

# THE SECATEUR



Gardeners of Central Lake County

*Where grown-ups get to play with the dirt*

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**Past Presidents:** Susan Plasz, Andy Plasz, Tony Kirch, Jerry Cleland, Andy Kimmel

Secateur Submission deadline: 25<sup>th</sup> of each month

**Gardeners of Central Lake County's Website:**

<http://www.gardenersofcentrallakecounty.org/>

## **Monthly Board Meetings: 7 p.m.**

The board meets the first Wednesday of the month at 359 Merrill Court, Libertyville (just west of Milwaukee Ave, just south of Winchester Road.)

The **club meetings** are held on the second Monday of the month at **7:00 p.m.** in the CrossLife Evangelical Free Church on the SE corner of Garfield Ave and Austin Ave. in Libertyville.

**Volume 51, Issue 103 December 2016**

## **President's Message: by Karen O'Hayer**

Hello, Gardeners.

At the November meeting we held our annual pie social. The pies were sweet or savory, and all delicious. Thanks to all the pie bakers! We also held our fall seed swap, which in addition to seeds, included gardening books, tools, pots, and even plants. We had a good mix of annual, perennial, herb and vegetables seeds. I



demonstrated the Burpee self-watering seed starting system, which ensures even, constant moisture for germination and developing seedlings.

Cindy Julian gave a

terrific talk and demo on the winter-sowing seed starting method. This is a great technique to use for native plants, many of which require a period of wet/cold "stratification" before the seeds will sprout.

We are looking forward to our annual Holiday Party and Dinner on Sunday, December 4 at the St. Lawrence Episcopal Church in Libertyville. Set up begins at 3:00, reception at 4:00, and dinner at 5:00. As in past years, the main course will be chicken and mini meatballs from Mariano's, accompanied by a cornucopia of appetizers, salads, side dishes and desserts provided by our members. We all know what great cooks we have in the club, so bring your appetites and holiday spirit. And speaking of spirits, there will be plenty of beer and wine, as well as apple cider for your enjoyment.

I am delighted to report that we have 2 volunteers for our three openings on the Board of Directors next year. That leaves just one opening still to be filled. If you'd like to get more involved and help shape the future of our club, please consider joining the board. As Andy Plasz so eloquently stated at our November meeting, without people willing to step up and serve on the board, we may not have a club in the future. Our club has been in existence since 1949, when it was called the Men's Garden Club of Libertyville-Mundelein. Thanks to savvy decisions by the board over the years, we now encompass all of central Lake County and include both men and women among our ranks. So, don't delay, volunteer today, and help keep this historic club thriving.

It has been my pleasure to serve as the club president this year. I have continually witnessed the energy and dedication of our members who make this club so successful. We provide many opportunities for both the community and our members to get involved in and appreciate gardening, from the spring plant sale and Green Living Fair, to our summer garden walk and



picnic, and our fall seed swap and year-end holiday party. Throughout the year we provide a series of informative programs, opportunities to compete in plant and photography

competitions, a terrific newsletter, and great food and camaraderie. During the growing season, we support the community gardens and maintain the beautiful public rose garden in downtown Libertyville. We accomplish all this through the contributions of our talented and dedicated members. Thanks to each of you for helping to make 2016 a great year for the Gardeners of Central Lake County! Happy Holidays!

### This Month's Club Activity:

December 4<sup>th</sup>

Holiday Party/Annual Meeting

### Future Programs for 2017

January 9<sup>th</sup>

Alaska Flowers & Wildlife

Joan Sayre, Professional Photographer

Photo Contest:

Jerry Cleland

**Feb. 13**

### The Care of Trees: The Soil, Food, Web What You Need to Know

Dr. Rex Bastian, Regional Technical Advisor

**March 13**

### Radicle Root Farm:

### The Importance of Organic Growing and Eating

Alison Parker

**March 18**

### Green Living Fair

Libertyville Civic Center

10 am-2 pm

**April 10**

### The Inviting Front Yard

Julie Janoski, Janoski Designs

**May 8**

### Coyotes and Other Canines of Lake County

Melissa Alderson, Ryerson Conservation Area

Lake County Forest Preserves

**May 13**

### Plant Sale

Crawford Warming House

8:30-11 am

For more information contact Cindy at 847-772-2186 or [juliancindy@hotmail.com](mailto:juliancindy@hotmail.com)

### It's time to collect membership dues for 2017

The amount is \$20.00 for an individual, \$30 for a couple.

Dues can be paid at the Holiday dinner, or at the January meeting. You can mail the check to Arlene at the following address.

Arlene Doran  
1027 Lomond Drive  
Mundelein, IL 60060

### 2017 Photo Competition

For the upcoming year, the theme for our club's Photo



Contest is "Bees, Bugs and Butterflies." Our process for this year's contest will be similar. We encourage members to photograph Bees, Bugs and Butterflies while also remembering we are a garden club interested in plants, flowers, and landscapes.

For those who might be interested, here are a couple of websites to visit –

<http://www.xerces.org/blog/5-insect-photo-tips/> and  
<http://monarchbutterflygarden.net/butterfly-photography-secrets/>

In December, members will be reminded to submit their best 5 photos for the 2017 contest, keeping in mind that the submitted photos are not required to contain any of the thematic objects (Bees, Bugs and/or Butterflies).

For the upcoming contest, we want to encourage more of our members to enter photos. Because most of us constantly use our smart phones, we follow one of the cardinal guidelines of photography: Take your camera with you. The photo competition for the club was created to help all of us get better at taking photos of our flowers, plants, and gardens. For those of you who have not entered before or have not entered for a few years, please consider submitting your own photos this year. It is great fun and we will all become better photographers as we continue to learn from each other.

## November Meeting 2016



## The Gardener's Life

By Janice Paulson

Lend a thought, a hand, a heart

That's what friends who garden do

Till the land and plant relationships

Grow a community and harvest camaraderie

Friends who garden

Cherish the earth and the lives they sow

## November Plant Competition

There were fewer entries in October than usual as it is almost end of the gardening season.

## Results of October 2016 Plant Competition

Name	Entry	Points
<b>Best of the Show</b>	Orchid	10
John Adams		
<b>First Place</b>		
Karen O'Hayer	Christmas Cactus	5
Cathy Nardo	Rosemary Boriza	5
Andy Plasz	Chrysanthemum Swift	5

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