

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.

For useful gardening articles go to:
<http://gardenersofcentrallakecounty.org/articles/>

Volume 55, Issue 129 April 2019

President's Message: by Karen O'Hayer

Hello Gardeners,

Spring seems slow to come this year, but signs that it may arrive after all are beginning to appear. Most of the snow has finally melted, although there is still a lot of ice on



our local lakes. The migratory ducks are beginning to return and I've heard several flocks of sandhill cranes flying overhead. Although gardening is still a few weeks off, I have noticed some germination in my winter-sown containers in the backyard. Both my kale and lettuce began emerging on March 22nd. Before I know it, I'll be transplanting these seedlings into individual containers for the plant sale. Last year I was lucky to obtain a beautiful hand-me-down cold frame from Susan and Andy Plasz, and I look forward to using it this spring!

Whether you are propagating plants by winter-sowing, starting seeds indoors, or making plans to divide your



perennials, please donate as many plants as you can to our club's plant sale, which will be held on Saturday, May 11th. If you have extra plastic pots you can donate to other club members, please bring them to the April meeting. Let's all pull together to make this year's plant sale a big success!

Tending the Lynn Arthur Public Rose Garden in



downtown Libertyville is a public service our club has provided since the garden was established in 1952. Each spring we uncover and clean up the rose bushes under the guidance our very experienced rosarian, Andy Plasz. We will meet at the Rose Garden on

two upcoming Saturday mornings (dates TBD). Please join us if you can. I guarantee you will appreciate this beautiful garden even more after volunteering a few hours of your time. It's a great way to bond with your fellow club members over the roses, coffee and donuts. We will keep you posted via email when the dates have been finalized.

Our club is one of the sponsors of the Libertyville Gardens, a community garden located on the property of the Chapel, at 1200 American Way, in Libertyville. Volunteers will be needed on a couple of Saturday mornings (dates TBD) to paint the stakes and stake out the plots. I will let you know via email about these opportunities. If you can help, please join us.

The Green Living Fair was held on March 16 at the Libertyville Civic Center. A big thank-you to Jan Kirch for coordinating our club's participation. And thanks to the many members who prepared display or hand-out materials and who took shifts at our booth during the fair. It was great exposure for the club. I think our display looked really good this year, and there seemed to be a lot of interest in our booth. Great job everyone!



At the March 11 club meeting, Sharon Yiesla presented an interesting talk on Water-wise Gardening. I came away with some good ideas to enhance the health of my plants by providing optimal amounts of water and had a few ideas about rain gardening debunked!

Thanks to our members who provided delicious treats at the March meeting and to our refreshments coordinator Laurie Austin. We had a nice assortment of plants at our March monthly plant competition. Thanks to our members who brought things in for judging and to our judges, Andy Plasz and Jerry Cleland.

I look forward to seeing you at the upcoming club meeting on April 8, where we will be holding our Member Arts and Crafts Show. If you like to indulge in arts or crafts of any kind, we'd love to have you share your creations with us at the meeting. Our first show was held several years ago and included ceramics, watercolor, sculpture, beadwork, needlepoint, and other crafts. New this year, members may offer their wares for sale. Think spring!

Karen O'Hayer
President, Gardeners of Central Lake County

This Month's Club Activity:

April 8

Member's Arts and Crafts Show

Bring your artwork if you are an artist or bring your craft, if you are a crafter. You can show it or sale it too.

Future Programs for 2019

May 11

Plant Sale

Good time to buy annuals, perennials, natives, herbs, roses, vegetables and many more. Plants are grown by our members with tender loving care.

Crawford Warming House

8:30-11 am

May 13

Wild Ones – Sandra Washburn – Natural Landscaping

Learn why native plants are a great choice to enhance the enjoyment of your property while benefitting the environment in a surprising number of ways. Explore ways to attract and support birds, butterflies, and pollinators while creating beautifying, lower maintenance areas in your landscape. What native plants are and why they are wonderful landscaping choices; How native plants can be used in a home landscape; Examples of plants native to our area; Practical steps for creating beautify, low maintenance plantings that can help solve landscaping problems: Local and online resources.

June 10

Lorraine Kirpatrick-The beauty of Japan and Japanese Gardens

Introduction to the types of Japanese gardens and the purpose for each type as well as the constituent elements that make up the gardens. How the gardens play a role in the daily life of the people of Japan both historically and now. The subtle beauty of the gardens will be brought to light for our enhanced appreciation. Lorraine lived in Japan and developed a lasting appreciation of the art of Japanese gardening.

July 19 Picnic

Old School Forest Preserve, Shelter D

5 pm

August-No meeting

September 9 -Veggie tasting – mini flower show

Bring with you sweet or savory veggie-based dish to share.

October 14- Carolina Schottland –

The Feast Outside-easy and accessible wild edibles.

November 11-Pie social & seed exchange

December 8- Holiday Party & Annual Dinner

Welcome New Member:

Please give a warm welcome to our latest member:
Allen Bryant
email: feats74@yahoo.com

Phone: 847-912-9027

Green Living Fair 2019

- Jan Kirch

Our club participated in the Green Living Fair on Saturday, March 16th at the Libertyville Civic Center. We



were 1 of over 40 exhibitors including, CLC, Audubon, Lake County Forest Preserve, Conserve Lake County, Sierra Club, U of I extension Center, Citizens Climate Lobby, Working Bikes

Coop and youth clubs to name a few. Continuous 30 minute break-out sessions which focused on gardening and environmental issues were also presented.

We offered gardening information, about our programs, our Plant Sale and Libertyville Community Gardens. The theme of the fair was ‘purging pointless plastic’ which enabled us to share the many ways in which gardeners Re-Use plastic; covering seedlings with plastic containers to protect them, using empty milk or water containers for winter seed sowing, using plastic forks to hold cut-up venetian blind slats to mark plants in the garden. Additionally, 17 people signed up to receive emailed information about our programs. This year’s ‘garden gift’ of Seed Swap seeds obtained by Cindy Julian was very popular.

A huge thank-you to our volunteers: Debbi & Grant Hoover, Cindy Julian, Delores O’Connell, Janice Paulson (who worked the entire event), Susan & Andy Plasz, Pat & Mark Scales, Janice Smith, Val Munchez-VanderWagt and Sue Worley for answering gardening/program questions and exchanging ideas with visitors.

Photo Contest

2020 photo contest theme is “Edibles” 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 2020. 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.



2019 Monthly Plant Competition - March

Andy Plasz

We had seven entries in March. Everything got a first. This was the best and closest competition for Best of Show in a long, long time. I am very proud to say, our membership is way better than average in growing outstanding horticulture specimens. It was really hard to judge this month's entries!!!

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.

Our January plant competition drew only 4 entries but they were good ones.

2019 Monthly Plant Competition Winners - March

Name	Entry	Points
Best of the Show		
Sarah O'Brien	Orchid	10
Jerry Cleland	Dendrobium Orchid Gold Star	10
First Place		
Jerry Cleland	Dendrobium Orchid Violet Fizz	5
Jerry Cleland	Dendrobium Orchid Love Memory	5
Sarah O'Beien	Coleus	5
Karen O'Hayer	Peppermomia	5
Sue Worley	Rosemary	5

2019 Year to Date Results

Name	Points
Jerri Cleland	30
Janice Paulson	15
Karen O'Hare	15
Sarah O'Brien	15
Laurie Austin	10
Sue Worley	5

Photos: March Meeting

