

11-5-73



THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

*landscape arboretum*

## MEMBERS' NEWSLETTER

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As Nature prepares herself for winter the Arboretum maintenance staff and members of various Plant Societies lend a helping hand. Early Saturday morning, October 20th, members of the Minnesota Rose Society arrived at the Arboretum to work with the staff in putting the roses to bed for the winter. Within 2 hours they had accomplished their goal.

As well as being grateful to the contributors for their generous gifts the Arboretum is most appreciative of the groups that contribute their time and energy. The Iris Society, the Dahlia Society, the Rose Society, the Northstar Lily Society, the Herb Societies, the Day Lily Society, and the Arboretum Auxiliary all help with the weeding, pruning, potting and covering necessary to make and keep the Arboretum a beautiful place. The regular staff is small and the help of these groups is essential.

The Arboretum roads will be closed during the winter months but members are welcome to park outside the gates and hike through the Arboretum. Trails will be marked for cross country skiing and hiking. As long as the members continue to follow the marked trails the Arboretum can continue to stay open for these winter activities, so --- please observe the signs.

### WINTER AT THE ARBORETUM

Our winter visitors may wish to become better acquainted with plants that are attractive during the winter. Trees with colored bark are of special interest. High on the list would be the Amur cherry, *Prunus maackii*. The metallic, reddish brown bark, that flakes off like a birch, contrasts with the white of the snow. The river birch, *Betula nigra*, with its brownish bark gives a warmth to the winter landscape. Other trees like the Korean mountain ash, *Sorbus alnifolia*, and bladdernut, *Staphylea trifolia*, have interesting bark patterns. Learning to know trees in winter can be a fascinating study.

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continued: WINTER AT THE ARBORETUM

Although few plants hold their fruits all winter, several do have attractive fruits during the early winter months. The winterberry, *Ilex verticillata*, has clusters of bright red berries that remain attractive until about Christmas. These can be seen in the bog area. The highbush cranberries also hold their fruits throughout the winter. The Korean barberry, *Berberis Koreana*, has bright red fruits that hang like clusters of grapes. These can be seen on the ridge just south of the Ordway Shelter.

ARBORETUM BIRD FEEDING STATION  
Jim Gilbert, Naturalist

Recently the Arboretum received a gift and a memorial to help support a bird feeding station that will be located just outside of the tea room and fireplace room of the new education and research building. A fifteen foot oak log with four tray feeders, two hopper feeders, three suet feeders and two suet sticks will be put out in the area. Roy Olson from Minnetonka is giving the materials and talent needed to construct the feeders. He hopes to have them ready for staining in another week. Al Zander, an avid birder from the Hopkins area, has given me much insight concerning plant materials that attract birds. Many trees and shrubs that produce fruit that birds like will be planted and will be an important part of the bird feeding station.

I'm wondering if any of our Arboretum members know of a source of suet that we could plan on year-round. Considering the plant materials and maintenance (bird seed, etc.), we need more support for the bird feeding station. Anyone interested in contributing can do so by writing to the:

Minnesota Arboretum Foundation  
Route 1, Box 132-1  
Chaska, Minnesota 55318

All checks should be made out to the Minnesota Arboretum Foundation