

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 97 May 2016

President's Message: by Karen O'Hayer

Hello, gardeners! I hope you are all getting a chance to enjoy this beautiful and long-awaited warm weather. If you love spring wild flowers, I recommend a visit to Daniel Wright Woods, a prime location for the woodland spring ephemerals. On a recent visit there I found spring beauties, trout lilies, and white trillium creating a carpet of bloom under the trees.

And when the flowers are out, the insects emerge. As I write these remarks I'm sitting in my backyard watching the bumblebees and some fascinating bee mimics buzz over the garden. The mimics look very much like bumblebees, complete with a heavy-bodied, zigzag pattern of flight and buzzing sounds. However, on closer examination they turn out to be beetles, and their



common name is the very appropriate "bumblebee scarab." Please remember our photo competition challenge of Bees, Butterflies, and Bugs,

and be sure to snap photos of some of the small, but fascinating, insects that visit your garden.

And speaking of insects, at our April 11 club meeting, Melissa Alderson, of the Lake County Forest Preserve, gave a fascinating and entertaining presentation entitled "Pollination: Plant Survival Tactics." As Melissa emphasized, pollinators are vital to human life on the planet, and as gardeners we can do our part to provide habitat and food for bees, butterflies, and other pollinators.



Melissa's talk was followed by our monthly plant competition, which included a large number of beautiful entries. And as always, we followed up with treats and good conversation. Thanks

to the members who provided delicious treats for the meeting and to Debbi Hoover for coordinating the refreshments.

Our plant sale will take place on Saturday, May 7, from 8:30 to 11:00 am. This is our annual fundraiser and is made possible every year by the enthusiasm and contributions of our members. So, I'd like to take a moment to thank all of our members who are busy dividing and potting up perennials, nurturing veggie and herb seedlings, and who have volunteered to help with setup the day before or to assist on the day of the sale. Special thanks to Cindy Julian for managing publicity for this event and to Tony Kirch, who, as always, is the hub of all plant sale activity. Here's to another successful sale!

I look forward to seeing you at the upcoming club meeting on May 9, where our speaker will be Dr. Rex Bastian, Regional Technical Advisor, The Care of Trees. His presentation is entitled "Fertilization: Myth versus Reality."

Next Club Activity:

May 7th: **Plant Sale**

May 9th: **Monthly Meeting**

Dr. Rex Bastian –Ph.D. in Entomology; MS and BS in Horticulture; - Regional Technical Advisor, The Care of Trees®

Fertilization – Myth Versus Reality - Have you ever wondered how and why fertilizers actually work? What does “organic” really mean? Is there more to healthy plants than just N-P-K-levels? We will discuss what fertilizers are and what they can and can't do. We will take a look at the “science” of fertilizers and dispel the myths. We will also discuss the soil food web and its importance to plants.

Future Programs for 2016

June 13th: **Monthly Meeting**

Beginning iPhone Photography for Gardeners

- Jerry Cleland

The focus of the presentation will be on using the iPhone for flower and gardening photography. The presentation will include basic instructions for using the iPhone

camera as well as basic photography techniques. The presentation will also describe some ways to edit, store, and send photos.

July **No Monthly Meeting**

July 9th **Garden Walk**

July 15th **Picnic**



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:

Carole Brunner

1337 Bristol Ln

Buffalo Grove, IL. 60089

brun142002@yahoo.com

847-913-9396

Gardening Interests: vegetables, cutting flowers and edible flowers

Annual Plant Sale 2016

MAY 7, 2016 8:30 to 11:00

by Tony Kirch

Our ANNUAL PLANT SALE will be at the CRAWFORD WARMING HOUSE, 817 W. Lake Street in Libertyville.

Many of us are digging, dividing, potting, and labeling our plants. Let me know what plants you are bringing. Plants (labeled) should be brought to the Warming House between 9:00 & 11:30am on Friday, May 6th. We will set up on Friday. If you are unable to bring plants on Friday, please bring them on Saturday morning. Make sure they are properly labeled.

Note: Labels should have name, time of bloom, color, and height.

Example: PHLOX – 30” – Pink – Summer- Sun

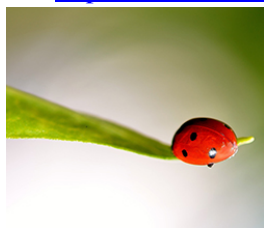
We hope to have everything ready for Saturday.

More members are needed to get involved this year as we have lost some helpers and some sources of plants. Thank You for your support in this effort. Questions? Call me at 224-541-4374 or email me at tkirch40@comcast.net. Tony Kirch

2017 Photo Competition

For the upcoming year, the theme for our club's Photo Contest is "Bees, Bugs and Butterflies." As you may remember, last year we first tried a themed contest with a focus on Trees. Our contest "guidelines" were that members should try their best to take photos of any part of any type of tree species. Tree photos were not required for last year's contest and as we move forward we will continue to encourage members to submit photos containing any other garden-related content. For the 2016 contest our members submitted a total of 53 photos and 38 contained trees. The top 20 photos, as voted by club members, had 17 with a tree theme.

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, I will remind members 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. To that end, I am putting together a program to talk about taking photos with an iPhone. The quality of the cameras on smart phones continues to increase with each new generation, to the point where smart phone photos are becoming nearly indistinguishable from those taken on more traditional DSLR cameras. Because most of us constantly use our portable 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.

2016 Monthly Plant Competition



In the month of April, members brought in 8 wonderful entries. All of these April entries are beautiful spring flowers. Chuck Austin's Gem Daffodils won best of the show award.

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		
Chuck Austin	Gem Daffodils	10
First Place		
Jerry Cleland	Dendrobium Orchid	5
Delores O'Connel	Hellebore	
Janice Paulson	Dried Fern Frond	5
Janice Paulson	Daffodils	
Janice Paulson	Blue & White Scilla	5
Janice Paulson	Blue Scilla	
Janice Paulson	White Scilla	5

2016 Year to Date Results

Name	Points
Janice Paulson	30
Jerry Cleland	15
Chuck Austin	10
Laurie Austin	10
Delores O'Connell	8
Susan Plasz	5
Nancy Adams	5

2016 GCLC Secateur Email List

Life Members (*) &
Honorary Members (**)

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2016 GCLC ROSTER

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