

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: 25th 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 99 July 2016

President's Message: by Karen O'Hayer

Hello gardeners. The hot weather is here, and I hope you are finding ways to enjoy summer in the garden. Don't forget the sunscreen and drink plenty of water. Reading a good book in the shade is a great way to appreciate your garden.

Due to my interest in saving seeds, I've been trying some new things in the veggie and herb garden. Until recently, when growing greens such as lettuce, spinach, and arugula, I was always sad when I saw the plants begin to put up flower stalks (also known as bolting). That meant the end of the useful life of the plants in my garden, and I would pull them out and head for the compost pile. Greens become notoriously bitter once they bolt and even a lover of bitter flavors such as I has to call a halt to eating arugula once it flowers.

But seed saving has changed all that! Now the flower stalks signal an opportunity to watch the plants flower and set seed, and then to collect the seed for planting next year. I am amazed by how interesting, and even beautiful, some veggie and herb flowers are. I have a fine crop of cilantro in bloom, and its tiny white flowers



are attracting a wide variety of miniature pollinators (bees, wasps, and flies). My favorite is a little green metallic sweat bee, which I was lucky to capture in a photograph the other day. And that is

the wonder of gardening; no matter how long you've been at it, there are always new things to experiment with.



Our own Jerry Cleland spoke on iPhone photography at our at our June 13 club meeting. In addition to covering how to take, edit, and store photos, his presentation

included lots of great tips on what makes a visually interesting photograph. Thank-you Jerry, for a terrific presentation!

And speaking of photography, our club will be holding an insect photo expedition, led by local nature photographer Joan Sayre on Saturday, July 16, at Butler Lake in Libertyville. We will meet at Crawford Warming House at 9:00 am. Joan's specialty is macro (close-up) photography, and I'm sure you won't want to miss an opportunity to join her



on an insect photo walk. Remember, this year's photo contest theme is "Bees, Bugs, and Butterflies!"

Our June monthly plant competition included a nice selection of entries, and Andy Plasz gave us some excellent pointers on how to present plants at their best for the upcoming mini show on August 8. Please consider participating, especially if you haven't done so in the past. This is a friendly and fun competition and a great opportunity to show off the fruits of your labor to an appreciative audience.

Our annual garden walk will take place on Saturday, July 9. Many thanks to Susan Plasz and Delores O'Connell for once again finding several beautiful and exciting gardens. Thanks also to our members who have signed up to help with the walk on the day of the event, to Arlene Doran for coordinating the staffing of the gardens, and to Cindy Julian for handling publicity. At this year's walk, we have an opportunity to encourage attendees to establish monarch butterfly habitat on their own properties. We will be selling native plants that support the monarch at garden 2, the North Beach Monarch Way Station.

We are currently recruiting club members who would like to join a committee to work on the 2017 garden walk. Please let me or Delores O'Connell know if you can help. Also, please let us know of any gardens you

would recommend the committee consider for next year's walk.

Our annual picnic will take place on Friday, July 15, at Old School Forest Preserve, shelter D. Thanks to Pat Meehan for taking reservations this year and to Terri and Dale Vanderwerff for purchasing the raffle prizes. The Gardeners of Central Lake County know how to throw a mean potluck, so don't miss this evening of great food and camaraderie.

Also keep in mind our August 6 Libertyville Community Gardens Open House from 8:30 to 11:00 am. Please join us for a self-guided tour of the gardens. This is a great opportunity to chat with the gardeners and see what interesting veggies, herbs and flowers they are raising. Bring along your camera or smart phone to capture some great garden photos; there will be plenty of pollinators around, so snap a few shots for our photo competition.

Next Club Activity:

July **No Monthly Meeting**
July 9th **Garden Walk**
July 15th **Picnic**



Future Programs for 2016

August 6th: Libertyville Community Gardens Open House

August 8th: **Monthly Meeting**

Mini Plant Show

September 12th: **Monthly Meeting**

Alan Schulman,

Easy Gardening

Alan Schulman and Sam Solomon produced a 12 episode TV show called Easy Gardening. Alan will explain the background of the series. He will then show the episode that features a full sun garden and a shade garden. He will also show a time lapse movie of the lifecycle of the Monarch butterfly.

October 10th: **Monthly Meeting**

Nell Rice – Owner - Debbie's Floral, Mundelein

Floral Arranging for the Holidays: Nell will demonstrate some easy, fun, and functional ways to decorate for the holidays without breaking the bank! Beautiful arrangements will be raffled off.

November 14th: **Pie Social**

December 4th

Holiday Party/Annual Meeting

The club meets the second Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in The CrossLife Evangelical Free Church, 431 W. Austin in Libertyville.

Guests are always welcome!

For more information contact Cindy at 847-772-2186 or juliancindy@hotmail.com

Welcome New Members

Donna Hughes

207 Woodland Rd., Libertyville, IL 60048

847-367-6791

dhughes50@yahoo.com

Gardening interests: Perennials, shrubs and design

Other Interests: Avid reader, travel, grandchildren

Susan Gressgott

1043 Lomond Drive, Mundelein, IL 60060

913-314-8382

suzievg@yahoo.com

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.

"Insect Photo" expedition:

Joan Sayre, who made a great photo presentation in January titled, "Bees, Bugs, and Butterflies" has graciously offered to lead an "Insect Photo" expedition on **Saturday July 16 at 9:00 am** (assuming it is not pouring rain). We will meet at the Crawford Warming house and begin our training as Joan leads us around Butler Lake to show us how to find and photograph local bees, bugs, and butterflies. If you are interested, please contact Jerry Cleland at jwclel@comcast.net and he will add you to the list of participants.

Save The Date:

The McHenry County Master Gardener Garden Walk

Saturday, July 9, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Presented by McHenry County College and

U of I Extension McHenry County Master Gardeners

\$12 early bird (through June 30), \$17 at the door.

Come visit eight of the best home gardens in the county. The tour starts at the McHenry County College Demonstration garden, 8900 U.S. Route 14, Crystal Lake, and meanders through Crystal Lake, Marengo and Huntley.

This is a self-guided tour, and each of the gardens has its own personality. There are shady woodland gardens, prairie gardens, a plant collector's garden, pass-along-plant gardens and a sustainable organic farmette. In addition, Master Gardeners will answer questions as well as offer educational materials.

The Master Gardeners' plant sale will take place at the Demo Garden while supplies last.

Buy advance tickets for \$12 by calling 815-455-8588 (through June 30) or purchase tickets on line at www.mchenry.edu/gardenwalk. Tickets can be purchased the day of the walk at the Master Gardeners' Demo Garden at MCC for \$17. For information, call 815-479-7570, visit mchenry.edu/gardenwalk or email conferencecenter@mchenry.edu.

2016 Monthly Plant Competition



In the month of June, members brought in 9 wonderful entries. All of these June entries were beautiful Fern, Rhododendron, Roses,

Orchid etc. Best of the show award was given to Rhododendron flowers and Asiatic Lily.

If you have something that looks good to you, why don't you bring it to the monthly meeting and enter it in the competition. You never know it may be the best flower of the show. It is worth giving a try.

Results of April 2016 plant competition

Name	Entry	Points
Best of the show		
Sarah O'Brien	Rhododendron	10
Karen O'Hayer	Asiatic Lily	10
First Place		
John Adams	Phaleonopsis Orchid	5
Jerry Cleland	Dendrobium Orchid	5
Jerry Cleland	Vanda Orchid	5
Sarah O'Brien	Miniature Rose	5
Karen O'Hayer	Ostrich Fern	5
Janice Paulson	Climbing Honeysuckle	5
Janice Paulson	Climbing Rose	5
Janice Paulson	Fern	5
Janice Paulson	Impatient	5
Second Place		
Jerry Cleland	Vanda Orchid	3

2016 Year to Date Results

Name	Points
Janice Paulson	83
Jerry Cleland	28
Sarah O'Brien	15
Karen O'Hayer	15
Nancy Adams	10
Chuck Austin	10
Laurie Austin	10
Delores O'Connell	8
John Adams	5
Andy Plasz	5
Susan Plasz	5

The past is another country.

Memories are our passport

that chronicles the dreams of long ago.

Whether fleeting and random

or lingering and constant

images form from life's incidents

that shape our being and

the person we were meant to be.

-by Janice Paulson

Special Event

Alan Schulman has offered to show us his office veggie and flower garden. Inspired by a speaker at a club meeting a few years ago, Alan, with the help of his company's employees built a very unusual above ground vegetable garden. In addition they added 4 in ground wildflower and annual flower beds. Part of the garden was created to be a Monarch Butterfly Way Station. That garden includes Milkweed to attract the Monarchs and feed the caterpillars. The flowers then feed the Butterflies.

The vegetable garden grows in 11 above ground boxes. There is a new box that has tomatoes and Peppers growing in a bale of straw. A wide variety of veggies feed the company staff all summer long.

In addition the group is invited to view Alan and Barb's home garden that is nearby. Many of you have seen this but there are a lot of new plantings that should be in bloom then so we can take a quick walk through. And yes, you can feed the fish in Alan's pond. Lastly we will pick a local restaurant and those that want to will go there for a nice dinner together. Nothing formal, just a casual evening with gardening friends. No RSVP, just show up and enjoy. We hope to see you there!

Date: Wednesday July 20, 2016.

Time: 5:00 PM

Location: Corporate offices of Glentronics,

645 Heathrow Dr. Lincolnshire, IL 60069



Libertyville Community Gardens Open House

Stop by the Libertyville Community Garden Plots and be inspired by the vegetable gardens that flourish at this location. Tour the plots to see what gardeners are growing. Master Gardeners will be available on site to answer questions.

Time: 8:30 to 11 am

Location: 1200 American Way, Libertyville, IL 60048, directly behind The Chapel building.

Park at the far northeast corner of parking lot.



Garden Walk 2015



2016 FREE GARDEN WALK - GARDENERS OF CENTRAL LAKE COUNTY

HELD RAIN OR SHINE – SATURDAY – JULY 9, 2016 – 10 AM TO 2 PM

All gardens will be marked with signs.

WELCOME! As visitors to these delightful gardens, please keep children under control and out of garden beds. Park on the street away from driveways. Keep pets at home and no early birds or latecomers can be accommodated.

Garden 1: Cheryl and Reno Picciola-19464 W. Cambridge Rd. This garden sports a nice variety of native perennials along with hybrids, even roses with trees and shrubs mixed in. Pathways wander through, connecting different 'rooms' in the garden. You won't want to miss this one. Cambridge is only $\frac{3}{4}$ mile from Loch Lomond and well worth it.

Directions: Reference point is Winchester Rd and Midlothian Rd. Go south on Midlothian about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile and turn left on Cambridge. At 'Y' stay right on Cambridge. Garden is at end of road on the left.

Important: Please drive through Loch Lomond from Midlothian Rd. to Hwy 45 – NOT the reverse. This will put you on the same side of the road as the gardens and avoid blocking the road with parked cars on both sides.

Garden 2: North Beach Monarch Way Station and Native Rain Garden-545 Banbury Rd. These gardens were planted and are maintained by local residents under the umbrella of the homeowners association. The guiding light on this project is Fritz Chesek. He and an additional resident will be available to answer questions.

Directions: Return to Midlothian and turn left. Proceed $\frac{3}{4}$ mile south to Killarney Pass and turn left. (There will be an elementary school on your right.) Take the first left on Aberdeen Ln. Turn right onto Banbury Rd. at the 'T' intersection. The garden will be on your right at the bottom of a hill. You will see a small parking lot. If it's full, park at the side of the road.

Garden 3: Corrie Glass-383 Banbury Rd. This is a very peaceful garden inspired by Japanese design. The shady green plantings slope gracefully to the waters of Loch Lomond. Here Japanese culture mixes gently with the Midwest. Relax and enjoy.

Directions: Continue east on Banbury Rd. At the 'Y' stay right on Banbury and look for 383 right away on your right.

Garden 4: Lori Sweeney-355 Banbury Rd. This picture perfect garden has admittedly professional maintenance but it is the design on the homeowner who takes an active part in guiding its plantings. Creative garden spaces highlight classy garden art.

Directions: Proceed east on Banbury Rd. Look for 355 on your Right.

Garden 5: Sally Pilcher-277 Banbury Rd. Swaths of sunny perennials sweep across a fairly steep lake bluff in a riot of color. At the bottom a row of mature trees contrasts against the lake water. Looking up at the bluff from below you can see pattern and movement in the color palette.

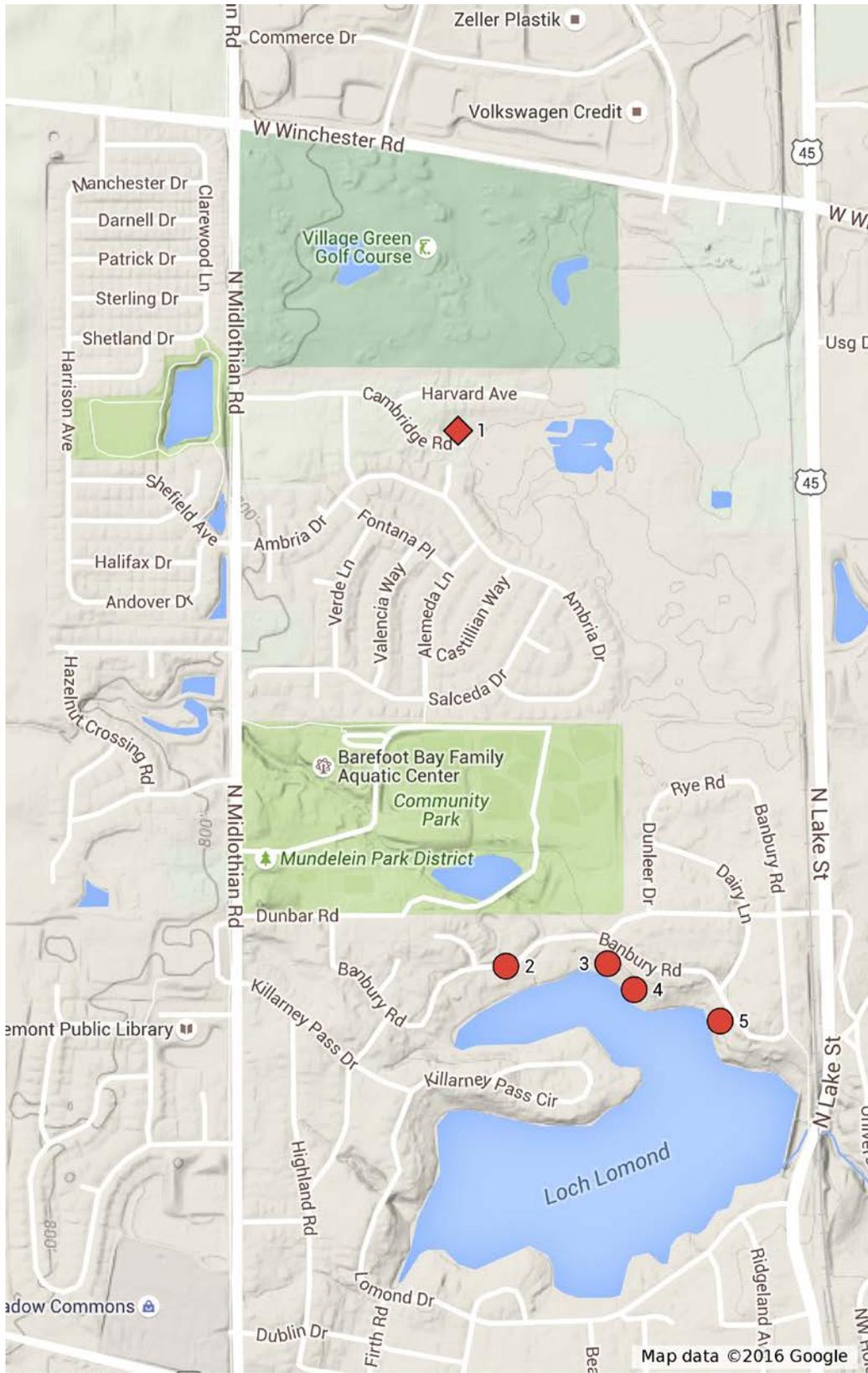
Directions: Continue east on Banbury. Look for 277 on your right.

To exit Loch Lomond continue on Banbury around the curve to Dunbar Rd. Turn right. You will be facing RR tracks and a traffic light on Hwy. 45. Take care not to get caught on the tracks by a red light. A right on 45 will take you south to Hwy. 176. A left on 45 goes north to Winchester Rd.

Additionally, a raffle will be held – tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00

The prize: a \$50.00 gift Certificate to Pasquesi's in Lake Bluff.

Gardeners of Central Lake County | Garden Walk July 9, 2016 10 am - 2 pm



**Gardeners of Central Lake County
General Rules Garden Show August 8, 2016
JUDGING BEGINS AT 7:00PM**

Sections:

1. **Annual flowers:** open class, 1,2 or 3 stems, more if under 1 inch diameter for nice display
2. **Perennial flowers:** open class, 1,2 or 3 stems, more if under 1 inch diameter
3. **Herbs and Native Plants:** open class, 1,2 or 3 stems or planted in pot
4. **Roses:** open class, 1 stem per entry
5. **Fruits and Vegetables:** open class, 1 over 4", 3 or more for nice display of other sizes
6. **Horticultural Novelties/specialties,** shrubs /tree branches with leaves and flowers or seed heads displayed on butcher paper. Fresh or dried arrangements. Enter ornamentals, grasses and any other miscellaneous entry in vases.
7. **Potted foliage and flowering plants:** open class
8. **Junior Class, 18 years and younger:** Entries conforming to the above 7 classes

There will be a **limit of five total entries** per member. Entries may be in any section, such as:
2 entries in Section #1 and 3 entries in Section #4,
No more than 1 entry of the same plant or variety per exhibitor; but multiple varieties, i.e. tomatoes permitted.

Entries will be received from 6:00PM to 7:00PM on August 8. Judging will start at 7:00PM

Please stage your entries in your own containers.
Containers will not be provided.

Please fill out your entry tag with **Section** number, plant **Variety** and your **Name** on **both** parts of the tag.
We will not use Class numbers
We will not use Exhibitor numbers
We recommend you use pre-printed address labels.

If there is an over-abundance or an under-abundance of plants in a section, the judges may subdivide or combine sections to make the competition level appropriate.

MAKE SURE TO COMPLETE THE BOTTOM PORTION OF THE ENTRY TAG ALSO. Again, do not use Class or Exhibitor numbers here.




Section **Class** No Class #

Variety

Exhibitor's Number
Name
Address

1st <input type="checkbox"/> Award	2nd <input type="checkbox"/> Award	3rd <input type="checkbox"/> Award	Honorable <input type="checkbox"/> Mention
1st <input type="checkbox"/> Award	2nd <input type="checkbox"/> Award	3rd <input type="checkbox"/> Award	Honorable <input type="checkbox"/> Mention

Section **Class**
Variety
Exhibitor's Number
Name
Address

No Exhibitor #

Preparing Exhibits

Flowers

Generally, flowers should be cut the afternoon or evening before the show to be at their best at the time of judging, but some fade quickly so a little practice ahead of time is helpful. Hardening over night in a cool, dark, draft-free room with stems deeply immersed in cold water often helps your blooms to maintain good condition. Avoid wetting the blooms.

Groom your entries carefully for the show. In most cases, flowers should be displayed with foliage. Clean the blooms as well as the foliage. Remove all spray or dust residues. Remove any blemished petals but don't leave any traces of that removal. Don't oil or wax the leaves. Clean them with a damp cloth and/or rub them gently with your fingers to bring out the natural gloss of the foliage.

Carefully handle and transport all entries. Keep the flowers separated to avoid breaking, tearing, and bruising the blooms and foliage. This takes a little extra time but it is often the difference between the winners and the others.

Generally speaking, very large blooms or individual rose blooms are displayed singly while medium to small blooms are displayed in 3's and 5's. They should 'stand up' out of their container and 'face' the judges in a pleasing form. Viewers should not touch entries prior to judging.

Potted plants

The same ideas apply as listed above but you must also be sure the pot is clean and not distracting. Outdoor pots do not need to be 'hidden' but they should not be cracked, mildewed, or otherwise obviously inadequate.

Vegetables

Choose specimens that are pleasing to you; if they are not you should probably skip entering them unless due to seasonal or other unusual conditions merely having a specimen is a triumph. Vegetables can be picked several days prior to the show provided they are kept in prime condition in cool or refrigerated conditions without loss of moisture.

Make sure you clean, trim, prune, and otherwise improve the appearance and symmetry; wash but do not scrub. Torn, loose, brown, spotted, and otherwise unpleasing material should be removed. Even the finest specimens may be damaged in harvesting, cleaning, storing, and transporting. Great care should be taken in this regard.

The most important elements in winning a prize are freshness, overall pleasing appearance, and uniformity in size, color, and shape. All other factors being equal, large size is of importance only where it indicates outstanding cultural practices and quality. Otherwise a moderate size is preferred.

All entries

Don't insist on perfection – the blue ribbon may be awarded to a winner less perfect than the one you decided not to bring. Do your best to make each entry pleasing to view. If you are unsure for any particular entry, ask one of the 'old pros' and they will be happy to assist.

Secateur
25229 Wayside Place
Lake Villa, IL 60046

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