



# THE SECATEUR

Gardeners of Central Lake County

Where grown-ups get to play with the dirt

**President** Val Munchez-van der Wagt

**Volume 56,** **Issue 143** **July 2020**

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Secateur Submission deadline: 25<sup>th</sup> 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 Garden Club**

### **President's Message:**

#### **- by Val Munchez-Van der Wagt**

Greetings to my fellow Gardeners,  
As we roll into the summer and turn to Phase IV, there are still some restrictions and concerns regarding movement and gatherings and making sure the Covid-19 virus is not a threat. For this reason the Board has



decided to forgo the picnic this year. In addition, all in-person meetings for 2020 have been cancelled. However, we are considering some limited outdoor and virtual activities which we will announce in the future.

One immediate outdoor activity that I am happy to announce is a Socially Distanced-Garden Walk, hosted by Board Members Delores O'Connell and Arlene Doran, in Mundelein. Both have offered the opportunity to view their Mundelein home gardens on



July 12th. Delores shares that hers is mostly a woodland garden with big oaks, and a circling path with a variety of both native and non-native plants. This garden has never had a lawn, and some of the plants are truly native to the site, including the very tall Solomon's seals, wild cherry trees and gray twigged dogwoods. The minarda should still be blooming, and it is fun to see what happened to six plants and 15 years. Be aware, to see all the garden you will need to walk a slope and there are several steps.

Date: Sunday, July 12th , 2020, Time: 1pm – 3pm,  
Delores' Garden : 1125 Lomond Dr, Mundelein  
Arlene's Garden : 1027 Lomond Dr, Mundelein

As we venture into summer, hopefully gardens are starting to show the result of your efforts. I expect to start harvesting tomatoes in the next two weeks. The cabbages are quite large, but the Kohlrabi has fallen victim to a family of rabbits somewhere on the property, after reading about solutions, it seems the best is still a rabbit proof fence.

This year I have been the primary garden keeper as my husband was stuck outside the mainland since January. I have spent a little more time focusing on light patterns in the garden and was delighted to read an article by Sharon Yiesla, from The Morton Arboretum in Lisle, in the Chicago Tribune on June 28th. I love reading the series of garden articles as they are very informative. I hope you are enjoying your garden and making the most of this period where you, as I, are spending more time in the garden than before.

As you will read later, the Rose Garden is open – a big thanks to everyone who lent a hand, shoulder and knee to get the job done.

I hope you are interacting with our website – we have so much content and resources available.

As we near mid-year of Covid-19, we are still monitoring state requirements and have no further changes to the schedule at this time. We are currently in Phase 3 and look forward to Phase 4. Look for my Board Meeting update email for more specifics.

Until then, enjoy your gardens!  
Happy seeding!

#### **This Month's Club Activity:**

**July 12 Garden Walk 1-3 pm**

Delores' Garden : 1125 Lomond Dr, Mundelein

Arlene's Garden : 1027 Lomond Dr, Mundelein

**Please rsvp.** Delores- 847-566-4223

Arlene- 847-427-9502

**Must wear a mask, No Food or Drink, Social Distance**

**July 17 Annual Picnic CANCELLED**

#### **Future Programs for 2020**

**August- No Meeting**

**Sept 14 (Veggie Tasting) CANCELLED**

**The New Fall Cleanup by Kim Ellson**

**Oct 12- Permaculture Gardening-by Allicia Dodd  
CANCELLED**  
**Nov 9 Pie Social & Seed-Swap**  
**Dec 6 - Annual Meeting and Holiday Party**

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#### **Your New Blooms**

**- Rekha Deodhar**

Due to COVID-19 pandemic, we are not going to have our meetings. But "show must go on"! Soon we will



have new blooms in our gardens. Please take photos of the new blooms in your gardens and send them to me. I will post them in the next Secateur. We are missing plant competition for next 3 months, but here is your chance to show the best in your yard to fellow gardeners.

[Deodhar91@gmail.com](mailto:Deodhar91@gmail.com)

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#### **Rose Garden June Update**

**-Andy Plasz**



Well we were all set to work in the Cook park rose garden on Friday and Saturday June 5 and 6. Then I got a call from David Thornborough, Director of Libertyville Parks. Demonstrations were planned in the park for the weekend and they were going to fence in the garden to protect it! Then the Mayor made his usual news call when the village people need to know something. The park was closed and we should stay away. So we rescheduled for June 12 and 13. The fence came down Monday June 8. I checked the garden over the next 2 days and everything looked surprisingly good. Friday June 12 Andy Kimmel, Janet Schockmel and I pruned out the deadwood and weeded and fertilized the south half of the rose garden.

The next day , Saturday, Laurie and Chuck Austin, Karen O'Hayer, Val Munchez Van der Wagt and Terry Webb joined me in a long morning as we weeded and pruned the north half, fertilized, scratched in and Preened the whole garden. Then set the overhead sprinklers on at about Noon. I turned them off at 6:30 pm, the garden had a good drink.



Since then we have had over 2 weeks of very hot weather with very little rain until the last few days. I watered the garden twice during that dry period.

The Village and I want to thank all those folks who came out this month and made the garden look really good especially in these trying times.

I stopped by this morning and we still have a lot of bloom and very few weeds! However, I will be looking for some grateful dead headers and fertilizer help in the next couple of weeks.

### Community Gardens Update

Occupancy at the Libertyville Community Gardens is up more than 25% from last year: great news! We love to see more gardeners enjoying the outdoors and experiencing the pleasure of growing their own food. Interestingly, the gardens are also a haven for some fascinating wildlife.



Plot number 3 is hosting an unusual occupant this year, a freeloader who didn't pay her deposit or annual fee. Shortly before the gardens were opened to the public, a female killdeer decided that the perfect spot for her nest was in the middle of plot number 3. The gardener who had rented this plot kindly agreed to move to an alternate site so that the mother bird could finish her important work. Someone covered the nest with a tomato cage to ensure no one would inadvertently step on it. The killdeer has gotten used to her nearby human neighbors and quietly sits on her eggs as they work in the adjoining plots. But, when I came over to take a look, she became agitated and spread her feathers in a menacing fashion. Her mate, lurking nearby, looked very concerned. I wasn't able to get a photo, but here is a shot I took of a killdeer and her nest last year at Illinois Beach State Park.

Killdeers are fascinating birds, [learn more about them](#).

Another denizen of the community gardens is the burrowing crayfish. These creatures spend most of their time in underground burrows and are rarely seen. The only evidence of their presence is the "chimneys" at the entrances to their tunnels. These are formed as the crayfish push the mud out of the burrows they excavate. While you are unlikely to see one of these crayfish, you may stumble upon a chimney. Here's a fun link that takes a whimsical look at these burrowing crustaceans. <https://bit.ly/38rxKzc>

You will also find red-winged blackbirds hanging out in the cattails or in the bushes surrounding the pond. These birds are known to aggressively defend their nests. Recently as I was trudging back to the parking lot, laden with gardening tools, a male red-wing flew at me from a low bush and chased me half way to the car. Next time I'll wear a helmet!

### The Murder Hornet

- by Laura Wilson

Adopted from The Daily Herald, 5/31/20  
by Adrian Higgins

What else could happen? Another strain of virus? Nature seems rather angry in 2020. Now it's the Giant Asian Hornet!

Bees are my beat for Secatur, but we can't omit the hornets and wasps from coverage. This new critter is



the "Jumbo Jet" (2 inches) of such insects. It is lethal to people and honeybees, when in a swarm. It's not a time for panic in Lake County; they have been sighted in WA and on the NW Canadian border, and entomologists say we must not "shower the world with pesticides."

There is concern by The Animal and Plant Inspection Service's Samantha Simon, that if the Giant Asian Hornet sets up a life in the US, they could seriously damage the honeybee and the crops they pollinate. This agency and the feds are working together to lure and trap these nasty hornets. They can trace their nests to be destroyed. Bombs Away! Simon would also like to stop ash borers, exotic fruit flies and Asian citrus psyllids, at our borders because of the havoc they cause our crops.

**What to do?** Keep calm and carry on with support of the honeybee. Most bees want to avoid you, so there are few stings nationally. Boycott neonicotinoid pesticides; read those labels. You can plant pollinator-friendly plants, like milkweed and cornflowers. Keep safe!

### 2021 Photo Contest Theme

-Jerry Cleland

For the upcoming year 2021, the photo contest theme is **Hot /Cold**, which can be interpreted in any number of ways by our photographers. It might refer to weather, to spiciness, to color choices, or to other possible meanings. While our entrants have said they

enjoy the challenge of creating photos following the theme, it is not required so if you have other great photos make sure you enter them.

For the January 2021 contest, each member may enter up to 5 photos.

As in the past, the photos will be printed and displayed in a 4 x 6 inch format. More complete instructions will be distributed later this year during our monthly meetings and in the Secateur.

## **Volunteer Opportunity**

**- by Karen O'Hare**

Lately I find myself with less to do than under normal circumstances. These dark times bring out the desire to use some of this free time productively, to try to make a positive contribution. I can't sew face masks (trust me: I almost flunked Home Economics), so I've come up with another idea.

Being a huge nature and science nerd, I've identified a citizen-science project I can participate in from my own backyard, while practicing optimal social distancing. It's called Bumble Bee Watch, which is a collaborative effort to track and conserve North American bumble bees. All you need to participate is a camera or smart phone. You take photos of bumble bees in your yard, make an effort to identify them, and submit the photos and tentative IDs to the Bumble Bee Watch website. Your IDs will be verified by bee experts, and the information will be added to the database. In case you might be interested in participating, here is a link to the website.

<https://www.bumblebeewatch.org>

If you'd like to know more about bumble bees in general, here's a link to some good information about these awesome native pollinators.

<https://www.xerces.org/bumblebees>

## **Pollinators**

[The Xerces Society](#) reminds us that we need pollinators for our food supply and pollinators need us. Pollinator week has passed but we need to stay vigilant in protecting and providing for our pollinators. The pollinator protection pledge is part of the Xerces Society's [Bring Back the Pollinators](#) campaign. Here is the pledge-

1. We make the commitment to you that we will work every day to protect pollinators and their habitat, but this week is a special time to pause, celebrate

pollinators, and focus on what we can all do in our lives to help pollinators thrive in this changing world.

2. Although pollinator conservation is a big task, it all begins with each of us adopting four simple steps: growing pollinator-friendly flowers, providing nest sites, avoiding pesticides, and spreading the word. With these core values, pollinator conservation can be adapted to any location, whether you tend an urban community garden or a suburban yard, work in a city park or on a farm.

Make your commitment to these four principles official by signing our [Pollinator Protection Pledge](#).

Also discover pollinators near you : Pollinators are unsung heroes of the natural world.

Small but mighty, they're key to the survival and resilience of entire ecosystems.

Discover what you can do to [bring your yard to life with pollinators](#)

## **Pollinator's Delight**

**-by Jan Kirch,**

Fireflies twinkle in the night  
Reflecting the stars is the skies  
Heralding the Summer Solstice  
Right before our eyes



Butterflies dance to the  
Song of the birds  
Bees buzz around  
To the tune of their words

Nature displays a  
Profusion of hues  
Yellows and purples  
Reds and blues



Humming Birds, Monarchs  
Bees of all kind  
Tasting the Nectar  
Then pollinating their find

We depend on them all  
For the food we ingest  
They depend upon us  
To provide what is best

## 2020 Monthly Plant Competition

As we don't have our monthly meeting, we will not have plant competition. But keep gardening.

## 2020 Year to Date Results

Name	Points
Jerry Cleland	35
John Adams	23
Karen O'Hayer	15
Janice Paulson	13
Lauri Austin	10
Susan Plasz	10
Corrie Glass	5
Cathy Nardo	5

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## Sharon Yieslas Plants

<http://yieslasplants.com/>

Please visit this informative and educational website by Sharon Yieslas. Sharon is a horticulturist and working with plants for many years. On her website, she has many photos and even flashcards for the plants along with good information of them.

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## Four Seasons Gardening Webinar Series

### - by University of Illinois Extension

This is one of the most popular horticulture programs offered by the Illinois Extension Horticulture Team. For more info:

<https://extension.illinois.edu/global/four-seasons-gardening-webinar-series>

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## The Rose Hills International Rose Trials

### -by Andy Plasz

The Rose Hills International Rose Trials in Whittier, California are the premier rose trials in North America. They are joined by other rose trials around the Pacific Rim to form a unique group in evaluating new rose cultivars. Rose Hills planted their first bushes for evaluation in the year 2000 and in 2002; they were the first class to be recognized with awards. This process continued annually until the autumn of 2018. In the autumn, the Rose Hills gardens had to deal with the Santa Ana winds, drought, and intense heat and forest fires. These conditions caused many varieties not to be at their best during judging by the International Jury. On top of all that, in 2018, it finally rained and this rain event occurred during the judging by the International Jury.

All roses in the Rose Hills trials are grown and evaluated for 2 years. The Permanent Panel watches over and evaluates the bushes over this two year period. Their efforts, point scores and discussions are averaged out in a big meeting. The Permanent Panel final point total represents 80% of the total final score according to the criteria in Figure 1 below. Then in the second year, the roses are evaluated on one day by an International Jury of judges with international accreditation or other judging credentials. The judging is held on a Saturday morning at the Pageant of Roses Garden at Rose Hills Memorial Park in Whittier, California. Judges staying at the meeting hotel get a bus ride to Rose Hills to meet those judges who drive in. After a light breakfast, the Presidents of the International Jury give final instructions to the International Judges Panel. After 2 hours plus of judging the ballots are collected and totaled. The International Jury totals from this one day represent 20% of each rose cultivars final score using the criteria in Figure 2. The results are presented at the gala annual dinner that evening and the awards also shown in Figure 2 are presented to the hybridizers or their representatives. The winning roses for 2018 are shown in Figure 3.

Figure 1

### INTERNATIONAL JURY GUIDELINES

Throughout the two year trial period the varieties have been scored by members of the Permanent Jury Panel on ten criteria each receiving a maximum of 100 points:

Novelty,  
Bud & Flower Form,  
Color Opening,  
Color Finishing & Substance,  
Vigor,  
Habit,  
Quantity of Flowers,  
Repeat Bloom,  
Foliage, and  
Disease Resistance.

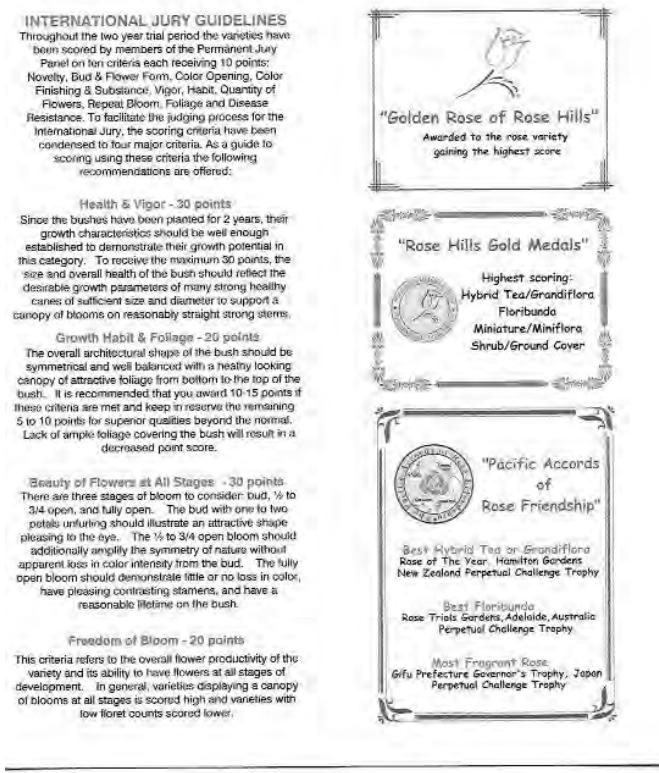
Just prior to the convening of the International Jury Panel, the Permanent Panel Jury perform their final scoring as a group and then meet in conference to assign the interim total percentage scores to each variety. This value constitutes 80% of the final award score, with the International Panel conferring on the remaining 20%.

To facilitate the judging process for the International Jury, the scoring criteria have been condensed to four major criteria:

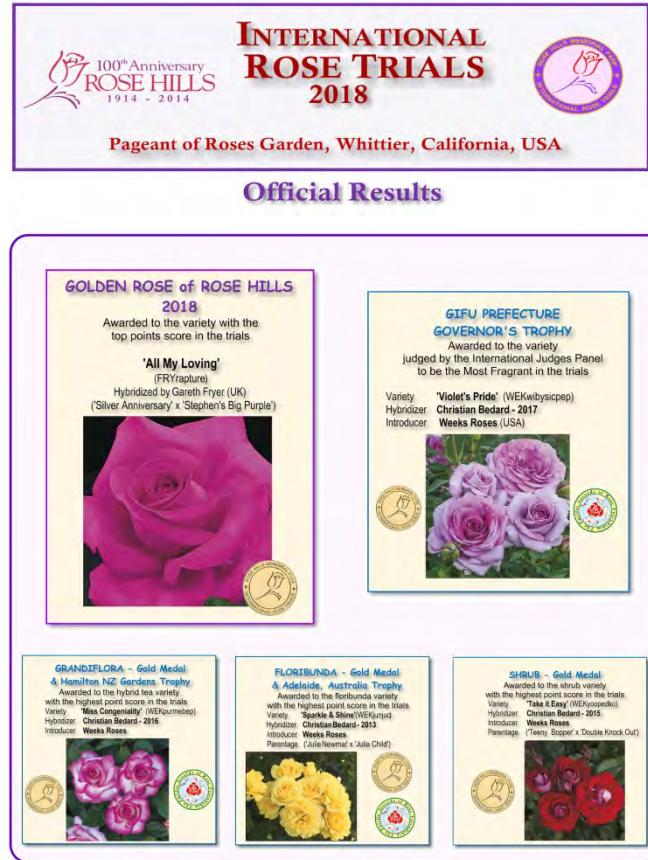
Health & Vigor (30 points);  
Growth Habit & Foliage (20 points);  
Beauty of Flowers at All Stages (30 points); and  
Freedom of Bloom (20 points)

for an overall maximum point score of 100. As a guide to scoring using these criteria the following recommendations are offered:

**Figure 2**



**Figure 3**



### July Blooms in Members' Gardens





