

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 134 October 2019

President's Message: by Karen O'Hayer

Hello Gardeners,

Fall is here and we're experiencing cooler nights. Many of our garden plants are preparing for winter by setting seed. This is the time to collect seed to use in next year's garden or to bring to our upcoming November seed swap. Harvest seeds as they mature and be sure to allow them to fully dry before you package them up for storage. A note of caution: do not save seeds from hybrid varieties as they will not "breed true" and will have undesirable qualities not present in the parent plant.

Fall is also a great time to get out and enjoy our local forest preserves with the Hike Lake County challenge. Check out the Lake County Forest Preserves website for details. Meet the challenge and win a commemorative shield for your walking stick.



<https://www.lcpd.org/mobile/hlc-2019/>

This year I've taken up the challenge of getting to really know one of our local forest preserves by visiting almost every week since early spring. Middlefork Savanna is not far from my house, but prior to this year I had only been there a couple of times. It has a wide range of habitats including oak savanna and woodland, wet and mesic prairie, sedge meadows and marshes, and is home to many native plant species. Visiting weekly has been a great opportunity to expand my knowledge of local native plants. During my weekly visits I have been scouting for Chicago Nature Now, a website maintained by local nature photographer Mike MacDonald. Based on information from his many scouts, as well as his own

visits, Mike publishes weekly recommendations as to which local natural areas are worth a visit. If you'd like to check this out, here is a link to his website. You can also sign up to receive weekly wildflower alerts. <https://chicagonaturenow.com/chicago-nature-information-blog/>



A big thank-you to Cathy Nardo and Jerry Cleland for helping judge our mini-show and to Janice Paulson for clerking.

Thanks to all our members who participated and made the show a success. We had a very nice assortment of plants this year, and as usual with a September show, a heavy focus on veggies. Congratulations to Jan Van der Wagt for winning best in show with his stunning purple cabbage! I'd also like to thank all of our members who spoke while the judging was going on. We had good discussions and demos about painted garden rocks, cutworm collars, monarch conservation, favorite garden tools, and ideas for future presentations. Great to hear from so many of our members!

At the meeting, we also presented photography awards from The Gardeners of America to Andy Plasz (Best of Show) and Jerry Cleland (First Runner Up). Rekha Deodhar also received an Honorable Mention award for the Secateur newsletter. Congratulations!

Our club is once again producing a calendar featuring photographs by our members. The 2020 calendar is currently being assembled by Grant Hoover and Janice Paulson. In addition to a wonderful collection of photos, it will include the dates for all of our up-coming meetings and activities for 2020. A must-have for any club member!



Also, remember that our current photo contest theme is Edibles. Be sure to take some photos during the harvest season of edible plants. And don't limit yourselves. I've got some nice photos of bees on their edibles that I may enter. Our next contest will be held early in 2020.

We have an opening for a secretary on our Board of Directors beginning January 2020. The secretary is a voting member of the Board who attends monthly board meetings and captures discussions and decisions to produce the meeting minutes. We have a great group of people on the board, and I think you'd enjoy working

with us. If you have an interest in the open position, please let me or any of the other Board members know.

We have an exciting program lined up for our October 14th meeting. Carolina Schottland will present a program entitled The Feast Outside - Gardening with Edible Flowers, Shrubs, and Trees and Using Nature to Expand Your Harvest. Hope to see you there!
Karen O'Hayer
President, Gardeners of Central Lake County

This Month's Club Activity:

October 14- Carolina Schottland – The Feast Outside—Gardening with edible flowers, shrubs and trees and using nature to expand your harvest

We will review gardening with cultivated edible flowers, taking advantage of easily accessible garden weeds, utilizing edible trees and shrubs commonly used in landscaping, and touching briefly on a few edible invasive plants.

Future Programs for 2019

November 11-Pie social & seed exchange

December 8- Holiday Party & Annual Dinner

My Journey into the Wilds of Chicago

Town & Country Garden Club of Libertyville presents Mike MacDonald.



Be inspired as this nationally-acclaimed nature photographer, author, conservationist & humorist employs breathtaking images and imaginative storytelling on a virtual journey into Chicago's wilderness.

November 6, 2019,
White Deer Run Golf Club, Vernon Hills.
For more information and tickets visit TownCountryGardenClub.com/events

Of monarchs and milkweed



In the last 20 years, the monarch butterfly, one of the most loved and recognizable insects, has drastically declined in population. Milkweed is critical to the lifecycle of the monarch and ComEd's vegetation management team is doing something about it.

Under the leadership of Marla Westerhold, senior program manager, ComEd is currently distributing 1

million milkweed seeds under ComEd's transmission lines. As of July, milkweed seeds have been planted in over 800 locations, across 20 counties in northern Illinois. The efforts are paying off: 78% of the transmission spans surveyed now have a habitat for monarchs.

[Read More:](#)

Fall Orchid Show and Sale: Illinois Orchid Society

Place: Chicago Botanic Gardens

Saturday and Sunday, October 12 – 13, 2019

10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Special photographers' hour on Sunday at 9 a.m.

[Read More](#)

"The Beehive"

- by Laura Wilson

Many environmentalists are very concerned about the loss of animal life in North America, particularly birds and bees due to climate change. 30% of our bird population has vanished in current years according to wildlife organizations.



One "sandbag in the levee" is the provision of more habitats, such as gardens for bees and birds. What can we do to promote these gardens in Lake County? Find out from these [Sample plans](#). Find more about the Illinois bees below.

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.

Mini Show on Sept. 9

Our annual mini-show was held at our meeting on Sept. 9. We had many beautiful entries that included flowers and vegetables. Red cabbage grown by Jan Van der Wagt was the winner. Congratulations! Many thanks to everybody who entered the contest and we appreciate the help of the judges. The results of the mini show competition are attached.

Photos: Winners 2019 Mini show



Mini show entries



Award Winners



**Gardeners of Central Lake County
2019 Mini-Show Results**

Name		Awards ¹			Section Best	Show Best	Total Entries	TOTAL POINTS
		1st	2nd	3rd				
Cathy	Nardo	4			1		5	17
Sarah	O'Brien	2	2		1		5	15
Jerry	Cleland	4	1				5	14
Cindy	Julian	1	3		1		5	14
Andy	Kimmel	4	1				5	14
Susan	Plasz	4	1				5	14
Janice	Paulson	3	2				5	13
Paul	Zimmermann	3	2				5	13
Chuck	Austin	1	2		1		4	12
Corrie	Glass	2	3				5	12
Jan	Van der Wagt	1	1			1	3	12
Karen	O'Hayer	3	1				4	11
Andy	Plasz	1	1	1	1		4	11
Laurie	Austin	1	1		1		3	10
Valerie	Van der Wagt	1	3				4	9
Pat	Scales	2					2	6
Janet	Schockmel	2					2	6
Mark	Scales	1	1				2	5
Trudy	Valente		1	1			2	3
Subhash	Deodhar		1				1	2
No	Name		1				1	2
2019 Totals		40	28	2	6	1	77	215
2018 Totals		24	10	0	5	1	40	124

¹Points are awarded as follows -

3rd	1
2nd	2
1st	3
Sect. Best	5
Show Best	7

Best of Show - 2019

Jan van der Wagt - Purple Cabbage

Most Points - 2019

Cathy Nardo - 17 points

Best of Section Winners - 2019

Section 1 - Annuals	Chuck Austin - 'Tempest' Dahlia
Section 2 - Perennials	Sarah O'Brien - Obedient Plant
Section 3 - Herbs & Natives	Cathy Nardo - African Blue Basil
Section 4 - Roses	Andy Plasz - 'Kristin Singer' HT
Section 5 - Fruits & Vegetables	Jan van der Wagt - Purple Cabbage
Section 6 - Novelties & Specialties	Laurie Austin - 'Lime Light' Hydrangea
Section 7 - Potted Plants	Cindy Julian - Begonia

BEES ARE US: ILLINOIS BEES

Edited By Laura Wilson

Taken from: <https://attic-solutions.com/identification-bees-wasps-hornets-Illinois>



Yellowjackets and wasps
scavenge for fruit, meat sweets and carrion.

A protected species of IL, lives in colonies of up to 50,000

Honeybees



Bumblebee
 $\frac{1}{2}$ -1 in long, colonies of 50-400, nest in rodent holes or under porches

Carpenter Bee

All black abdomen, solitary, in holes in chewed in wood



Paper wasps
Black body with yellow stripes, slender body with tiny waist, nest hangs from over eaves like an umbrella

Aggressive and most likely to sting, narrow body & tiny waist, predator of other bees

Yellowjacket



Bald faced Hornet
White face, black body, paper nest an oval that hangs from branches



Mud Dauber
 $\frac{3}{4}$ in long, brownish black, yellow marks, hunts spiders to feed young, solitary





Cicada Killer

Hunts cicadas to feed young, largest wasp IL, mostly black with yellow markings

Sweet Bees



4 – 8 mm, attracted to human perspiration; males bite, females sting