

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.

[13 good reasons to join the Club!](#)

Volume 54, Issue 117 March 2018

President's Message: by Karen O'Hayer

Hello Gardeners,

I was able to attend a wonderful Seed Event sponsored by the Round Lake Area Garden Club on February 25th with fellow club member Cindy Julian. This well-attended event included a seed swap and garden book swap. Cindy and I were impressed with the huge selection of seed available, including herbs, veggies, annual flowers and native perennials. Leftover seeds will be donated to the new seed library at the Round Lake Area Public Library.

Inspired by this event, I rushed home and planted several plastic milk jug mini-greenhouses. So far I've started kale, chard, spinach, lettuce, marigolds, common milkweed and gray headed coneflower with the winter sowing method.



There is still plenty of time to start seeds indoors under lights or outdoors using the winter sowing method. If you are starting seeds, please plant a few extras for our club's annual fund raiser, our plant sale, which will be held on May 12th.

This is also a good time to think about what perennials



you will want to divide in the spring. Please consider donating some of these divisions to our sale. As spring progresses, be on the lookout for opportunities to acquire/rescue plants (e.g. neighbors who are simplifying or re-doing their gardens). If you hear of such an opportunity, please

let us know, so we can send a team of club members to the rescue. Last year we were able to greatly increase the number and variety of plants at our sale due to plant rescues.

The **Green Living Fair** is set for Saturday, March 17th at the Civic Center in Libertyville from 10 am to 2 pm. The Gardeners of Central Lake County will have a booth where we will share our gardening knowledge and showcase our club's activities. It's a great opportunity to enhance our visibility in the community and a fun way to learn about other clubs and environmental initiatives in our area. If you would like to help, please contact Jan Kirch.

If you are looking for some gardening inspiration, the Chicago Flower Show opens on Wednesday, March 14 and ends on Sunday, March 18. Another event worth considering is Gardenfest 2018, which is sponsored by the University of Illinois Extension Master Gardeners in McHenry County and McHenry County College. This is an all-day event, with a number of interesting speakers, and a great way to charge up your batteries for the upcoming gardening season.

Here is the link for Gardenfest 2018.

<http://mchenry.edu/gardenfest/>

Our February speaker was Katherine Hamilton-Smith, of the Lake County Forest Preserves, who presented a program entitled "Excellence is in our Nature". This was a terrific program that blended historical information on Lake County



with current information on the forest preserves. We were all encouraged to do what we can to control invasive plants such as buckthorn and garlic mustard on our own properties to help keep them from spreading into the preserves.

I hope to see you at the upcoming club meeting on March 12th, at 7:00 pm, where our speaker will be Sharon Yiesla. Her talk is entitled "**Gardening Myths and Mis-information: Barriers to Good Gardening.**" Sharon is a great presenter with a wealth of gardening information and experience.

Hang in there. Spring is just around the corner!

Winter sowing is the great start for your summer garden. Sow seeds into mini-greenhouses of milk jugs, soda bottles etc. and see the wonders!

This Month's Club Activity:

March 12

Gardening Myths and Mis-information: Barriers to Good Gardening

Sharon Yiesla

Future Programs for 2018

April 9th

Growing Orchids at Home

Jerry Cleland

How to take care of your Orchid at home

May 12

Plant Sale

Crawford Warming House

8:30-11 am

May 14

"Divide and Multiply: When to Divide What (And How)" – Beth Botts

June 11

Mini Flower Show/Members Forum

June 23

Garden Walk

July 20

Annual Picnic

Old School Forest Preserve, Shelter D

5 pm

Sept. 10

"Seeds That Are Good for Your Health" / Veggie Tasting

Rekha Deodhar

Oct. 8

Backyard Birds and Bird Feeding

David Brooks, Spring Valley Nature Center

Learn the "how to" of attracting a variety of birds to your yard with feeding stations and food plantings. Program will include a who's-who of common local birds and some of the migrants to be observed in spring and fall.

Nov. 12

Pie Social

Dec. 9

Holiday Party and Annual Dinner

For useful gardening articles go to:

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

Green Living Fair – 2018

The Gardeners of Central Lake County will again participate in the Green Living Fair on Saturday, March 17th at the Libertyville Civic Center. The Libertyville Civic Center Foundation sponsors this event with the founding group,

Lake County Green Congregations and Faith in Place. Our club will be one of over 40 exhibitors including, College of Lake County, Audubon, Lake County Forest Preserve,



Conserve Lake County, Citizens Climate Lobby, Working Bikes Coop, and youth clubs to name a few. There will be continuous thirty-minute break-out sessions which

focus on environmental issues. This year's speaker forums will address how we, as individuals, can respond to the issue of climate change.

Additionally, there will be recycling opportunities available to the public including Styrofoam blocks, bikes and bike parts, eye glasses, wine corks, batteries, shoes, and CDs. About 300 people attended the event last year. It is free to the public.

As in the past, we will offer gardening information, our programs, and Libertyville Community Gardens information. Additionally, we will advertise our Plant Sale and Garden Walk. Members work one-hour shifts to answer program and gardening questions and exchange ideas with attendees.

Join our planning committee meeting at 6:30 before our regular monthly meeting, February 12TH, to exchange ideas and to plan our exhibit. Questions? Email Jan Kirch at ideasjan1217@comcast.net or call (224) 541-4374.

Spring Vegetable Gardening

Horticulturalist, Lisa Hilgenberg, from the Regenstein Fruit and Vegetable Garden at the Chicago Botanic Garden will be hosting a FREE seminar

Join Lisa for tips, tools and techniques that will help you grow your own fresh herbs and vegetables. Site selection, bed and soil preparation, seed sowing, transplanting and timing will be covered along with a demonstration on how to grow tasty and healthy vegetables and herbs in containers. She will also show attendees how to welcome spring with pansy and lettuce containers.



WHEN: Saturday, April 7th

WHERE: Pasquesi's Lake Bluff Store

TIME: 11am - 12pm

Followed by Q & A from 12pm to 1pm

2018 Monthly Plant Competition – February Andy Plaszc

In the month of January, we had Money plant, Bamboo. Fern etc. If you have something that looks good to you, please 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 February 2018 Plant Competition		
Name	Plant name	Points
Best of Show		
Sarah O'Brien	Plectanthus	10
First Place		
Karen O'Hayer	Terrarium	5
Janice Paulson	Money Plant	5
Second Place		
Janice Paulson	Bamboo	3
Janice Paulson	Dried Tree Fern	3

2018 Year-to-Date Plant Competition	
Name	Points
Janice Paulson	21
Jerry Cleland	10
Dale Vanderwerff	10
Sarah O'Brien	10
Karen O'Hayer	5

2018 The Worm Still Turns Worm Casting will be Available - Andy Plaszc

The Gateway Rose Society of Southeastern Wisconsin being innovators in growing and trying out new interesting products is again making available a wonderful product for our gardens this spring. I am a member of Gateway and will have the ability to purchase for members of the Gardeners of Central Lake County, a natural fertilizer and soil amendment - Worm Castings – to make every garden even better.

The worm castings will be available in 25 pound bags for still only \$20 each.

Now here is the deal, at the March meeting, I will take orders for this wonderful stuff, HOWEVER, I will have to have your check or cash before April 1, 2018. The Gateway Rose Society has to pay cash upfront for the castings. I will take cash or a check after the meeting **PRIOR TO APRIL 1st** I will get the castings as soon as possible after our GCLC meeting on the 9th of April. They should be available to the gardeners the weekend of April 14-16 or before. You can pick it up at the Plaszc garden or at the April 9 meeting.. I DO NOT DELIVER!!!

I will have the fact sheet and sign-up sheet at the March meeting. In addition I will have directions available for those of you who want to plan ahead how to parcel and use this wonderful treasure from Mother Nature! You may sign up then or before. DON'T BE SHUT OUT!

Think Worms! Use Worms! Enjoy the amazing results!

Photo Contest by Jerry Cleland

Next year the photo contest theme is "Art and Architecture," so we hope our members will continue



to photograph plant- and garden-related subjects while also uniquely incorporating subjects from the annual theme into their photos. As always, there is no

requirement that photos entered into the contest must contain thematic objects. Members who have entered the contest in the past report that having a theme makes the process more interesting both in terms of finding subjects for their own photographs and also in viewing how other members interpreted the theme. Member participation was good again this year, and we hope that will continue forward in the upcoming years.

We especially encourage members who have not participated in the past to consider submitting their own garden-related photos to our contest that will be held in January 2019. As seen in previous contests, entering a winning photo does not require an expensive camera. Many of the winning photos for the past several years have been taken with cell phone cameras. While it may take a couple of tries for a newcomer to be selected as one of the top 20 photos, our goal in beginning this contest over 10 years ago was to make ourselves better garden photographers. As you witnessed in the photos displayed for this year's contest, we improve our skills each year.



February Meeting Photos



Plant Competition Photo

