

HOME and GARDEN



The Highland Park Garden Study club will hold their regular March meeting on Monday, March 21 at 2 o'clock at the home of Mrs. Leo M. Steel, 250 Vine avenue. Mr. Robert Van Tress of Garfield Park Conservatory will talk of "hardy chrysanthemums, their value and culture." Mr. Van Tress is to bring cuttings which the members may have, so please bring a flower pot along to plant your cutting in.

Do not forget to purchase advance flower show tickets in the stores in Highland Park that have them.

Garden Questions

This column is conducted for the benefit of those people who have garden problems which they would like advice on. Questions will be answered as correctly as possible.

This week's question is: "We have a beautiful wooded lot, filled with beautiful violets, Jack in the pulpit, marsh marigold, but it is overrun with wild onions. Is there a remedy?"

The wild onions which grow in ravines multiply very rapidly and often do crowd out other wild flowers. The only way to combat them is to dig them out. They have a fleshy bulbous root like leek or onions and you must be sure to get all of the bulb removed in digging them up, or they will continue to grow and spread.

Deerfield Garden Club Studies Garden Design

The Deerfield Garden club met Wednesday (yesterday) afternoon at the home of Mrs. Walter Metcalf of County Line road. Mrs. Burr Hindahl was assisting hostesses. The topic was a continued study of garden design with the discussion led by Mrs. B. H. Platt of Wilmette and Mesdames C. E. Bates and Robert L. Johnson.



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The Calendula

Ever since I can remember the calendula has stirred in me the greatest desire for possession. When I see them displayed in a florist's shop, I want to rush right in and purchase them. They mean gorgeous beauty, joy and finish in my home. My favorite arrangement is a huge cluster in a clear glass bowl, for the green stems are lovely and do not discolor the water.

When I began to garden many years ago, I purchased calendula seed first. I planted, thinned out grudgingly, and awaited a burst of golden blossoms. They grew by leaps and bounds into a large green mass, but not a peep of gold. I pulled out a few plants to give them more room, and still no flowers. All my other annuals did fine so I decided it was the seed. The next spring I bought fine sturdy plants and gave them a choice place in my garden but with the same dismal result as the previous year. Lovely foliage! but hardly a blossom. Four years I kept on trying. This became a test of perseverance.

Moving to Deerfield, I confided my disappointment to a gardener and he immediately said,—"Too much shade in Wilmette. If you don't have lovely flowers here it will not be your fault. Plant them far apart, about ten inches, water and cultivate and reap your reward." I did as instructed and such a golden reward! I had calendula in every room, I gave them away (the joy of a real gardener) and picked them up to Nov. 4.

Along came last season. I bought some seed and some plants too. I planted them in the same place, in the same way. After starting to bloom, a hard jet black bug half the size of a grasshopper, only he did not hop, covered almost every inch of a plant. I would pull it out and burn it, and the next day another plant was covered. Of course in a short time my plants were all gone. Other clumps 150 feet away became infested. The pest did not fly, and could not be brushed off and did not bother any other plants.

Now I am wondering if it was planting in the same spot for two years. Can anyone help me? Another sad ending to my summer, but I am going to plant calendula again and I hope to be an authority before I die.—Contributed by Deerfield Garden Club.

Only Few Days Left for Garden School

These are the last three days of the garden school, which is being held at 510 S. Linden avenue, Highland Park, under the joint direction of Mrs. Frederick Fisher and Mrs. E. H. Klaber.

The school is having the enthusiastic support of the north shore gardeners, and their interest in the meetings has been evidenced by the many questions asked during the round table discussions. On Monday afternoon, when garden design was the subject under discussion, the

meeting was followed by a tour of Mrs. Klaber's garden, and to the delight of all Crocu Susianus was found blooming in the rock garden in spite of the zero weather we have been having. Mrs. Klaber proudly announced that this crocus has been in bloom, off and on since Feb. 26, as well as the snowdrops. This is one of the early crocus species that will be discussed on rock garden day, which is today.

Saturday is being looked forward to particularly by those attending, as the two "teachers" have a little dialogue prepared, as a final windup to the school. The shady garden and its problems will also be discussed on Saturday, while Friday is devoted to the unusual plants, a large collection of which are shown in leaf, as well as some beautiful evergreens, these plants having been brought over by Fiore and Clavey, for the purpose. Spraying and pruning is the other subject for Friday.

Wild Flowers Topic of Meeting Friday

The Ravinia Garden club held its March meeting at the home of Mrs. F. C. Atwill, Wildwood lane, Friday, March 11, a large number attending. Mrs. F. L. Venning gave an informal talk on wild flowers, which was greatly enjoyed after which a

varied table discussion of "Succession of bloom in the flower border" led by Mrs. L. F. Harza followed.

Tea was served after the meeting by the following hostesses: Mrs. F. C. Atwill, Mrs. R. W. McKnight, Mrs. J. M. Easton, and Mrs. J. M. Murphey.

The Sewing circle of St. Paul's church is meeting Thursday afternoon at the home of Mrs. George Antes.

Miss Harriett Stryker, who is visiting her sister, Mrs. J. Kynett Haehlen of Dysart, Iowa, has been ill with an eye infection since her arrival there.

Miss Matsen of Racine spent the week-end with Miss Jean Nygard.

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