



NAPERVILLE COMMUNITY GARDENERS

March 2013

Purpose: To nurture the gardening interests of its members and the community through educational programs and community projects

President's Message

Thanks to all who braved the cold to come to February's meeting. Karla Marino's talk on Garden Design was just the thing we needed as inspiration to start plans for our own yards. I enjoyed all of her "do and don't" slides because it's easy to see how her design tips make sense, balance, and beauty.

We are off to a great year. Mark your calendar for the Club's picnic on June 29th. Another trip to the Richter garden is planned for July 20th, and arrangements are being made for the Club to go to the Ball Seed Test Gardens in West Chicago. More details when available.

Please let me know if you are interested in working on the new Club-sponsored Sensory Garden to be added alongside the current Native Demo Garden at the Naperville garden plots. If you are able to make it at 6 p.m. on March 4, our next meeting night, for an initial gathering of ideas, we would love your input. Let me know if you are interested but unable to make that meeting. We encourage all ideas. This will be FUN!

TIP OF THE MONTH: February is National Bird Feeding Month. Help the birds with some fresh seed or suet. Remember they eat lots of bugs that like our plants, so keep them interested in your yard!

A side note to helping birds: Do you know about the Federal Duck Stamp program? The Post Office sells the stamp for \$15, and about \$14.70 of that is used to acquire wetlands within the National Wildlife Refuge System to ensure sustainable populations of waterfowl and other wildlife. The stamp also serves as season pass to any National Wildlife Refuge. It's a win-win situation.

Jan Gricus



NEXT MEETING

MARCH 4, 2013

7 p.m.

Knox Presbyterian Church

SPEAKER: AMY HULL

**TOPIC: The College of Du-
Page Greenhouse:**

Practical Applications

Amy Hull graduated from the University of Illinois Champaign/ Urbana with a BS in Agricultural Science and a BS in Ornamental Horticulture. She has worked at both wholesale and retail horticultural companies. She is currently the Greenhouse Supervisor at the College of DuPage.

Mark Your Calendars

Plant Sale: Saturday, May 11

Picnic and Garden Walk: Saturday, June 29 (See Betty Ference's note on page 2 for more information.)

Trip to Warrenville for Hostas and Daylilies: Saturday, July 20

Annual Flower and Garden Show:
Saturday, August 17

Getting Ready for the Plant Sale

It isn't spring yet but the tulips that I planted in containers and put in my garage are coming up! So I guess we should begin to think about the Plant Sale scheduled for Saturday May 11th.

Just as a reminder, when the weather and soil warm and it is time to begin to work in the garden, you can begin to divide perennials for the plant sale if you have plants that have over-grown their space or you are moving plants around and need room for new plants. In April I will provide a sheet for tabulating the number of plants, variety, color, bloom time, sun/shade/water requirements etc. or you can use your own form. Once complete, the form is then sent by e-mail or given to Linda Allison – lalli52253@aol.com. A plant label will be ready and waiting for you when you deliver your plants to the sale Friday May 10th or early on sale day Saturday May 11th.

We will again set up a table for Collectors' or Specialty Plants. This will give a display area for those hard to find or unique varieties. Please indicate on the form if you think that your donated plant(s) fits this category.

Sign Up

Sign-up sheets for helping before and during the sale will be available at the April meeting for both the members' plant sale and the nursery plants' sale. We really need your help to make the sale a success!

Need a Specific Plant?

If you are looking for a specific plant(s) for your garden, please let Linda know so it can be included in the next two newsletters. Members who have the plant(s) to share can bring them to the sale for you to purchase. We can designate a specific area for requested items.

Pots

Need pots? Do you have extra pots? Please let Linda Allison know. I will include pot requests and those who have pots in the next 2 newsletters; I may also send out an e-mail blast, as I did last year, for quantity and size of pot needed by a member. We can then have you leave pots on your drive for members to pick up.

Linda Allison, Chairman, Members' Plants

Onions and Leeks

Onions and leeks should be planted early. Plants will be ordered at the end of March and will be available at the April meeting. The pricing will be the same as it is at the plant sale.

Tom Campbell

June and July Events

On **Saturday, June 29**, we will have our annual summer picnic and garden walk. Please let me know if you are interested in showing your garden and/or hosting the picnic in your yard. I also need a few volunteers to assist with the picnic preparations.

On **Saturday, July 20**, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.: the John Richter garden, Warrenville. We will be visiting John's garden again this year, and he will have several new varieties of hostas and daylilies for sale.

Betty Ference

NAPERVILLE COMMUNITY GARDENERS

APPROVED 2013 BUDGET

REVENUES

01 01	Members Dues	\$1,180.00
01 02	Member Nametags	\$50.00
01 03	Members Banquet Tickets	\$1,050.00
01 04	Members T-Shirt Sales	\$200.00
SUB-TOTAL MEMBERS REVENUE		\$2,480.00
01 05	Plant Sale: Vendors	\$9,000.00
01 06	Plant Sale: Members	\$3,000.00
01 07	Misc. Revenues	\$0.00
01 08	Interest	\$5.00
SUB-TOTAL FUND-RAISING/MISC.		\$12,005.00
TOTAL REVENUES		\$14,485.00

EXPENSES

02 01	Members Picnic	\$125.00
02 02	Members Banquet	\$1,150.00
02 03	Members Name Tags	\$50.00
02 04	Members Recognition Fund	\$100.00
02 05	Members T-Shirts	\$200.00
SUB-TOTAL MEMBERS BENEFITS		\$1,625.00
02 06	Bus Trip	\$120.00
02 07	Bank Charges	\$0.00
	Club Maintenance	
02 08	Costs	\$80.00
02 09	Door Prizes/Mini Show	\$100.00
02 10	Refreshments	\$60.00
02 11	Misc. Expenses	\$0.00
02 12	Newsletter	\$50.00
02 13	Program Speakers	\$1,325.00
02 14	Publicity	\$0.00
02 15	Website	\$215.00
	Historian/Photo Supplies	
02 16		\$10.00
02 17	Flower & Garden Show	\$900.00
02 18	Insurance	\$500.00
SUB-TOTAL CLUB ACTIVITIES		\$3,360.00
02 19	Donations	\$2,000.00
02 20	Donation to Riverwalk	\$500.00
02 21	Donation for Sensory Garden	\$500.00
SUB-TOTAL DONATIONS		\$3,000.00
02 22	Plant Sale: Vendors	\$7,000.00
02 23	Plant Sale: Members	\$500.00
SUB-TOTAL FUNDRAISERS		\$7,500.00
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$15,485.00
NET INCOME (LOSS)		-\$1,000.00

**2012
End of
Year
Balance
= \$17,206.**

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE LEADERS


Executive Board—2013

President.....Janice Gricus
 Vice-President.....Mark Mayszak
 Secretary.....Vicky Polito
 Treasurer.....Tom Campbell
 Past President.....Betty Ference

Committee Chairs - 2013

CorrespondenceCarolyn Finzer
 Email List Moderator.....Eleanor Holt
 Facebook PageRobert Stephens
 Flower and Garden Show.....Tom Campbell
 Flower and Garden Show Guide.....Tom Campbell
 Harvest Banquet **OPEN**
 HistorianCarolyn Finzer
 Membership.....JoAnn Monge
 Meeting Refreshments.....Cricket Cressman
 Mini-Show.....Angel Whitt
 Naper Settlement Gardens.....Pat Thompson
 Newsletter.....Eleanor Holt
 Newsletter Distribution.....Mary Wright
 Photography.....Ron Ory
 Picnic/Garden Walk.....Betty Ference
 Plant Sale.....Bob Elvert
 Plant Sale-Members' Plants.....Linda Allison
 Ogden Ave. Post Office Gardens.....Carolyn Finzer
 Publicity.....Vicky Polito
 River Walk Clean Up/Gardens.....Bob Elvert
 T-shirt SalesLogan Wasson
 Website.....Peter Klassen

Thanks to Cricket Cressman and Jan Gricus for the excellent refreshments which they served at the February meeting. Their Valentine motif and menu won the hearts of everyone at the meeting.



At the Chicago Flower and Garden Show:

NCG member Betty Earl presents

'Fairy Gardens: A Guide to Growing an Enclosed Miniature World'

Thursday, March 14, 6:30 p.m.

MINUTES for February 4, 2013, NCG Meeting

Before the general meeting, the Executive Board met from 6:40 until 7 p.m. to discuss the main points to be presented. Tom Campbell noted the main points of the budget, and President Janice Gricus outlined the items to be discussed under new business.

GENERAL MEETING

President Janice Gricus called the February 4, 2013, general meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. There were approximately thirty-five members and three guests present.

Carolyn Finzer moved, Judy Kanarek seconding, that the minutes for the January, 2013, be approved as printed in the newsletter. The motion carried. Tom Campbell, Treasurer, presented the 2013 budget. Ron Ory moved, Peter Klassen seconding, that the budget be accepted. After discussion, Rosemary Holdredge moved, Linda Thompson seconding, that the motion to accept be adjusted to show an increase to the budgeted allotment for donations by \$500. The amendment to the motion carried, as did the motion to accept the budget. Logan Wasson, John Cressman, Patty Thompson, Nancy Carroll, and Rosemary Holdredge agreed to form a committee to determine where the budgeted donation for education projects should be spent.

Old Business: The positions of Harvest Banquet Chairman/Co-Chairman are open; volunteers are needed. Mary Smedegard asked that members complete a questionnaire to give guidance about future banquets. Dues are due.

New Business: Bob Elvert reported that plans for the plant sale to be held on May 11 are well underway. He welcomes suggestions for plants that members would like to be ordered for the sale.

Anyone wishing to assume the responsibility of forming a Seed Savers group is welcome to begin that project. A trip to Ball Seed display gardens might be a worthwhile summer bus tour. Logan Wasson is in charge of buying club t-shirts and badges for those who need them.

Ron Ory presented a detailed plan for a new Sensory Garden at the Garden Plots on West Street. He suggested that the club support the garden with a donation of \$500 to buy necessary hardscape. Peter Klassen moved, Logan Wasson seconding, that the club make this donation. The motion carried.

Dates to be noted: The plant sale will be held on Saturday, May 11, 2013. The Flower and Garden Show is scheduled for Saturday, August 17, 2013.

Mini Show: Nancy Carroll displayed an amaryllis in full bloom. Randy Scheib brought two potted elephant ears which he wished to share with anyone interested in carrying the plants over the winter.

Raffle: Betty Ference presided over the drawing for a potted begonia in bloom. Tom Campbell was the winner.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40.

PROGRAM

Karla Marino, a residential landscape designer, discussed basic design principles which homeowners should apply when landscaping their homes. After presenting the building blocks of order, unity, and rhythm, she showed slides of homes where the principles were applied and of some where they had been ignored. She stressed the importance of respecting the fact that trees and shrubs will grow, sometimes far beyond what the designer anticipated.

Respectfully submitted,

Eleanor Holt for Vicky Polito, Secretary

The Garden Plots: Progress Report

In 2011, Naperville Community Gardeners were responsible for the funding of a native plants demonstration garden near the Community Garden Plots. In 2012 nearly all the plants flourished and blossomed--a great success story. Here's how it looked last fall.



In 2012, the club again provided funding for the planting of a rain garden. Again, despite planting what are water-loving plants in a drought year, all the plants seemed to survive; hopefully, most of them will return come spring. Please note that The Conservation Foundation has been very helpful in both these projects with technical advice and information brochures.



This year, to bring additional ideas for gardeners, club members have been working with Naperville Park District staff to design a Sensory Garden. At the February club meeting, the club membership voted to approve funding of \$500 for the Sensory Garden. Hardscape materials are estimated to cost approximately \$500. The club also formed a committee to finalize the design and to assist in the installation of the Sensory Garden. Several members offered plants for the garden. One of the volunteer committee members suggested that we install the hardscape portion of the Sensory Garden while waiting for the plants to arrive for the sale on Friday, May 10th. It may take a little longer depending on the availability of those willing and able to help.

Here is the design for the Sensory Garden.



You will notice that the Park District design also allows for additional gardeners/landscape elements and a gathering place / outdoor learning center with screening from the mulch and manure piles to the north. Some of these elements may be added as resources are available.

For questions or comments, please call or email Ron Ory, info below.

And by the way, the Master Gardeners who took over the vegetable gardening from the club's (read Ben Calvert's) long-time plant-a-row effort had a very successful year in 2012, donating almost 4000 pounds of produce to Loaves & Fishes. Here are a couple of club members (and Master Gardeners) and an interloper looking over the final harvest!

They are looking forward to another great veggie year!

Ron Ory



FOUR SEASONS GARDENING: University of Illinois Teleconference Series

The gardening series continues with new topics for Spring 2013. Classes are taught by University of Illinois Extension experts. These sessions are presented via state-wide teleconference and are viewed at the University of Illinois Naperville office, 1100 East Warrenville Road, Suite 170. Each session costs \$10. Advance registration is needed one week before the program you attend. Register online at <http://www.extension.illinois.edu/dkk>. For more information call 630.955.1123.

April 9, 1 p.m.: Spruce Problems (Pest and Cultural Issues) The program will cover all of the cultural, disease, insect, and spider mite problems affecting spruce that have been diagnosed at the U of I Plant Clinic.

April 25, 6:30 p.m.: Pollinators and Insecticides Insecticides may be a serious cause of the decline of the populations of honey bees and other pollinators.

May 7, 1 p.m.: All About Tomatoes: Strategies for Controlling Common Pests and Disorders Learn to identify the most common tomato diseases and insect pests and how best to control them.

May 23, 6:30 p.m.: Don't Doubt the Drought Learn the best management practices for helping our landscape plants recover from the drought of 2012.