and sell the varieties that will grow in Mr. Anybodys garden. The show at Worcester, Mass. this year produced about the usual number of new ones, but it seems they were unusually good. I wish I could pass around my collection of color slides. They would make "fans" of each of you. For the present we will look forward to someday growing them. It takes awhile before those show room Queens reach the catalogs. Stocks must be built up. If possible to attend a lily show. Among imported bulbs, I can sometimes find a specie not commonly grown here because of its critical requirements. If it isn't dissected to the point of extinction I buy it, and after soaking in laundry bleach then a solution of a complete fertilizer until it is as plump as I can expect, I then scale it right down to the basal plate and plant scales. (See last issue of OG for directions.) In about three, sometimes four years, it comes into bloom. These are very beautiful and exotic, but not for the young who want results now, if not sooner.

Many of my young friends are sold on container growing and they plant all sorts of things in pots including lilies. One enterprising young man sinks a large, empty pot in the ground and then when he has anything in bloom he removes the pot and drops in the potted, blooming plant. When it fades he removes it and replaces the empty one until he has something else to show. He really works at having blooming plants in that spot throughout the season. The evergreen in back provides a fine backdrop. I have practiced this mode of gardening on a small scale, with lilies mostly. This allows one to have one or a group of them blooming in one location for the entire season. I usually remove a pot and plant bulbs in the cutting garden, potting fresh bulbs each season. I never force a bulb the second time.

Here is a forcing schedule for mid-century lilies, which Mr. Jan De Graaff so kindly permits me to use.

<u>Pot Date</u>	<u>Approx. Flower Date</u>
Nov. 25	Feb. 15
Dec. 10	Mar. 1
Jan. 1	Mar. 16
Jan. 15	Mar. 28
Feb. 1	Apr. 12
Feb. 15	Apr. 24
Feb. 26	May 4

Harvest Time October 1966



Mar. 15	May 20
Apr. 1	June 5

Bulbs are pre cooled and can be potted immediately and begin forcing at 55 degrees fahrenheit by night, 60 degrees fahrenheit minimum by day. Suggested varieties: Enchantment, Cinabar, Joan Evans, Harmony, Croesus and Destiny.

Color range: from pale yellow to blazing orange.

Size: all sizes force well but the larger bulbs give a higher bud count. Five to six inch is normal size for pots. Four to five inch size is suitable for flats or benches or put three in a six inch pot.

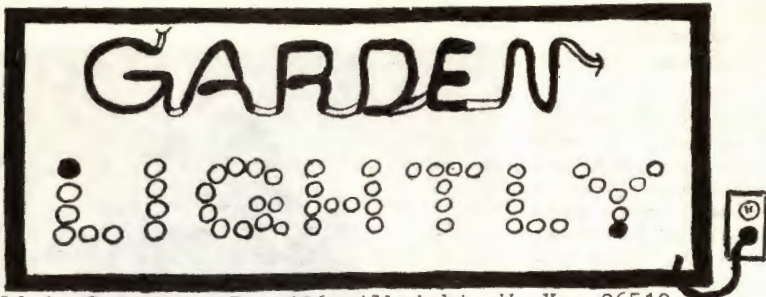
At Alfred Univ., Alfred, N.Y. the 8 hour daylight lilies were shorter, more compact than those given normal length days.

Soil must be porous. 1" of gravel in bottom of pot, fill pot  $\frac{1}{2}$  full of soil mix (two parts sandy loam, two parts leaf mold or peat, one part sand) place bulb and spread roots naturally, it will have live roots if it is grown by our own specialists, then finish filling with soil mix, water thoroughly.

Fertilizer: When roots are active, feed with nitrogen, repeat in ten days. After another ten days feed with a complete fertilizer. Continue this feeding cycle until buds clear. Uniform watering is important, excess water causes roots to rot.

A regular control program for fungus and aphids is better than trying to rid planting of these pests once they get a start.





Gerald A. Sausaman, Box 126, Albright, W. Va. 26519

The autumn season is a busy one for those who garden under fluorescent lights. A period of planning, selecting, and placing. This is when those large garden-grown specimen house plant must move indoors once again and take up their winter quarters under the lights. Some of them have become so ungainly that for the sake of space and its limitations, you will by necessity have to root a few small cuttings. It seems heartless to discard those beautiful big plants, but the newly started ones will soon become a well shaped and vigorous replacement.

Let me say one word of caution that may save you work or prevent failure this winter. Be very, very careful to select only clean and healthy cuttings that are free from those common garden pests such as mealy bug, white fly, aphids, etc. If you find a few present, carefully wash the foliage with a weak, slightly-warm detergent solution or use one of the many garden sprays available at your local garden center. If you are not diligent about this now, you may become pest-ridden indoors this winter, and it will be more difficult to fight them in close quarters.

The approaching winter season will provide many of us with more free time to spend working over our lighthouse benches. Perhaps now is the time to dig out those seed catalogs and order some exotic seeds that will make an interesting project to brighten those bleak, cold months ahead.

Also it is not too early to plan ahead for the space you will need to start those perennials and annuals for next spring. Remember that many of these will need to be started soon after the new year, and a busy holiday season is only a few short months away.

Another thought for those with light gardens is the use of fast-growing and bright-blooming annuals that can be pot-grown this winter. They will provide lovely color and fragrance for the holiday season. Have you tried petunias, ageratum, or marigolds as a winter pot plant? The decorative possibilities are endless.

Fascinating and delicious too would be a few lettuce plants or "Tiny Tim" tomatoes to give those salads a garden fresh flavor this winter. An interesting article appeared in the August 18, 1966 issue of Florist Review. This informative article pictured and de-

scribed the use of artificial lights in Alaska for growing winter crop of tomatoes, cucumbers and other fresh vegetables. Since the freight is expensive and the shipping time is long for importing these foods, it has proven more economical for the 49th state to produce these crops in lighthouses for themselves. We so often think of light gardens as places for ornamental plants alone. This is not the case at all.



A pale lavender bloom of the species Achimenes Andrieuxii.

Space is a most important factor when planning your winter light garden. Remember that one 48 inch fluorescent tube will provide you with a growing area 12 to 14 inches wide and four feet long. That is not a great deal of space per lamp, so plan carefully.

It is amazing how fast your light space will fill up with plants gathered from their summer porch and garden spots. Try not to crowd them too closely as they will need space in which to grow this winter. When they are overcrowded, air circulation is reduced and thus mildew or other miseries may become troublesome. Also over crowded plants rarely become shapely specimens and more often become lanky and top heavy due to the dropping of lower leaves that do not receive enough light.

An interesting experiment, that you might enjoy trying, is one concerned with how to house extremely large, well shaped plants for the winter. Growers have found this difficult with only overhead lights. The beautiful plants soon become all tops and lose that lush look acquired during the bright



# GESNERIADS ALORE



Robert L. Shatzer  
Box 126  
Albright, W. Va. 26519

As I went around watering plants this evening, I noticed that *Columnnea* "Betty Stoehr" had two big, red blooms on it. This is one of the more everblooming columnneas and a most beautiful deep red. That brought to my mind the fact that we had not talked about columnneas in this column yet at all. Are you growing any of them? If not, I think you would enjoy them.

Basically there are columnneas which grow in two different fashions--upright and hanging. For the gardener who wants a plant in a hanging pot, a columnnea is a wonderful choice, especially one of the newer hybrids which are ever blooming. The upright growers can be kept out back and will still bloom very well. I have often been told that columnneas like to be allowed to get very dry before watering but I do not agree with this idea. My experience has shown that they prefer to be kept evenly moist.

In tropical America there are over one hundred species of these interesting plants. There they are evergreen and grow both erect and as vining plants. The name *Columnnea* was given to the genus in 1753 in Linnaeus' *Species Plantarum*.

Columnneas have become more popular in recent years due to the many introductions of hybrids by Dr. Robert E. Lee of Cornell University that will bloom very easily in home conditions. Research has shown that many of the columnneas will bloom at less humidity than many other gesneriads and African Violets. Since many of us have a dry-air problem in modern homes with forced-air central heat, these can be ideal window sill subjects.

The columnnea plant produces a seed pod that resembles a white berry. I often think it reminds me of a moth ball. Many growers think these seed capsules are as much of a reward to view as the blooms were. It is unique among the gesneriad family and does cause conversation.

In the native habitat of these plants they grow on trees rather like orchids. This is an important point to consider culture-wise. The columnnea MUST have good drainage and must not sit bogged down in water. They enjoy making their home on a tray of moist vermiculite or

gravel as most gesneriads do. The soil mix should be of a looser consistency than the mix you use for your African Violets. They enjoy being pot-bound and generally produce better blooms oftener if they are pot-bound. Regular fertilizing normally produces better plants. They like a warm place with one exception. Many of the species prefer a cool spell in the mid-winter months. This seems to be necessary to bring them into bloom. One word of caution though. Drastic temperature changes or being allowed to become too dry will cause the plant to defoliate and sometimes cause death.

The columnnea propagates extremely easily from tip cuttings. They may be rooted in vermiculite or most other rooting mediums. For me they seem to root best in Perlite. Cuttings taken in spring that are grown in good summer conditions often bloom the following autumn.

I have had better luck bringing the cultivars into bloom than I have the species. I have listed and described below some of the cultivars which I have particularly enjoyed.



The handsome miniature that we talked about last month, "Dollbaby."

"Anna C.", a hybrid, which was created by Michael J. Kartuz, that blooms a dark crimson and is a trailing variety.

"Campus Favorite", one of the Cornell hybrids, which is an erect grower with flowers of deep-red and a yellow band around the margin of the lobes.





Your Editor and last years Gourds, Squash.



From "GARDENS DOWN UNDER" Mrs. Jan Sims  
12 Babbacombe Ave. Otaki, New Zealand



Little Flower holding up some Gourds.



Ozark Gardens office and typist,  
Miss Virginia Williams.



"Little Flower"sav's "HI" to EVERYONE!



Part of Caroline Johnstons' Garden





We would like to introduce Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Hintenach. It is with pride that we have Mr. Hintenach's work to use on our front cover of Ozark Gardens. Mrs. Hintenach does the research work for the era in which all sketches are drawn for. Mr. and Mrs. Hintenach are also great lovers of Birds. We want to say Thank You, from all the READERS!



Ozark Gardens information writer,  
Caroline Johnston, Richmond Hill, N.Y.

Our Printer, Mr. and Mrs. Roger Kruse





Rev. Thomas R. Rowett  
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## THE COUNTRY PARSON

"A man's life consisteth not in the abundance of things which he possesseth." Luke 12:15

Harvest time is a wonderful and exciting season of the year. A few days ago after I just had finished putting in hay my wife said, "It is kind of fun to be like the squirrels in preparing for winter." Indeed there is a good feeling when you are in readiness for that season when the good earth takes its rest from producing the essentials which sustain life. However, a serious danger lies in believing that the gathering together of only "things" is adequate provision for life. Our meditation verse is a principle stated by Jesus immediately preceding a meaningful story told by Him. The story is of a rich farmer, who after a bountiful harvest said, "I will pull down my barns, and build greater... And I will say to my soul....take thine ease, eat, drink and be merry." This man's problem was not in building bigger barns but the attitude and purpose with which he did it. As we consider his mistaken logic, may we examine our own life's motives. It is still true that "the wise man learns from the mistakes of others."

The rich farmer thought that material blessing would bring life. Is this true? We may find the answer by a quick glance at the world today. We in the free world are enjoying a standard of living probably higher than any generation before. We have surrounded ourselves with push buttons and labor saving devices of all kinds. Only a fool would not admit that some benefits are derived from these things (I for one should not want to return entirely to the "good old days"). However, with all our "things" we are mostly too busy making a living to actually live. While on one hand life expectancy is increased, on the other hand more young

people die with heart attacks, the toll of pressures of the day. Is there a solution? There surely is. Life comes not through the collection of things but through a relationship to a person, Jesus Christ. He Himself said, "I am the way, the truth and the life." (John 14:6) In I John 5:12 it is stated this way, "He that hath the Son hath life and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life." Life is defined as right existence and right existence can be possible only as we are right in our relationship with God. Things of this world will pass away but God is eternal.

A further mistake made by this man was his belief that wealth would bring happiness—"eat, drink, and be merry." Without a doubt there is a degree of enjoyment in financial security and the pleasurable things that money can buy. However, this "joy" is very limited in duration as well as quality. Note how a child will beg for a particular toy and then after he gets it will lose interest in it after a while. So in the adult world that automobile which seemed so wonderful when it was shiny and new loses its attraction after it is driven a few months. Or that dress that was so "darling" when purchased soon goes out of style and the owner is back to saying, "I don't have anything to wear." Because material things are temporary, the satisfaction they offer is temporary. One must look for enduring qualities, then if he is to find an enduring joy. In light of this Jesus said, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you." This puts the emphasis in the right place—eternal matters first, things secondary. Actually happiness in not a goal to be sought but a by-product of reaching higher goals. Righteousness or holy loving when achieved through union with Christ produces a deep settled joy and peace that cannot be compared with the shallow merriment of this world. A proper relationship with Christ will evidence itself in a proper attitude to others. For instance it is not difficult to love your neighbor and express that love. The rich farmer would have been much happier if he had shared his abundance with someone in need rather than building bigger barns with a selfish purpose. Jesus was not exaggerating when He said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

If material things cannot give life or happiness are they wrong? No, not in themselves. But in our day when materialism is a good more popular than idols of wood and stone, it would be well for us to remember "life consisteth not in the abundance of things" because "man shall not live by bread alone."



days of summer. A similar distortion is noticeable in window sill plants that become one sided in an effort to absorb the side only sunlight.

Several light gardeners are experimenting now with the use of both top and side lighting in an attempt to conserve these larger subjects. It is an intriguing idea and a pioneer area in research. I hope to soon have some more details and facts about their findings.

Those tiny cuttings, that you have so carefully selected, can be rooted by a number of easy methods. Flats of vermiculite, perlite, or sterilized soil mix are probably the most commonly used methods. A helpful hint, to those who wish to root the more difficult types, is the use of plastic bags filled with a few inches of moist rooting medium. Insert the cuttings, blow into the bag filling it with air, and seal it firmly. These tiny plastic greenhouses can be pinched, clothes pinned to the edges of your light reflectors, or set along the edges of your fluorescent light benches.

If you have a large amount of rooting to be done, a specially designed propagation table would be the best answer. Equip this with thermostatically controlled heating cable. Cover the cable with several inches of saw dust or similar medium before spreading your layer of rooting mix. Suspend your lamps above on pulleys and chain for flexibility. Bottom heat will speed up the rooting time greatly. Do be careful that your cable is thermostatically controlled however. Many people have baked their cuttings or seedlings by not taking this precaution.

Seed germination under lights is a subject large enough to devote more than a paragraph so I will gather some notes on this procedure and devote a future column to this alone. Seeds vary in size from powder-like begonia seed to large, weighty types and thus must each be sown and handled in its own particular way. Some seed germinate in the light while others prefer to germinate in the dark. This season is a seed gathering one, as well as a seed planting one.

This month is for planning, selecting and placing. Planning never really stops with an inspired gardener. Selection is by nature a heartless decision. Placing and arranging can be for pure utilitarian purposes or where your artistic flair has its full vent. Use your month well and be rewarded with a cheerful winter of foliage and flashing color.

#### RECOMMENDED READING

Several articles have appeared in recent months that are of significance to the Garden Lightly reader. It is

not possible to read and review all the horticultural books and magazines which appear every month, however, I will do my best to bring to your attention what I find. Please write me about any material you find that would be of interest to the light gardeners reading this column.

I have received many questions concerning what commercial lamp or product is the best for use in a light garden and this question is without a cut and dried answer. Much is being done now, however, in this field of comparative study. The past months have seen the appearance of two reports on the subject.

The July/August issue of the Indoor Light Gardening Society's NEWS carries an interesting group of reports in Barbara Walker's Research Director's column. She describes and quotes from reports provided by Dr. Robert C. Foster, Botanist and Bibliographer of the Gray Herbarium, Harvard University; Dr. James E. Halpin, Associate Professor, Dept. of Botany and Bacteriology, Clemson University; and Klaus Neubner, Director of Research for Park Seed Co. These learned gentlemen have much to tell us about the various fluorescent tubes available and the plants that will or will not respond successfully when grown under them. Copies of this issue of the bulletin are available from the Society at fifty cents a copy. See their advertisement in this issue.

Another comparative study is fully reported by Ernest E. Heise in his article, "Experiment with Light," appearing in the July/August issue of the Gloxinian. Copies of this publication may be purchased from the American Gloxinia and Gesneriad Society, Secretary, Mrs. Diantha Buell, Eastford, Conn. 06242.

After reading these helpful reports of research projects, perhaps you will be stimulated to organize and plan a comparative study of your own. Your experiments and the results would make interesting reading in this column. Let me hear from you about them.

My timer tells me that I had best talk fast for the lights are about to go off on the Garden Lightly column for this month. I do want to thank all of you for your notes and cards during my recent hospital stay and convalescence. They certainly brightened my dim spirits and brought the warm light of fellowship into my heart. A very special GLOWING thanks to each and all of you.

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JOIN THE NEW SOCIETY FOR THOSE WHO GROW UNDER LIGHTS. SEED FUND! ROUND ROBINS! LIBRARY! BULLETIN! Six picture and information filled issues per year. Regular Membership - \$4.00 per year. Contributing Membership - \$6.00 per year Add \$1.00 to either for joint husband and wife membership with one copy of bulletin to be sent. INDOOR LIGHT GARDENING SOCIETY OF AMERICA INC., Mrs. Robert Washburn, Box 39, Chippewa Lake, Ohio 44215.



A compact vine-type grower, that I have enjoyed has reddish-orange flowers and also hails from Cornell, is "Campus Gem."

An upright which has truly earned its name is "Canary" with its bright yellow flowers.

A heavy bloomer which has been a great pleasure to grow is "Cornellian." Its habit is upright while the flowers are deep reddish-orange with a bright yellow throat.

Another yellow that has bloomed nearly continuously in my benches first came to me as a table favor in 1965 at the American Gloxinia Society Convention. For us this plant has been of trailing habit and propagated easily. Everyone who sees this "Early Bird" wants one.

"Joy" is a floriferous columnea which trails. Its blooms are orange-red. "Katsura" is an exceptionally handsome plant as the pale green leaves carry irregular markings of paler streaks which are outlined in white. The flowers are produced horizontally and are a vibrant red.

In 1957 Lyndon Lyon produced "Lyndon Lyon" which is upright growing with small, dark-green leaves to contrast with the colorful reddish-tone orange flowers.

A new one for me, which has not had time to bloom here yet, is "Red Arrow". It is reported as being floriferous and its trailing vines are meant to be in heavy flower during the winter months with red and yellow flowers.

One of the older hybrids, which I find a nice columnea to grow, is "Stavanger" which came from Norway in 1949. The long vines are handsomely accented with red hairy flowers.

Another of the popular uprights is "Tiogan" which was also created at Cornell University. The stems have red hairs and bear small, narrow leaves. The blooms are a pink with a yellow cast.

"V. Covert", which is enjoyed by many columnea fans, is of branching ways and produces orange-yellow buds which turn into a bloom of a bright yellowish-pink.

If you harvest your seed pods from hybrids such as these I have mentioned, you will not get plants exactly like the parent plant though they could be reasonably expected to share some of the same characteristics.

Many of you will have enjoyed your achimenes in full bloom by the time you read this. Mine have been a riot of color. These interesting scaly rhizome plants came to us originally from Mexico, Brazil, and Argentina. I raise some of mine in hanging baskets, while I grow my newer and more choice varieties in pots since I have fewer of these. If they are raised in individual pots, they should be pinched back.

Some varieties are naturally quite upright, while others are not and become rather vinelike. For those in pots that persist in growing vinelike, if I have a space problem, I simply stake them. Many of you have enjoyed growing such old favorites as "Master Ingram" (a red) and "Purple King." Have you seen any of the new ones just released this year yet? Some of them are now coming into bloom here.

"Pink Lady", which is a variant form of the species *A. grandiflora*, is one of the more compact type growers. Its pink flower with a white blotch and dark red eye down in the throat will certainly make you want to add it to your collection. "Red Cap," another form of the species *A. antirrhina*, is good for a hanging basket and has big yellow flowers while the bright-green leaves have a soft-white hairy covering. "Cornell Gem" is a hybrid cross with handsome blue flowers. A new yellow that was introduced, you will want to add to your collection, is "Yellow Mist."

I hope you remembered when you planted your achimenes that they prefer a soil mix which is loose and contains some fiber material. Good drainage is a must with these summer friends. Do not forget either, when you are growing them, that they do not like to get too dry or they will refuse to flower for you. They enjoy some fertilizer regularly. When your achimenes go dormant this autumn, be sure to store them in a cool, dry place. Do not allow the pots to dry completely as the rhizomes will dry out too and fail to sprout again next spring. They may also be removed from their pots and stored in vermiculite or peat moss. Do not store them where there is a danger of freezing temperatures. With the winter months close it is time to be thinking about bringing in a supply of soil from outdoors if you use soil in your mix. When you go to get your soil this year, be sure to notice the plant life where you are digging. Was the vegetation good there? If not, it would not make good soil for your potting mix. I take only the top two or three inches when I bring in soil. Do not forget the possibilities of dirt from along river banks as there is often a nice silt-like loam in these areas. Be sure to sterilize your soil you have gathered. I put it in a big pan; add enough water to moisten it; and bake it for an hour in an oven which has been preheated to 275 degrees. The odor bothers you; then you are not a true gardener. When you see the soil on top of the pan caking and a steam coming off, your soil is well sterilized. The soil should be allowed to sit twenty-four hours before you use it for your plants. Incidentally, wetting your soil thoroughly will reduce the odor created while it is baking.

Please remember to send me the names of your favorite African Violets for our list of the favorites of Ozark Garden growers.





MARY LONG  
Stratford, Iowa 50249

AMONG MY HOUSE PLANTS

Hi everyone: When you read this we will all be carrying or have our Precious Plants in where they won't get frosted. Since we've had some real hot weather, everything is dry. The Dahalias are trying to pick up since we got some much needed rain. I have two sun flowers over 12 ft. high covered with Heavenly Blue Morning Glories. They were so pretty, I entered them in a Sun flower Derby.

Cactus Pappy, just before frost up here in Oct., I dig the Sacred Lily bulb up, cut top to about 10 to 12 in. and set it to dry. It will bloom in Feb. or March without dirt or water.

There are beautiful Sultana blooming, Tuberous Begonias, 4 are red and white, Picoties, Flowering Maples, my tree cactus with two chartreuse flowers on it, Begonias just a mass of flowers. Button and Glory of Texas cacti blooming, a big red Hoya, the Episcias are beautiful with their many colored leaves and flowers of orange, yellow, red, pink, and blue. Also the Bougainvillea from Loyce in Texas has been a mass of red all summer. The Kahlerea Longwood bloomed for me. It was such a beautiful flower, larger than the Episcias flower, it was red speckled with black.

Opal Stark, another flower and cacti nut, gave me an orange varigated leaf Sultana. It is supposed to have orange blooms. I also have some new Begonias, Pustulata being one of them. At last I have a Staghorn and Rabbit foot fern. I don't know where to go with everything when I start bringing in, but guess I'll have to leave a path to get thru. Well, must stop and see to my bread. All come over and have some hot bread and fresh homemade applebutter with me.

If any or all of you ever happen to be close by, come and see me, and you know my flower nut who lives next door, also Martha Larson just a few miles away. Irene you are a crackpot for sure if I don't hear pronto from you.

"OCTOBER HARVEST"

A tiny seed is planted and each one in its own way produces its own kind. The young spring blossoms bring forth the summer yield. The ground is tilled, the fruit is harvested by man and is preserved by woman.

The basement bins, against the walls of whitewashed stones, are piled high above the brim with rosy-cheeked apples and other garden produce. Before being placed in the large potato bin, each potato is sorted and carefully looked over. Besides the yellow pumpkin and squash, the turnip and cabbage are lying uncovered on the sanded ground.

The home-cured ham and sides of bacon wrapped in brown paper or cheesecloth, hang from the old knotty beams. The full pork barrel stands in a nearby corner, next to the vat of sauerkraut, which is covered with a cloth, then a board, and weighted down with a heavy stone. Along the wall are the kegs of salted down codfish and smoked herring. The crocks of sausage and headcheese. While the smell of brine and dill permeates from the pickle barrel.

The basement and pantry are completely stocked. On the shelves rows of jelly and jam, catsup and chile sauce, and jars of pickles of all kinds can be seen. Cucumber bread and butter pickles, sweet pickles, mustard pickles. The jars of fruit. The crock of apple butter, so long in its making.

In the attic, up the creaking stairs are the drying tables, where long rows of apple slices are cut for drying. Bags of chestnuts, walnuts and hickory nuts are stored away. Strings of red pepper and peanuts hang from the rafters. The bunches of sage, savory, thyme and other herbs tied in small bunches so the air can reach every part to hasten their drying.

The woodshed is full. The logs are cut for the fireplace. The hay, corn and wheat is stored away. Man reaps what he sows. OCTOBER'S BOUNTIFUL GOLDEN HARVEST.

Caroline Johnston  
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Richmond Hill, N.Y. 11418

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# WILD FLOWERS

Wild Flowers on Grand Mesa, Colorado  
By Gertrude McCormick, Delta, Colo.

## GRAND MESA PLANTS

Sometimes snow comes to Grand Mesa, Colo. in Sept., but I remember one time when we skated on Twin Lake on Thanksgiving Day. So though the mesa may now have its first coat of winter covering, I still remember the mushroom I gathered in late Aug.

Autumn rains bring up these queer plants. In late August, at the 10,200 foot altitude of Twin Lake, the breezes through the pine trees have a chill that forecasts winter. The temperature daytimes hovers about 60 degrees. Mushrooms like the damp, cool weather.

As everyone knows some mushrooms are edible and some contain a deadly poison. The poison of the Amanitas phalloides called a tox-al-bumin is found in rattlesnake poison and is the dangerous element found in the diseases of cholera and diphtheria. The Amanitas family have the nicknames of "Death Cup" and "Destroying Angel."

Mushrooms, ferns and lichens (li-kens long i) are fungi (singular for fungus) A definition states that fungi have no ability to make leaf green (plant food) they ripen no true seeds, but reproduce by means of a dustlike powder called spores. Next time you pick a mushroom, cut off the stem near the cap, place the cap on a piece of white paper for a dark one and a black paper for one with white gills. Cover it with a water glass and in a couple of hours you will have a perfect print or design showing how the spores grew on the gills (rays of tissue under the cap.)

A green plant takes the element carbon from the air, hydrogen and oxygen gas from water and compounds it into wood, starch and sugar. Since fungi cannot make plant food they will grow only on living or dead wood, decaying leaves or similar organic matter. The one called spark of life, the spore falls in humus and begins to grow. As the cells divide, long root-like masses form called mycelium. From these grow the variety of ferns and lichens and mushrooms. Fungi may be the mildew on linens, the mold on foods, the rusts and smut on grain or the dry rot that crumbles our timber.

Parts of a mushroom are the cap, the umbrella like part, the stem or handle, the gills which radiate outward from the stem to the outer edge. Some varieties have spore tubes instead of gills and are called pore mushrooms. The ring or veil shows where the outer edge of the cap broke loose from the stem as it grew and spread out. Some grow singly, others in groups. Some even have no stems, such as the puffball. The Coral which looks somewhat like pink cauliflower going to seed is all stems. The puffball often resembles a white egg and is edible when the

flesh is firm and white. When the puffball gets older the insides turn to brown powder which are the spores. A hole opens in the top and a squeeze will send a brown cloud into the air.

Mushrooms may be as small as a thumb tack or as big as a basketball. The tiny Brownie Cap (*Galera tenera*) hides in the grass. The cap looks like a Chinese coolie hat. The parasol mushroom towers over the Brown Cap, sometimes having stems 20 inches long and caps seven inches across. The white freckled cap has a brown knob at the center and the stem has many fine scales.

All the colors of the rainbow may be found in mushrooms. The orange Chanterelle has a startling red-orange cap and gills with white spores. The caps tend to a funnel shape. The fleshy Russulas have a smooth pink cap when found, shading to a deep red later. A white, reddish tinted stem, chalkwhite gills and a toothed edge may aid in identification.

One specimen I have found near Twin Lake had black warty protrusions extending upward from a tan and brown cap. The tan and brown seem to be arranged in circles. A hiker about to step over a log and seeing a large "Scaly Urchin" mushroom on the other side, said she thought it was a coiled snake. The Scaly Urchin has pores instead of gills. These brown tubes have the feel of velvet.

Oyster mushrooms grow like shelves on living trees. The clusters may have white gills and spores. They are said to taste like oysters. The Ink Caps, glistening because of shiny scales, have egg-shaped caps tan in color and white gills when they first appear. A day later the caps darken, become ragged looking and by evening melt into a moist and shapeless black mess. The resulting black liquid has been used as ink. I found queer brown growths which looked very much like very wrinkled rubber. One must be an expert to identify the many, many kinds of mushrooms and one should certainly be an expert before eating any of them. One source of material says beware of those with white gills. One source states that some of the Amanitas are edible. Most of them agree that if a mushroom has a ring of veil like substance about the stem below the cap and a large ball at the bottom of the stem, called the cup, it is poisonous.

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Our front cover photo is to the credit of Mr. A. Hintenach of 832 Oakmont Ave., Erie, Pa. 16505; a commercial artist who so graciously has let Ozark Gardens copy his original sketches. You will treasure his work as it appears from time to time on the cover of your Ozark Gardens. If you appreciate his work, drop him a nice letter of appreciation.

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# SUCCULENT PLANTS

Lester E. Rothstein, 290 Lenox Ave., New York, N.Y.

The group of plants called "the cacti and the other succulents" provides plenty of variety for the home grower, as there are about 11,000 different species of all shapes, sizes and colors, suitable for a wide range of growing conditions. The largest succulent plant family is the cactus family, with close to 3,500 species and varieties thus far known. However, there are about 50 other families that are either entirely succulent or contain succulent members, such as the lily, gourd, stonecrop, spurge and milkweed families; and it is these that we will discuss in this column.

Although many of these "other" succulent plants superficially resemble cacti, they are not at all related but simply grow under somewhat similar conditions. Whether a plant is or is not a cactus is important not only for accuracy's sake but for knowing how to take care of it.

Succulent ("juicy") plants have rather spongy tissue enabling them to store water when it's available, for use in time of drought. Dissolved in the often gluey pulp are the nutrients needed for plant life. The plants may have fleshy leaves, fleshy stems, or both; or tuberous roots; or the stem may have a sort of swollen base, called a caudex (KAW-dex). Plants with such caudices (KAW-dis-eeze) are called caudiciform (kaw-DIS-si-form) and some of the rarer and wierder kinds are becoming a great attraction for collectors.

Some succulents have no leaves at all; others consist merely of two or more fat leaves without any stem to speak of. (A great trick would be a stemless plant without leaves!) Considering that a large tree can transpire (lose) perhaps 100 gallons of water daily through the pores in its leaves, we note that succulent plants are equipped not only to store moisture but to keep water loss to a minimum. The ideal succulent would consist of a globular body with roots, for this shape gives maximum volume while exposing a minimum of surface to the drying sun and air. Some succulents come pretty close to that shape and are greatly treasured by collectors; whereas, in the cacti, the globular form is quite common.

Succulents generally have thicker skin and fewer pores (stomata-STOM-ah-tah) than other plants. Since these conditions and other physical factors cut down their "breathing" as well as their water loss, the plants' rate of growth is slowed down. Many succulents are covered with a whitish or bluish powder, called "bloom", or a waxy coating which loves the intensity of the sun's rays. Some plants have a chemical under their surface which filters

the blazing sunlight before it reaches the chlorophyll deeper down.

Because succulents are found all over the world, it is hard to generalize the conditions they are used to. However, it is probably fair to say that they come from areas where there is either little rainfall, or rain only around a certain time of year, and these plants are equipped to survive between rains. Sometimes all they get for months is a little dew. Many need protection from the midday summer sun and others need quite a bit of shade but not deep shade. Bearing in mind that there are also plenty of non-succulent plants that manage to survive the same tough conditions, we must conclude that nature has two ways of "beating the drought": either resist the drought, or avoid it by storing water.

Succulents need rather rich, but loose, sand and porous soil so that their roots are not continuously sopping wet and can't get oxygen. Contrary to popular belief, they need a pretty good amount of water while they are in active growth, usually during our warm seasons. However, they need less water or none at all while they are resting, for they draw on what they have stored. Low nitrogen fertilizer is beneficial. Many of these plants stand not only great heat but also a lot of cold. There are many winter hardy types that can survive below zero temperatures, but the non hardy kinds can handle less cold and then only if they are kept dry. The best all-around winter temperature for non hardy succulents in the home is 40 to 50 degrees; the combination of cold and dryness will force them to take a good rest so that they will grow and bloom when winter is over. They also need plenty of fresh air (not drafts) to "compensate" for their slower "breathing". The best place for succulents in summer is outdoors; a good rain does wonders for them. Many experts now prefer plastic pots to clay. Clay pots let the soil dry out too fast in summer and the plants feeder roots burn up. Plastic pots give more protection and, if the soil mixture isn't too "heavy", it won't stay sopping wet. More plants die from too much water than from too little.

Succulents' flowers are generally small and not as showy as cactus flowers, but many are very good-looking. The beauty of most succulents is mainly in the plants themselves; but if a plant flowers, it is probably mature and in good shape. Succulents properly cared for in the home usually look better than those in the wild because they get food and water when needed and are protected from animals and bad weather so that they're not scarred, marred or sunburned. But if they get too much water, too little sun or light, too much nitrogen and no cold and dry winter rest, they will lose their coloring and characteristics and will get etiolated.



# FLOWERS'N' THINGS

MARY BOATRIGHT

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The photo above shows part of my Rose Garden, it holds 80 Rose bushes. Also planted in tulips that bloom and are gone before the Roses leaf out, then magic lillies add an extra bonus in mid summer.

I love the sunny cool days of October. It is the most beautiful month in the year here in southern Illinois, and the most beautiful Autumns in the world our travel posters boast. I can't say if they exaggerate or not, not having seen the whole world myself. Harrisburg is the gateway to the magnificent Shawnee hills. More and more tourists come each year to enjoy the beauty of our many colored wooded hills, others come to slay the deer, as far as I am concerned these are not welcome but must be accepted as we accept the thorn with the roses. Our maples are purest gold, the sumac are a burning red and enough evergreens and other muted colors to make the scene one to be remembered the whole year long. One lady told me she had come here from Chicago for seven years just to make slides to enjoy until it was time to come back, and that she discovered new beauty each fall. I didn't start out to write a travel lecture but I get carried away with October, even if it is farewell to summer. Now that the terrible heat is past and fall is upon us there is just a tinge of regret at summers passing.

There is so much work to be done in fall, I never get it all done. Sometimes I just sit in the cool breeze and "think about work" with no intentions of doing it today, just thinking about it. I believe we have lost the art of "just-a-sittin". Always we flutter from one task to another and never get them all done anyway.

By now all house plants are inside and its time to watch for the pests that hatch out in the warm close rooms. I have found an easy way to get rid of the mealy bugs. I set the infested plant in a plastic bag, add two tablespoons moth flakes, fasten the bag and leave over night. Repeat in a couple of weeks if necessary. Bye for now.



MY SHADED WILD FLOWER GARDEN

Here I have wild flowers and ferns, with spring flowering bulbs between the stepping stones that cover the ground. Then when its time for house plants to go outside, this becomes the house plant garden.



## GARDENING AT THE FOOT OF THE ROCKIES

with FLORENCE M. RODDY  
1200 S. Forest St.  
Denver, Colo. 80222

### AUTUMN A TIME FOR REFLECTION

With late Sept. slowly drifting into October's bright blue weather, the full significances of Autumn becomes more apparent with each new dawn. Here and there a precocious clump of Sumac flaunts its scarlet insignia, and the mountains are draped with the haze of phantom campfires.

The roadsides and gardens are ablaze with Nature's gayest colors, yet the crispness of the air and the snowcapped peaks speaks their own messages. Yes, it is Indian Summer Time at the Foot of the Rockies, and its softness sifts gently over the land with a lazy languor that engulfs man and beast alike.

Gardening is almost over for the growing season and harvest time is here. Harvest Time with its beautiful harvest moon. Truly this is the most beautiful time of the year and the saddest, because now it is time for the dedicated gardener to bid farewell to his beloved garden as he starts preparation for the last harvest of vegetables, seeds, and bulbs then the final task of putting it to bed for the long winters rest.

Truly this is a time for reflection and thought investment for the future spring gardens. Yes, now is the time to invest in Springtime beauty. This can be purchased with a small amount of time and money as only now can that beautiful Autumn garden ritual, bulb planting, be accomplished.

First the browsing through of the brightly colored bulb catalogues, then deciding on how many to buy for the space that is available for them, and there is never room enough for the many that one would like to have.

Then as each small brown globe is gently placed into Mother earth, one visualizes the miracle that will come forth when the Springtime sun begins to warm the earth. For truly it is a miracle when we know that "only the Sun and the hand of God, can summon the flowers from beneath the sod."

Yes, all phases of gardening are what we make them, we should never let any part of it become an ordinary or humdrum chore. It is and can be fun, an adventure into a new world where one can experiment with Nature's miracles, or a challenge to the individual to learn the mysterious ways of Nature so that it will work with you as a partner not an enemy.

Gardening is good therapy for the one that is burdened with grief of just the cares of daily living. As one learns to work with Nature and watches it balance out, a sensing of the motivation of all phases of life permeates the body and mind, soothing and healing as only



Nature can, and does, if given the opportunity to do so.

Nature brings one close to God as Nature is God, one of His greatest gifts to mankind. What would our life be like without a part of it or would there be life here on earth without a part of it? The blue of the sky above, reflected in quiet waters of a meadow pool, the blessed warmth of the Sun in golden sunshine, the cooling of a sudden Summer shower that refreshes the verdant world of Nature.

These are only a part of His great gift that most peoples take for granted but not so the gardener, he is always grateful for his patch of blue that the sun traverses to entice his earth children to come forth to receive the loving care that only he can give them.

Ah yes, this is our wonderful way of life, our great gift from God. A garden is all of this to the dedicated gardener as he goes about his labors of love.

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### "GIFTS FROM MY GARDEN"

Every year I make up surprise packages of seeds from my garden. Flower seeds, vegetable seeds, tree seeds, and cactus seeds. This is a real surprise seed pack.

What friend or loved one would not be delighted on a birthday, anniversary, or any day to receive a gift of seeds.

Here are just a few of the seeds in my surprise packages. Money Plant seed, Texas Giant Sunflower, Staghorn Cactus, Squaw Corn, Texas Wildflower mixture, Pie Mellon, Osage Orange, Mesquite bean tree seeds, Soap Yucca and on and on to many to mention. I sell 5 packs for 25¢ and long, self addressed, stamped envelope.

Mrs. D. Klassen, Box 277, Carlsbad, Texas 76934.



# KITCHEN

# CUPBOARD

BY-Mrs. Leila Davisson  
9779 Ste., Rt. 4,  
Mechanicsburg, Ohio 43044



I am not a member of a Garden Club although I have been in the plant and flower business for a number of years. I mention this because it was a garden club in this area that launched me on this wonderful research of the use of herbs. I grew a few herbs for my own use and before long I was selling plants to others who were interested.

At one of the local flower shows there was a small space that needed filling and I was asked to put in a small educational display of herbs. It was on short notice but I managed to get together about fifteen different items. It attracted so much attention that the President of the club made the announcement that it was the best one they had ever had.

About four weeks before time for the County Fair I was again asked if I could manage a larger display for the Fair. I was able to get together about 97 items by working overtime on this project. I had many items that Fairgoers had never seen before and needless to say, it attracted a lot of people. I was interviewed, photographed

and written up in the county papers. I was very proud and happy, especially since my son and his family arrived that week from California for their vacation. My granddaughter is in the picture with me.

This was the beginning of my speaking to groups, which in turn led me straight to the radio station for several programs and into the field of preparing and demonstrating the use of herbs. This activity had prompted me to do extensive research on the subject of herbs, both for seasoning and for healing.

My summers are spent in raising, gathering, drying and packaging these delightful plants while winter is the time for the concocting and testing some of the things I have learned from research. It is a pleasant and most exciting hobby that adds so much to the good health of those in my household.

One of the greatest compliments I have ever received was from my seven year old nephew who says, "If you are sick, I'll betcha Aunt Leila knows what to do about it".



# BEGONIAS



DAISY AUSTIN  
1510 Kimberly Ave.  
Anaheim, Calif. 92802

Certainly Begonias are harvested! All plants have a time for ripening or maturing, it is nature's plan. Since Begonias are neither annuals nor perennials, harvesting goes on all the time throughout the different areas of the world. For most Ozark Gardens, the lovely Tuberous Begonia bulbs have been brought indoors and stored waiting for life to begin anew in Feb. or March.

Those everblooming Semperflorens that have been providing masses of color in borders, window boxes and on porches all summer have also provided you with nice fat seed pods for harvesting.

Cuttings, leaves, rhizomes and divisions are all harvested from plants grown too tall or large for winter quarters indoors. Smaller Begonias in containers are moved from outdoors to indoors where some are allowed to gradually enter dormancy. Others to rest a bit before the start of a new growth cycle.

Instead of talking further about Begonias this month I would like to tell you about some of the many things that have happened since last month and the wonderful people that became a part of it all.

The last day of the Begonia Convention at New Kensington, Pa., I had the pleasure of meeting and visiting with our Editor of Ozark Gardens, Mr. and Mrs. Leopold and part of their family. They were very much in keeping with my mental picture of them, warm, friendly, and sincere people. We had so many things to talk about and not enough time. Also got to meet Mr. and Mrs. Modic, our Rock Garden correspondent. We never did get to have our cup of coffee, did we?

A day or two following, Mr. Gerald Sausaman of Gardening Lightly, Mr. Robert Shatzer of Gesneriads Galore and myself were involved in a car accident near Carlisle, Pa., and while confined in the hospital waiting for bones to knit, I met Mrs. Margaret Finkey, a flower in the Ozark Gardens membership. Mrs. Lillian Warrell and Mrs. Lindsey Line found time from their busy schedules to come calling. The Carlisle Garden Club, without a doubt, are a group to be proud of and when their members visit you in the hospital they leave you with the feeling they came because they wanted to see you. Their year book program shows Begonias are a part of the horticultural interest of this group. Mrs. Potter, your yard is lovely.

Not only did I meet many wonderful people, also found that the love of plants and growing things truly bring together a Garden Magazine full of People as it says on the front cover of our Ozark Gardens.

Spiny Ridge cont'd from page 3

the amaranthus molten fire still defies me!

It will soon be time to bring the cacti inside, and I am trying to report as I find time. I was pleased to see two new shoots on my Toumeyya papyrantha, which had been sulking, and the Sand Dollars are blooming.

Please, if any of you receive a cactus seed chain letter, do not send me one, as I have had three, and writing that many letters gets to be a chore. The only seed I would like at present is of African succulents so rare that they would probably not be sent.

My sedums are still beautiful. I enjoyed Mrs. Johnson's article about them in the Sept. OG. Does anyone have a low-growing one with round leaves variegated pink, green, and cream? A horrid something-or-other nipped mine off, and it did not recover.

Be sure to ease off on watering your cacti; in fact, from now on they should not be watered at all unless they begin to shrivel. If they grow during the winter, they will not bloom next summer.

I am sorry to end this column on a note of sadness, but I must tell you that Verda Cox passed away last week. I am sure there are many among the present OG readers who remember Verda as the publisher of one of the first "little" flower periodicals—"Back to Eden." She was a wonderful person, of great religious faith. She was buried at her old home cemetery, near De Queen, Ark.

## DOLPHIN EYE DROPS

I was surprised and thrilled by Dr. Sanders' fine recommendation of Dolphin Eye Drops, in the Sept. issue of OG. Coming from an authority like Dr. Sanders, this comment means a great deal. There is nothing I can add to it except to say that letters I receive almost daily from persons who are reordering certainly substantiate what he said and what I have found to be true in using these healing drops. Be ready for the long hours of artificial light this winter by sending \$2.50 for a generous bottle. If you are a new user, write me your honest opinion of their effect. To the writer of the best letter I will send another bottle free. Order from Edith Bestard, R.1, Eureka, Springs, Ark 72632.

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## COUNTRY WORLD

The magazine of Small Town America featuring flowers, gardening, nature and "Martha Hoffman Seed Exchange" Sample 30¢; \$1.50 per year. R2, Box 100G, Carmi, Ill. 62821

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"SAY IT WITH..."

Dr. John Bechtel, M.B.H.U.  
P.O.Box 5168  
Kowloon, HONGKONG

Most of the readers of Ozark Gardens will naturally complete the above heading by saying: "Say it with flowers," because this has been the watch-word for many florists in the United States. And all readers will agree that there is perhaps no better way of sending greetings, best wishes, condolences or many other messages than by the use of flowers. Flowers in their purity and fragrance convey a peace, a blessing, a comfort hard to be duplicated in any other way.

However, for this "Harvest Issue" of Ozark Gardens I have another heading in mind--"SAY IT WITH PUPPETS!" Having lived the greater part of my life in the Orient, I have naturally become interested in things Oriental. From experience I have found that both Chinese and Japanese have a very interesting and instructive way of conveying messages to others--the one that has intrigued me is PUPPETS.

There can be no question in our minds that we are living in an age of Hobbies. Pastime or leisure time activities that range all the way from postage stamps, matchbox labels, stones, complicated miniature railroads, and some people even seem to be intent on collecting souvenirs from the Beetles! But the Puppet Hobby, if properly pursued, can result in amusement benefit, not only to the puppeteer himself but to others, both young and old. In these days when appeals are being made for volunteers to assist the handicapped or mentally retarded children, or other afflicted groups, it is wonderful to be able to manipulate puppets and

thus bring rays of sunshine into the lives of those less fortunate than ourselves. Furthermore, it is not necessary to be a ventriloquist, nor a manipulator of marionettes to "put on" a puppet show, just a limited amount of know-how is necessary.

I hope by this time that I have managed to convince some of the readers of Ozark Gardens the feasibility of venturing forth into the hobby of puppets. In a future column, if the Editor so desires, I will present a detailed account of the history of Oriental puppetry, but meanwhile here's a simple Chinese puppet play that interested readers may "put on" in the form of their debut in the art of puppetry.

Name: "EVERY HARDSHIP MAY BE A BLESSING IN DISGUISE"

Characters: Mr. and Mrs. Wong

Their horse, "White Beauty"

Their son, "Little Wong"

(To make the members of the Wong Family you will need the heads of three dolls. For the bodies, use an old sock or an old canvas work glove. The head is sewed on to the sock or glove. Do not be too concerned about the puppets as you will be standing at a distance from your audience. Make a horse's head out of white cloth or cut a white sock, making ears and stuff the head with cotton. Small buttons for eyes. Strip of shoelace for a bridle. Use an old cardboard toilet tissue roll to act as a neck and hold up the head of "White Beauty." Stick your index finger in the toilet roll and manipulate the head of the horse.)

The Story: Once upon a time in old China there was an old-fashioned family by the name of Wong. Mr. Wong, Mrs. Wong, and Little Wong, their son. Because it was a long time ago, both Mr. Wong and his son had pigtailed down their backs. Mr. Wong had a long pigtail and Little Wong had a short pigtail. Of course Chinese today do not wear pigtailed, but in those days they did. Mother Wong had bound feet. Because the Chinese of that time felt that a woman should have small feet, they made it a practice to bind the feet of their little girls. The reason they did this was because a Chinese woman was not supposed to work in their fields nor in their homes. If a Chinese woman of long ago had big feet it meant that she had to work, and this was a disgrace. Of course, the Chinese do not do this any more, but they did in times long ago.

Mr. and Mrs. Wong and their son lived in a very nice house. (Get a box from the Supermarket or the A&P and make it look like a room in their house.) One day Mr. and Mrs. Wong were seated in their house drinking a cup of tea. (Say something about how the Chinese like to drink tea. Explain that there are many different kinds of tea in China. Look up the August issue of Ozark Gardens and see how many different kinds of tea are listed on page 35. Make a joke a-



Dr. Bechtel cont'd

bout how we Americans drink Seven-Up, Coca Cola, Mountain Dew, and many other kinds of "pop", but that the Chinese of that day drank tea, but many different kinds. Don't be afraid to make your audience laugh.)

While they were seated in the house drinking tea, Mr. Wong was talking to his wife about their horse, "White Beauty." He was telling his wife about what a wonderful horse White Beauty was. (See how many of your audience remember the story of "Black Beauty", and make a few comparisons. If they don't know the story of "Black Beauty" just make a few remarks and continue the story of White Beauty.) Suddenly there is a loud knock at the door. Little Wong comes in with the sad news that their horse, White Beauty has disappeared. When Mrs. Wong heard the startling news she started to blame her husband and her son for the loss of the animal. They must have been careless, etc. But Mr. Wong was very different from his wife. He did not blame his son, but said with a smile: "Every hardship may be a blessing in disguise." His wife replied: "How could the loss of their horse be a blessing in disguise." She was very angry. She stamped her feet and started to weep and wail! Their valuable horse was gone, lost, strayed or stolen, and all her husband could say was: "It may be a blessing in disguise!" (Use your hand to make Mrs. Wong walk back and forth. Toss her head back and forth.) Just as she was reaching the height of her anger and dismay, suddenly there is the whinny of a horse. Quickly Mr. Wong rushes to the side of the room and looks out. With a cry of victory he shouts out: "There's White Beauty and he has brought another horse with him!" Mr. Wong claps his hands (Bring your fingers together.) "I told you so, every hardship may be a blessing in disguise. Now we have two horses instead of one!" (White Beauty pokes his head into the room or comes out from behind the house and makes a loud whinny. Make a shrill neigh in your throat. Then ask the audience if they know what White Beauty is saying in horse language? If they don't answer explain that White Beauty is merely saying in horse language what Mr. Wong said in Chinese--"EVERY HARDSHIP MAY BE A BLESSING IN DISGUISE."

Some time later Mr. and Mrs. Wong were seated in their home drinking tea. (See if anyone can remember the names of some of the teas that they had been drinking before. Introduce a bit of humor whenever possible. If you can get a thimble or a small cup use it in the hand of Mr. Wong.) Suddenly they hear crying outside. They also hear White Beauty neighing as if he were crying. Make an odd gurgle in your



"He's not heavy, he is my Brother"

throat. Mr. Wong explains that White Beauty is talking in horse language. He is saying, "I'm sorry! I'm sorry you fell off my back!" Then they get the sad news that their son, Little Wong has fallen off the back of their horse. Furthermore, he had broken his arm and smashed it so badly that he had to have it amputated! Again Mr. Wong says, "Every hardship may be a blessing in disguise." Both Mrs. Wong and Little Wong are very angry with Mr. Wong. How could the loss of an arm be a blessing. Why even the horse, White Beauty, felt that her owner, Mr. Wong was wrong. Although Mr. Wong felt very sorry for his son and would gladly have had his own arm cut off instead of his son being made a cripple, yet he felt that there still might be a blessing in the accident.

A few years later when Little Wong was a young man, Mr. Wong and his wife were seated in their home. They were (What do you think they were doing?) DRINKING TEA. Suddenly there was the sound of a Chinese bugle. (Make the sound of a horn or borrow a child's horn.) Mr. Wong got up and walked to the door. There were some Chinese soldiers outside. War had been declared. All young men had to join the army and fight. The soldiers had come to take Little Wong because he was just the right age to be a soldier.

Then Mr. Wong explained that his son only had one arm! The captain of the soldiers then said that if he only had one arm Little Wong would not be any use as a soldier. He was exempted. All the soldiers of the army in which Little Wong would have served were killed in battle. Only Little Wong's life was spared because he had lost an arm when he had fallen off White Beauty's back.

Mr. and Mrs. Wong and their son Little Wong lived happily ever after. Every afternoon they would gather in their home. (What do you think they would do? That's right, they would drink tea! What kind of tea did they drink?) And every day Mr. Wong would remind his wife and son, "EVERY HARDSHIP MAY BE A BLESSING IN DISGUISE."

(C U R T A I N)



## "IT SEEMS TO ME"

Ethlyn E. Goff  
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When we think of Harvest we think only of baskets of tempting fruits bursting with the rich sweetness of full maturity, and of granaries overflowing with golden grain. Or we envision row on row of jars filled with succulent and colorful fruit or pickles or vegetables. In our minds eye we may see the Halloween picture that for years on end has been used in some way at the end of the year. That of the shocks of corn with the pumpkins piled along side. Without more thought we accept this as "Harvest."

It is odd how one word will immediately bring to us a mental picture of some experience we have had. To each it is a different one and usually goes back to childhood. To me the word Harvest quickly brings two things into my mind. One is a very real but undecipherable "smell" of fall as I walked to school in Sept. It was in Eastern Kansas so I'm sure it must have been a subtle blending of ripening grapes, both wild and Concord, of wheat and corn shocks. The drying process of weeds, grasses and flowers. I shall, in all probability, never smell it again, but if I should I'll know, even with my eyes shut, it's Fall.

The second of the two I mentioned is a mental picture of my Moms cellar. I can still see the stone crocks on the bench just inside the door. One full of spiced peaches, one of watermelon preserves, one of spiced and jellied crab apples, another of sugared persimmons. There was one of sauerkraut, another of hominy and all were flanked by those full of pickles. Beyond these were the larger stone jars full of "fried down" meat covered with rendered lard. The cracklings and fat round cheeses in their mosquito netting covers hung from the rafters along with links of sausages, hams and bacon and sacks of dried corn and apples or peaches. Barrels of apples shared one side with the piles of pumpkins and squash and bins of potatoes. Above was the rows and rows of canned pickles or preserves and jellies or fruit and vegetables. The carrots and cabbages, parsnips and turnips were in their own straw covered trench just outside the cellar door. I wonder, is there any place now where there are cellars such as I remember and are there barefoot boys and pig tailed girls who still have the pleasure, and usually the persimmon, to dip into the peaches or crab apples or watermelon preserves so long as the plate used for a covering is replaces? Does a big fat pickle filched from a stone jar still taste as good when savored in the middle of the afternoon from a slow moving swing under a leafy tree? Are there any families now who so carefully plan for win-



ter and store so that they may eat well or does all just "scoot" to the nearest super market when the larder gets low? Are there families who yet plan and enjoy a Saturday outing in the woods to gather nuts and winter bouquets of dried grasses and colored leaves and Bittersweet? If there are, enjoy it and count your blessings for it may not last! I'm not sure what the word Harvest would mean to my children. The push and hustle of modern living, the roar and destruction of bull dozers, the making of highways and dams have robbed them of memories such as I carry.

It is fun, this thinking of the past and perhaps a bit over glamorized. We forget, or as children did not realize, the work and worry involved, the fear of a bad season and so a hungry hard winter. We have a tendency to see only the good and leave out the bad. Is there a Garden Biddie who really envisions the bugs and worms, the grass and weeds, the watering and hoeing, the neighbors breechy heifers or an obstreperous old sow and her litter, when she settles down with the enticing colorful seed catalogues in the early Spring?

If we modern Garden Biddies do not have to raise food so that our brood can eat and grow, why then do we garden and what is our harvest? We have one answer in the above question, we do not HAVE to from necessity. If we are tired or don't feel well or it's too hot, we can relax. We only do it when and as we choose. We have the time to pause and enjoy the little tattle tale breezes with their whispers of fragrances from opening flowers or the muted stir of growing things, the joy of bird song. The time to study and enjoy the life of the wee ones, the denizens of every garden. We can watch the trials and tribulations of the ant or toad or spider and joy of all joys if we have wee ones of our own to share our snooping! We can never be quite the same after we have knelt on a garden path and chuckled with a small grandson over



# ROCK GARDEN

MADALENE MODIC  
Rt. 1, Box 162  
Sewickley, Pa.

As you read this it will be October and our thoughts will mainly be concerned with mulching and getting the rock garden ready for its long winters rest. Be careful of what you use in mulching. Use nothing that will pack. Oak leaves are the best.

If you have a woodland garden the cyclamen will be blooming now. They are real miniatures of the florists type in pink and white. After the fall flowers have faded I think one really appreciates the woodland garden. The ferns are at their peak. The ivy (Hedera) is glossy green as

it rambles over a slope. I did not know there were so many hardy ivys till this spring when I received 3 as gifts.

Hedera helix conglomerata has small crinkly leaves and I think it will be slow in making new growth. I lost the other two tags. The one has a heart shaped leaf and may be Hedera colchia. The other one may be Hedera helix Meageri as it has deep cut leaves.

The Vinca minor has woven a deep green mat over the lower slope and it is truly beautiful where one has room for it to roam.

Now is the time to plant the little bulbs. The place for them should have been marked during the spring and summer weeding or you may dig into bulbs already planted before. I love crocus, they are so easy and they love the sun, they even appreciate a little bone meal worked in-

to the soil. The crocus species do better on a leaner soil. If a heavy soil, add some sand. I have seen directions saying to plant crocus two inches deep, but it is better to plant

them four inches deep. So many times the little corms work out of such shallow planting. They come up just as well from the deeper planting.

I always call galanthus the snowflake as it spreads its three petals out like a snowflake. The snowflake listed in catalogues is Leuconum and to me it is a snowdrop with its nodding bells. Galanthus often blooms just above the snow trying to be first in announcing spring is here.



Eranthis Hyemalis, the winter aconite I have also bought it a few times and still do not have. They arrive as shriveled up little tubers. I have been told to put them in moist peat moss

for a week to plump up and then plant where they will have some shade during the hot summer months.

In talking about the most important little bulbs for spring, my friends say the muscari (grape hyacinth). There is nothing so inexpensive or so striking in drifts. Iris Danfordiae and Iris Reticulata cantab are rock garden plants of great beauty. Scilla siberica, a beautiful blue, that is often called a quill by the poets. Another favorite of mine are the chionodoxa, the



glory of the snow. Anemone blanda in its deep blue form is a must for ones spring garden. They do well in a gritty soil in full sun. I am slowly acquiring a collection of

our native Erythroniums. They do not like to be disturbed. After bringing them from their woodland home to my woodland garden it takes two or three years before they decide to bloom.



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### BROMELIADS

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## FLOWER SEEDS

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## GARDEN PLANTS

### VIOLETS

Fragrant Violets - 3 Le Lilas, lilac with white center-3 Mammoth, purest white, 3 American Red Beauty, luminous velvet \$3. Postpaid. Bulletin CAPITOLA VIOLET GARDENS, 3645 Gross Rd., Santa Cruz, Calif. 95060

## GARDEN PLANTS

### FLOWER DELIGHTS

Ifafa Lilies: (Cyrtanthus): White, Saffron Yellow, Yellow, each 25¢ Mars Orange, Mandarin Red, Orpiment Orange, Canary Yellow, Tangerine Orange, Vermilion Nasturtium Red, each 35¢. All ten \$2.80 Jasper Red 75¢, Fire Red \$1. Sanguineus \$1, William Henry \$2. All four \$4.25. Oxblood Lilies (Rhodophials): bifida 35¢, X-huntiana unflowered 50¢, Currant Red 75¢, Spirea Red \$1. Rain Lilies (Habranthus): brachyandrus 25¢. Andersonii Cupreus or rosea; Cardenasiana; robustus alekii, metiae or taubertii; Xfloryi or Xsparkmannii, each 50¢ All nine \$3.80. Amaryllis Lilies: evansiae \$3, pardina \$3, striata \$1, Senorita \$1 All four \$7. Handling 60¢ Order anytime of year. ALEK KORSKOFF, 7634 Oriole St., Jacksonville, Fla. 32208

### RARE PLANTS

LOOK! Hundreds of Rare and unusual plants like Bull-Horn trees, Pink Plumbago, Red Yucca and Giant Tropical Yam. Descriptive price list for stamp. MYERS PLANT CO., Cleburne, Tex. 76031

FOR ROCK GARDENS -Dwarf conifers, Sedums. Write for list. SLEEPY HOLLOW FARM NURSERY, R.D.1, Baden Pa. 15005

### ROSES

Selling out rose bushes at less than cost; have Moss, Fern-leaf, shrub, Burr. Cabbage Roses etc. Typed list for stamped envelope. GLADYS CUPP, Rt.1, Mars 355, Nipomo, Calif. 93444



**CLASSIFIED****UNUSUAL HOUSE PLANTS****HOUSE PLANTS**

Begonias, bromeliads, orchids. Price list on request. PAUL P. LOWE, 23045 S.W. 123 Rd., Goulds, Fla. 33170

**UNUSUAL HOUSE PLANTS**

Rex begonias 9 different labeled plants, \$5; 3 different hoyas, \$1.75; large plants notch leaf philodendron selloum \$1; ferns (3 kinds), rosebud geraniums, miniature palms, Christmas cactus 50¢ each; houseplant cuttings 15 labeled or 25 unlabeled \$1.50; fall surplus flowers, 12 nice rooted plants and 12 cuttings, all labeled \$5. Postage 25¢ on \$1, 15¢ each additional \$1. Stamp for list 500 kinds of houseplants. MARY WALTON, 311 So. Center Dr., West Memphis, Ark. 72301

**UNUSUAL HOUSE PLANTS**

Bromeliads-Neoregelia hybrids, Monstera cuttings, Mexican Hurricane Plant. Other Exotic tropicals. Send stamped envelope for NEW list each month. Sensational offers at \$1 ea. P.P. Potting instructions included. HEINLAIN, 19395 S.W. 248th St., Homestead Fla. 33030

WANDERING JEW cuttings, 18 different labeled and post paid, \$2.25 MARY BOATRIGT 724 W. Poplar, Harrisburg, Ill. 62946

**HOUSE PLANTS**

Hoya compacta - curly leaves wavy edges. Pink flowers \$1 postage 35¢. FONTCUBERTA'S, 5580 Wood-lawn Pl., New Orleans, La.

**TROPICAL PLANTS**

Aloe vera, confusa, 55¢ ea. Sanservaria Bantels Sensation \$1, Kirkii 55¢ Siderasis fuscata 80¢. MRS. BEVERLY SILAY, 1100 Wynnewood Dr., West Palm Beach, Fla. 33406

**MISCELLANEOUS**

DOLL CLOTHES for sale, all sizes: Stamp for list. MRS. V. FAGAN, 119 Albany Ave., Amityville, L.I., N.Y. 11701

ANTIQUING OR PORCELINIZING flowers, complete instructions 35¢ and stamped envelope:

RECIPE for making Potpourri from Rose leaves, 25¢ and stamped envelope: PAULINE BATEMAN, Dickens, Texas 79229

**SAGE**

Home grown leaf sage 1/2 bl. \$1 postpaid. WILLIAM STUMPF FARM, 57 Cody St. Shawnee, Kan.

**SWAP**

TRADE: IRIS, daffodils, daylilies: Have hundreds different of each or other perennials for old china, glass, dolls, postal cards, etc.: EMMA'S POSY PATCH, Rt.1, Dittmer Mo. 63023

FOR SALE, 105 Hot Rod books 1959-1960-1961-1962 to highest offer: Stamp please: EMMA'S HWY. 30, Rt.1, Dittmer, Mo. 63023

**SWAP**

Swap-Have large collection of beautiful jewelry earrings, pins, bracelets Want started cacti or Iris, or make offer. MRS. A.J. McGuiness, 22 Glendale St., Worcester, Mass 01602

SWAP-IRIS, daffodils, daylilies, other perennials for old items such as China glassware dolls, before 1940 postal cards. MRS. OSCAR FICKEN, Rt.1, Dittmer, Mo. 63023

**TROPICAL PLANTS**

BEAUTIFUL CHINESE BANANA (Musa Cavendish) compact grower, heavy trunk \$3.50 Hybrid Dutch Meade Amaryllis bulbs mixed, pinks, corals, flamingos, reds, candy stripes 20/\$1.00. Blooming size 5/\$1.25 ppd SULENS NURSERY, Rt.1, Leesburg, Fla. 32748

**MISCELLANEOUS****CHRISTMAS ITEMS**

Christmas calendars and stationery decorated with postage stamps, tating and hand drawing. Calendars 25¢ plus stamped envelope. List included for 200 bird and flower designs on stationery. Other Christmas items. List for stamped envelope. H. HOUSEMAN, 2409 Simpson, Evanston, Ill.

THE COMPLETE INDOOR Light Garden! "Add - a -shelf" Plant Grower. Send today for free literature. NEAS GROWERS SUPPLY, Box 8773, Greenville, South Carolina 29604

ZIP CODE DIRECTORY: You can be sure of faster mail delivery when you ZIP code all mail. This new ZIP code directory covers all 50 states, plus U.S. possessions with over 35,000 listings. Special rate to Church Groups for fund raising. Order yours today, send only \$1.00 to: A. PIRELLO, P.O. Box 1066, Dept. OG-101, Erie, Pa. 16512

SONG lyrics professionally revised or rewritten in modern patterns, ready for a melody \$2 Three \$5. stamp. Also will trade Geranium house plants, cuttings, plants, rose cuttings, Iris, Mums for S&H stamps, handwork. CUPP'S LYR-SERVICE, Rt.1, Mars 355, Nipomo, Calif. 93444

**RUGS**

Doll house rugs, crocheted. Wonderful gifts for little girls. 50¢ and stamped envelope. EDNA JOHN, 1481 "D" Springfield, Ore. 97447

DEAR LETTER, go upon your way, etc..., gummed envelope seals, 250 / \$1.00. ACME PRINT, Landrum, S.C. 29356

HARRIETT'S needlework and lace instruction, preserve and pickle recipes, nature study. Sample 25¢. 6 issues \$1.00. BOX 20796 Los Angeles, Calif. 90006



**GARDEN AIDS**

LOOK WHAT a "D" cell catalyst will do for you. "D" cell catalyst purifies water and charges it with white light energy. One no.2 white catalyst will charge many gallons of tap water for drinking, treating seeds before planting, or watering plants. Just drop the "D" cell catalyst into a gallon jug of tap water or well water. After 24 hrs. it is ready to use. When the water is used, refill and start over again. One testimonial: I have been using your catalysts on my shrubs and flowers and feel they are doing a lot of good. My roses are thriving and I have never had many blossoms on my hibiscus, the plants are all dark green and healthy looking. I am very much pleased. Unquote Try making coffee or tea with the cell water, ever ice cubes. Wonderful for washing all vegetables before placing in refrigerator. \$1.00 each or 3 for \$2.50. HILARY M. DOREY, 12 Arnold Ave., Dept.2, Newport, R.I. 02840

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**POTPOURII**

Aunty Flo's old fashion Potpourii. 1 cup \$1. 1 pt. \$2 plus 25¢ postage for cup or pt. Sachets 50¢ each 5 for \$2 Sample 35¢ No orders after Nov. 1. MRS. FLORA M. STROUSE, P.O. Box 295, Wofford Hts., Calif. 93285

AMAZING, unique publication for women. Dime brings sample copy and subscription rates. JOHNSTON, 1240 S. Ohio Ave., Kokomo, Ind. 46901

**STATIONERY**

18 notes decorated with seals \$1 MARY RHODES, 1045 Underhill S.W., Grand Rapids, Mich. 49503

*Patronize  
Our  
Advertisers*

**BARGAIN COLUMN**

25 plants \$1 Postpaid, Straight or Mixed. Lily of the Valley, Jerusalem Artichoke Liatris, Coreopsis, Canterbury Bell, Chinese germander, Soapwort, Catnip, Spearmint, Wild geranium, Daisy, Wild Strawberry, Bunch Flower, Yarrow. D. WEIGAND, Wautoma, Wis. R.3 54982

Pedal Pushers, shorts for teen dolls, Barbie etc. 25¢ ppd. MRS. V. FAGAN, 119 Albany Ave., Amityville, L.I., NY 11701

SPECIAL- Red, White or pink Peonies; double shaded pink rose or pink Flowering Almond; 50¢ ea. plus 20¢ postage. MRS. OTTO WIESE, Ortonville, Minn. 56278

SPECIAL-\$1 4 Tiger lilies; 3 red Russian lilies; 3 Enchantment lilies or 3 red Giant Sept. Everbearing raspberries. MRS. OTTO WIESE, Ortonville, Minn. 56278

SPECIAL-3 for \$1 Reistern Daisy; Pyrethrum; Maltese Cross; Rosea Sage; lavender Monarda; white Phlox; Anthemis; Blue Hosta; Peachbell Campanula. MRS. OTTO WIESE, Ortonville, Minn. 56278

PODS of Plantain Lily, Mexican or Summer Poinsetta seeds, spoonful 25¢ stamped envelope. MRS. V. FAGAN, 119 Albany Ave., Amityville, L.I., New York 11701

Jumbo Elephant Garlic 2 huge starts 8 small \$1.00 RARE HATHOR Amaryllis white golden anthers 2 yrs, photo if returned, \$1.00 LEN MIRZWICK, 315 Piper St., Healdsburg., Calif.

ITALIAN MIXED Spices for spaghetti sauce. 8 bags for \$1. 18 bags for \$2. Recipes included. Postpaid. D. MUMPHREY, 17336 Kniffen St., Elsinore, Calif. 92330

**NOTICE**

A new display ad rate is now in effect for Ozark Gardens. Display ads are cut in half until further notice. Display ad rate is \$2.50 per column inch, this is a 3 inch column. Discounts are given on larger Display ads, please contact the Editor for complete discount rates. The deadline for display ads is the 5th of the month preceding publication. Camera ready copy appreciated.

Classified Deadline, 15th  
**ADVERTISING  
RATES**

Classified ads are as follows 5¢ per word. NOTICE 3 times for the price of 2 until further notice, add copy cannot be changed.

**BARGAIN COLUMN**

ORNAMENTAL PEPPER SEED pods 6 for 50¢; 10¢ postage. All different shapes size, colors. MRS. E.J. SANTMYER, 1315 S. Charlotte Ave., Sarasota, Fla. 33580

DAFFODILLS, Narcissus Grape Hycinth, Tiger Lilies; 40 for \$1 Plant cuttings; 12 for \$1 Stamp for list add postage. SUSIE MONROE, The Plains, Va.

THE BARGAIN COUNTER AGAIN RETURNS for the small advertiser. Ads will be accepted here at the old rate. 50¢ for the first 25 words, 4¢ for each additional word. There will be NO separate listing in this. All Bargain listings will appear under 1 heading. Those paying 5¢ per word, three times for the price of two will have their ad under a classified heading.



the fact that "That there great big bumble bee is stuck in that little flower, grandma!" or held our breath as is the same small one as he holds out a fly on a broom straw to entice Mr. Toad from his cool cavern under a log. Can you forget the glow of interest on a smuggy face as she watches a mud dauber roll up her balls of mud by the garden faucet? A Harvest? Yes, one I would not miss for all the supermarkets in the world. Give me my grandbabies and a garden anytime.

Think back to this summer. How many times have you come in from either work or just a stroll through your yard and not felt better for it? Tell me honestly, can you still stop to contemplate the sheer glory of a newly opened rose bud or the satiny beauty of a cactus blossom? I think not. Can you hold to a bitterness so tightly that the smile of a pansy face does not sweeten it a bit? Could you stay so gloomy that you could resist a chuckle when you caught the look of sheer disbelief from a Praying Mantis when suddenly caught in the spray of a garden hose and his inherited barometer had told him, "No rain today?" Could you cut a choice flower and bring it into place in an old and feeble hand that has in the years past tended a beloved garden of their own and not felt the glow of love and a deep sense of compassion?

Can you really clutch and hold fast to the belief of "here today, gone tomorrow" as you sift a tiny brown speck in the damp soil and know that a resulting green shoot will appear and produce the intricate and delicate veining and unbelievable colors of a Salpiglossis? Can you carry a heavy heart or a troubled mind to a garden and not feel the lift or gather peace from the low sweet song of a bird or the soothing whisper of running water?

Can you really go to a garden and not gather strength for what ever may face you? Call Him a Great Teacher or Savior, whichever you wish, and believe. But wasn't there a man called Jesus who went to a garden when He most needed spiritual help?

So it seems to me, as this our Harvest season is upon us, it might be well if we overlooked the baskets of fruit and grain or vegetables and took inventory of the greater and richer harvest we have been privileged to gather through our efforts as a Garden Biddie. The most precious things gleaned from a garden are not those we can touch or polish or sell or display at the County Fair.

May your Harvest show by the life in your step, the compassion of your touch, and the beauty of peace in your face. May the glow of an inner faith tell all that see you that a small mustard seed has pointed out to you a way of life, rich and full and deep. May your cup runneth over.

Begonia lovers, we have a new advertiser and this being Paul P. Lowe (look in Classified Page) send for his list of plants. For Ozark Garden readers he has a special offer, up to a \$12 order for \$5, don't miss this one. Send for his list.

For you bird lovers we have a new advertiser, Earl Douglass who has everything for the care of birds this winter. See his display ad on page 14. When you the readers purchase your need from our advertisers this helps to bring you a better magazine.

Don't miss the Nov. issue, two new columns will be in it, also the Letter of the Month will return in Nov. We did not have room this issue for the letters. We have more surprises to tell you, but will wait until another time to tell you about them. Bye now, and I hope your biggest "Harvest" was a new friend this year! Your Editor.

PLEASE buy your needs from our advertisers. They have all helped to bring you this big "Harvest Issue" of OG. Many of our advertisers have end of year specials. When answering the ads please tell them, I saw your ad in Ozark Gardens. Your comments on this issue would be greatly appreciated.

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#### Succulent Plants cont'd from page 27

(EE-tee-oh-lated), that is, pale, long and stringy, may be susceptible to rot and eventually may die. With experience in growing and in looking at other peoples plants, the collector will slowly develop an "eye" for what various plants ought to look like. Succulents are generally supposed to look compact, squatty, fat and colorful.

Next month, a bit on propagation, pests and diseases and then we'll start discussing specific groups of plants.

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#### My Rock Garden cont'd from page 35

very few will bloom the following spring. These require a place where they will never dry out. Be careful in choosing Tulips for the rock garden. I once bought *T. eichleri*, it is too tall, more like the border tulips. I think you will like the specie tulips for your rock garden. *T. biflora*, *T. linifolia* and *T. batalini* are the ones I have. They are small and dainty and some folks do not think of them as belonging to the border tulip. *T. tarda* or *Dasystemon* and *T. Kaufmannia* are nice.

I would like to go somewhere and see the different specie tulips in bloom. I would also like to see the miniature daffodils in bloom. I only have three different ones. I have only mentioned a few of our spring flowering bulbs. As you leaf through your catalogue you will think of others.



# Ozark Gardens

Return Postage Guaranteed

R. D. 1, BOX 227

FAIRVIEW, PA. 16415

BULK RATE  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Fairview, Pa.  
Permit No. 11

Mary's Gardens 5/67  
124 W. Chestnut Hill Ave.  
Philadelphia, Pa. 19118

Petunia bed at your editors home



Sample  
Copy 25¢

**DON'T MISS THIS BARGAIN SUBSCRIPTION PRICE**

½ year \$1.25 One year \$2.50 - Two years \$ 4.50

Fill in the coupon TODAY and mail to: OZARK GARDENS

R.D.1, BOX 227 FAIRVIEW, PENNSYLVANIA 16415

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