

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 102 November 2016

President's Message: by Karen O'Hayer

Hello, Gardeners.

Nell Rice, owner of Debbie's Floral in Mundelein, gave a terrific presentation at the October meeting, entitled



"Floral Arranging for the Holidays." Nell gave hands-on demonstrations of how to create arrangements and wreaths using fresh flowers, foliage, ribbons, bows and

decorations. She shared some great tips on where to purchase materials and supplies, and raffled off all her creations to our club members. I am definitely inspired to try my hand at making some arrangements this holiday season.

Our club's 2017 calendar is back from the printer. It looks terrific! In addition to a wonderful collection of tree-related photos by our members, it includes all of our up-coming meetings and activities for 2017. The calendars will be available for purchase for \$10 at our November 14th meeting to those who pre-ordered them. We also have three calendars left from the national organization, the Gardeners of America. Several of our club member's photos were featured in this calendar, which will be available for sale for \$5.

We will hold a seed swap at the November 14th meeting. This is the perfect time for a swap, especially for those of you who would like to try the winter-

sowing method of seed starting. Please bring seeds you have collected, labeled with the plant name, collector's name, year collected, and any special germination requirements. You may also bring full or partial commercial seed packets. In addition you may bring garden related items such as pots, tools, and books that you would like to swap. At the meeting, members will be invited to stand up and share advice on seed starting or demonstrate seed starting techniques. Let's make this a real information-sharing session so we can all improve our success with growing plants from seed!

The November meeting will also be our ever-popular pie social. Don't forget to bring your favorite pie and help support our yearly sugar rush. It's always a good time!

We will have several openings on our Board of Directors next year. If you would like to work with a great group of people, get more involved in the club, and help shape our future direction, please consider joining. The time commitment is 12 meetings per year. Just let me or any of the board members know if you would like to get involved. Thanks!

Be sure to mark your calendar for the Holiday Party and Annual Dinner on December 4th at the St. Lawrence Episcopal Church in Libertyville. Setup is at 3 pm, reception at 4 pm, and dinner at 5 pm. I hope to see you all there.

Finally, on a personal note, I'd like to mention that my father, Jim Wimmer, passed away on October 18 at the age of 88. He was an avid rose gardener. All summer long my parent's kitchen was full of vases and water glasses, each containing a stem with a beautiful rose bloom, picked by my dad for my mom, Trudy. While I always said I got my love of gardening from my mom, I'm sure I derived considerable inspiration from my dad and his passionate devotion to both the hybrid tea rose and to his wife of 65 years.
Thanks!

This Month's Club Activity:

November 14th: **Pie Social**

Seed Swap

Future Programs for 2016

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

Winter Sowing – Cindy Julian

I have already started to think about my 2017 winter sowing project and getting materials together. I will be doing a demonstration at the November meeting.



I use milk jugs but water jugs, soda bottles, clear plastic clamshell containers, etc. are all suitable. Lots of information can be found on the internet about containers, seeds

and gardeners favorite tips!

Potting soil: Regular good quality potting soil, not garden soil, seed starting mix, or preferably not moisture control. Sometimes hard to find in the winter so stock up now!

Duct tape works well to tape milk jug after cutting, permanent marker, plant stake to label inside container and a sharp tool to punch drainage holes are Needed supplies.

Seeds: Last year I sowed a variety of seeds and had success with all. I started mid-January - end of February. I did not try tender annuals or tender vegetable seeds like peppers or tomatoes.

Winter sow 2016 successes

Perennials : Coneflower, delphinium, balloon flower, jupiters beard, big blue lobelia, dwarf goats beard

Annuals: Dahlia, browalia, morning glory, sweet pea, petunia , snapdragon, allysum, annual phlox

Herbs: Cilantro, parsley, fernleaf dill

Vegetables: Arugula, spinach, broccoli, cauliflower, kale, collards, cabbage

General guidelines for seeds:

Look for any of these words : Needs pre-chilling, stratify, self-sows, sow outdoors in early fall, sow outdoors in early spring, hardy seeds, seedlings can withstand frost, can be direct sown early, etc. Plants that have returned as volunteers are also good

candidates. I just sowed lots of extra seeds I had!

This year I intend to try many more seeds and have for the first time, been collecting seeds so anxious to see how winter sowing 2017 goes! Hope you will give it a try!!!

Special Note: If you have any empty milk jugs, please recycle and save for me and other gardeners who may want to try winter sowing this year. Most likely the best time to start will be Jan/Feb 2017. So, please bring any to the meeting or I can come pick them up too! Thanks! Cindy

Julian juliancindy@hotmail.com 847-772-2186

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.

Autumnal Dance by Janice Paulson

Pirouettes, arabesques, and pliés

falling as their swirl and twirl away

tuffs of red, gold, yellow and green

they sing and dance and laugh and preen

October 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
Best of the Show Sarah O'BRIEN	Toad Lily	10
First Place		
Chuck Austin	Sage	5
Chuck Austin	Blooming Lavender	5
Chuck Austin	Zebra Grass	5
Sarah O'BRIEN	Coleus	5

2016 Year to Date Results

Name	Points
Janice Paulson	112
Sarah O'Brien	38
Karen O'Hayer	30
Jerry Cleland	28
Chuck Austin	25
Cathy Nardo	20
Pat Scales	18
Nancy Adams	10
Laurie Austin	10
Delores O'Connell	8
John Adams	5
Susan Plasz	5
Andy Plasz	5
Carolyn Raymond	5
Alan Schulman	5
Carol Brunner	3
Mark Scales	3

Putting the Rose Garden to bed for the winter

Over the last 3 weeks, there have been 4 work sessions to winterize the Lynn Arthur Rose Garden in Cook Park. The garden remains as the GCLC largest project,

in terms of needed people power to maintain things over a seven month period.

Our first work session, October 14, was to prepare two new beds to accept donated roses in the spring of 2017 and then edge the garden to remove encroaching grass and weeds. The crew removed several bushes from two sparse areas and planted as many as we could to fill out holes in other sections of the garden. One of the sparse areas was where a fight or other violent event trampled 7 bushes a year ago in September in the center bed of the south section. We removed 9 or 10 and most were thrown away as they never really recovered from the trauma. A few of the remaining others were added to holes in beds with red roses. The second area cleared was in the North section along the western edge. These roses were moved into spaces that had not been filled in 2016 and made for a nicer presentation of the bushes. We then measured the beds, planned the rows, put in stakes and counted what we needed. We will have 2 new beds of 15 and 21 roses respectively.



Our second work session was Saturday October 22, a beautiful day and only 4 folk showed 2 of them not even members of GCLC. Dana Morgan, Terry

Webb, Jan Van der Wagt and I edged, weeded and blew out the debris. Jan showed up the next day and spent 5 hours in the garden, but he spent 2 hours of the 5 was discussing the garden, answering questions and socializing with interested folk.

Our third work session was to cut down the roses for winter. We were going to do it on Thursday or Friday but rain was predicted, so we moved it to Tuesday.

Our fourth work session was Saturday, October 29. The 4 yards of Organimix were delivered on the day before. We weeded the southern half of the garden and removed some that were still in the north section. Then we removed the canes that have been cut down and blew out any remaining debris. Then we applied two good shovels of Organimix to each plant. We had just enough.

The Village fenced the garden and now we must wait for leaves to fall before we can finish the work.

Nine different folk spent 77 hours getting this task completed. Although we asked, no folk needing public service hours showed up. Those 9 folk were with appearances in parentheses Dana Morgan (4), Andy Plasz (5), JanVan der Wagt (3), Andy Kimmel (2) Jan Smith (2) and Chuck Austin, Jerry Cleland, Dale Van Derwerff and Terry Webb each had one.

We also had quite a bit of supervision and entertainment from my 4 year old granddaughter who was visiting from Vienne, France. She did not get credit for any work hours.

Please note the picture of the Fabulous Five Organimix movers and the progress being made on the new parking garage behind them.

Twilight of the Leaves – Janice Paulson

Poplar, oaks, maples galore
Birches, ash, hemlock and more

Colored banners unfurl like discarded flying carpets
And leaves twitter and flirl in a rhythmic wind song

The leaves become a mosaic carpet view
Of sienna, russet, and copper-colored hue

Dabbled rays pierce the newly opened canopy
And reveal the muted sunset swirling on the forest floor

The Last Flower – janice Paulson

In the youth of springtime, the first bright bloom was
full of color and bursting with future possibilities
The last flower of summer now endures fall's advances
And struggles to withstand the onslaught of nature's
wrath

Standing alone amongst the ravages of frost
It catches the last glint of dimming light
To display its fading beauty to all
Once proud and stately and glorious
in its radiance and strength
not a hint of the weariness the passage of time will
inflict

The last flower's memory will always remain in the
garden of life
Even when it perishes
Its presence burns its being into your soul
And will remain forever in your heart

Meeting October 2016



Secateur
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