

# THE SECATEUR

Gardeners of Central Lake County  
*Where grown-ups get to play with the dirt*

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**DIRECTORS:** Chuck Austin, Cindy Julian, Donna Hughes, Jan Van der Wagt, Pat Meehan, Pat Scales,  
**Past Presidents:** Susan Plasz, Andy Plasz, Tony Kirch, Jerry Cleland, Andy Kimmel

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.

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

**Volume 55, Issue 135 November 2019**

## **President's Message: by Karen O'Hayer**

Greetings Gardeners,  
True fall weather is here. The leaves are turning color and the air is chilly. Enjoy the beautiful fall season. Hope you can get out and spend some quality time with Mother Nature!

This summer I shared a plot at the Libertyville Community Gardens with two other club members. We tested out several varieties as part of a trial for the Baker Creek seed company, in addition to growing some of our own favorite vegetable varieties. We will share our experience with the trial at the November meeting. Spoiler alert: best bush bean variety ever! In my home garden, I'm still picking the last of my cold-hearted veggies like kale. It seems like summer went by way too fast again this year. But, I do look forward to starting seeds with the winter-sowing method, so the growing season isn't over yet.

We will be holding our fourth annual seed swap at the November meeting. Please bring your seeds in containers or envelopes, labeled with the plant name, year collected, collector's name, and any special germination requirements. You may also bring full or partial commercial seed packets. We will provide all the supplies needed to label and package samples of the seeds you'd like to take home.

At the meeting, members will be invited to share their experiences or demonstrate techniques related to seed collection, seed starting, or other methods of plant propagation. Let's make this a real information-sharing session so we can all improve our success with propagating plants. We want to hear from you!

The November meeting is also our ever-popular pie social. Don't forget to bring your favorite sweet or savory pie or pastry and a good appetite.

If you have preordered our club's 2020 calendar, you will be able to purchase (\$10 each) and pick up your calendar(s) at the November 11 meeting. Many thanks to Janice Paulson and Grant Hoover for putting together another stunning calendar! And thanks to our members who participated in last year's photo contest, which is where our calendar photos originate.

We will also have copies of the 2020 calendar of The Gardeners of America available for purchase for \$5 each. Congratulations to Cindy Julian, Jerry Cleland, and Susan Gressgott who had photos selected for this national calendar. A big thank-you goes out to Jerry Cleland for coordinating our yearly club photo contest and our submissions to the national photo contest.

If you have not done so already, please remember to pay your 2020 dues at the November meeting. Janice Paulson will be collecting dues (cash or check). Dues are \$20 for an individual membership and \$30 for a family membership.

Remember that our current photo contest theme is Edibles. Be sure to take some photos during the harvest season of edible plants. Our next photo contest will be held early in 2020. Photos for this contest should be submitted to Jerry Cleland by Dec 15.

Please consider joining our Board of Directors in 2020. We have an opening for a secretary next year. The secretary attends monthly board meetings and takes the minutes. We have a great group of people on the board, and I think you'd really enjoy working with us. If you have an interest in this position, let me or any of the other Board members know.

The Lynn Arthur Public Rose Garden in downtown Libertyville was established in 1952. Since then our club has lovingly maintained this garden. We are fortunate to have a nationally-recognized rose expert, Andy Plasz, to guide our volunteer efforts. We will meet at the Rose Garden on two Saturday mornings, Nov 2 and Nov 9, to put the garden to bed for the winter. Please join us for this important club effort. I guarantee you will appreciate this beautiful garden even more after volunteering a few hours of your time.

Be sure to mark your calendar for the Holiday Party and Annual Dinner on Sunday, December 8, at the St. Lawrence Episcopal Church in Libertyville. Setup is at 3:30 pm, reception at 4 pm, and dinner at 5 pm.  
Karen O'Hayer  
President, Gardeners of Central Lake County

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**This Month's Club Activity:**  
**November 11-Pie social & seed exchange**

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**Future Programs for 2019**

**December 8- Holiday Party & Annual Dinner**

Place: St. Lawrence Episcopal Church in Libertyville.  
Time: Reception at 4 pm, and dinner at 5 pm.

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**Welcome New Members:**

Please give a warm welcome to our latest member:  
Cindy Madson  
157 Penstemon Ct, Grayslake, IL 60030  
Email: [Birdygirl4@gmail.com](mailto:Birdygirl4@gmail.com)  
Phone: 847-219-5565

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**Seed Swap in November**

The Gardeners of Central Lake County will hold a seed swap during our November meeting. Now is the time to start preparing for the swap. Take a look around your yard and decide which plants you'd like to collect seeds



from. Good candidates are your favorite varieties of vegetables or annual flowers. They need to be heirloom or open-pollinated varieties, rather than hybrids. Also consider collecting seeds from native perennials. These

plants are well adapted to the environment of Lake County and help support our native fauna, including pollinators. Although getting native perennial seeds to germinate can be tricky, many of our club members have had success using various techniques.



This is also a good time to start saving small bottles and containers for your seeds. Empty medicine containers work well for small seeds or small quantities of seeds. Be sure to allow the seeds

to thoroughly dry before you put them in containers. Label each container with the plant name and the year the seeds were collected. Looking forward to another great seed swap!

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## Calendars are coming

### -Janice Paulson

Thank you to all the members who pre-ordered a



Garden Club calendar. If you have not paid for them yet, please have exact change (\$10) or a check written out to the club at the November meeting.

The calendars should be ready for the meeting. See Janice Paulson for your calendar. If you are not at the November meeting, hope to see you at the Holiday dinner.

You can email Janice Paulson at

[janicepaulson560@gmail.com](mailto:janicepaulson560@gmail.com) with your ordering needs. All 17 members who submitted photos in the club photo contest have a photo in the calendar.

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## Garden Club Dues Reminder

It is the time of year again to renew your dues with our wonderful Garden Club of Central Lake County. It is \$20 for a single gardener and \$30 for a family. Thank you to all who paid their dues already. When you pay your dues please have exact change or make a check out to the club: Gardeners of Central Lake County.

Thank you to all who checked their information on the roster at the last meeting. If any of you were not able to check, please let me know if any information has changed such as phone number, address, etc. so that the roster can be updated.

If for some reason you do not want to belong to the club please let me know that as well at [janicepaulson560@gmail.com](mailto:janicepaulson560@gmail.com) and I will not send you a reminder email in December.

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## Photo Contest

### Hurry up and enter your photo by Dec. 15

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.

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## 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 flirt  
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

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## In the browning of the year

### - Janice Paulson

Subdued colors float over chilled autumn air  
And present the eye with serenity and peace.  
The goldenrod is full and yellowed timothy  
Replaces the columbine of yesterday  
Purple asters grow where once the good queen's lace reigned.  
While brown tassels wave and await the reaper's hand  
Milkweed silk lands in a child's dream  
Even though the glaring of the green that marked  
Summer's contentment has ended,  
One still keeps a reminder of it in one's heart

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## 2019 Monthly Plant Competition – November

### - Andy Plasz

We had a very high quality October Plant Competition. We gave two first place blue ribbon winners Best of Show awards the quality was so high, one flower and one vegetable. The quality of the exhibits the members bring in is increasing every year. Just when you think we cannot do any better, the membership always surprises us all. Let us continue this in 2020! 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 October 2019 Plant Competition		
Name	Plant name	Points
<b>Best of The Show</b>		
Mark Scales	Chestnuts	10
Val Van Der Wagt	Spanish Flag	10
<b>First Place</b>		
Cathy Nardo	Herb Witch's Hat	5
Sarah O'Brien	Monkshood	5
Janice Paulson	Rose Impatiens	5
Janice Paulson	Dusty Miller	5
Pat Scales	Tomato Green Giant	5
Pat Scales	Cherry Tomatoes	5
Laurie Austin	Dahlia Nicholas	5
Laurie Austin	Dahlia Taboo	5
Val Van Der Wagt	Chinese Lanterns	5
<b>Second Place</b>		
Janice Paulson	Pink Impatiens	3
Janice Paulson	Coleus	3
Pat Scales	Tomato Pink Ponderosa	3
Pat Scales	Tomato Orange Valencia	3
Laurie Austin	Dahlia Pineapple Express	3

## 2019 Year to Date Results

Name	Points
Janice Paulson	110
Karen O'Hayer	70
Janet Schockmel	57
Jerry Cleland	45
Sarah O'Brien	35
Laurie Austin	23
Pat Scales	22
Val Van Der Wagt	15
Cathy Nardo	15
Andy Plasz	10
Mark Scales	10
Arlene Doran	5
Sue Worley	5
Subhash Deodhar	5
Corrie Glass	3
Paul Zimmermann	3

## Meeting Photos

