



NAPERVILLE COMMUNITY GARDENERS

May 2013

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

NEXT MEETING

May 6, 2013

7 p.m.

Knox Presbyterian Church

SPEAKER: Beth Botts

TOPIC: Where Plants Come From

It takes a worldwide industry and a lot of high tech to bring us a six-pack of annuals, a hanging basket, or a rose bush. Beth Botts will tell us how it is done.

An avid gardener, Beth Botts has been an editor and reporter for the Chicago Tribune and a freelance writer for many gardening magazines, including *Chicagoland Gardening*. She is currently a senior writer at the Morton Arboretum.

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President's Message

The weather of April 2013 is enough to try the souls of gardeners. After almost six inches of rain (and a lap pool for a backyard), I am writing this and watching the sleet try its hardest to accumulate and looking at an overnight forecast of 27 degrees. Well, this too shall pass, summer will come, and we can think of this as another reason to plant natives . . . they have grown accustomed to these crazy conditions.

Cooler weather does mean that early flowering plants last longer, so enjoy the color of spring bulbs. As Diane Hunter said in her April meeting presentation, let nature be a healer. Get outside, feel the sun and the wind, hear the birds, really LOOK at plants and enjoy the beauty of them in detail.

The slow start to spring means we probably have not had much chance to get out in our yards to dig up perennials for the plant sale, but it is just three weeks away. Many plants are slowly but surely poking their heads up through the mulch. Digging up a small specimen is easier than when it's of a more mature size. Please get out there whenever the weather permits and dig, dig, dig. Then let Linda Allison know what treasure you have to offer.

Tip of the Month: plant lettuce seeds. Pick up a pack of lettuce seeds. (There are lots to choose from, and the red varieties are beautiful as well.) Clear a patch of soil in a sunny area, sprinkle the seeds, cover as recommended, and water. Or plant in a pot, then cover with clear wrap. Seeds sprout in 5-7 days for almost instant gratification. Don't over think this, just do it. Snip lettuce when still small for a trendy 'micro-green' addition to a salad. Spinach works well too.

Jan Gricus

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE LEADERS

COMING EVENTS

May 11	Plant Sale, Garden Plots
June 3 Meeting:	Ellen Gunter: 'Climate Reality'
June 29	Garden Walk and Picnic
July 20	Visit Warrenville hosta and daylily garden
August 17	Flower and Garden Show

PLANT DONATION FORMS

Attached to this newsletter is the form for listing member donations to the plant sale. So that tags are ready for the sale, Linda Allison would like to have this information as soon as possible. Her committee will meet on May 8 to complete the tags.

Because of this strange spring, you may find yourself digging at the last minute. Never fear: you can make tags when you bring your plants to the sale.

GARDEN WALK AND PICNIC

Mark your calendars for Saturday, June 29th for our annual Garden Walk and Picnic. I still need two more people to volunteer to show their gardens. You do not need to feel as though you must have an award winning garden in order to participate; a small yard, a shade garden, a pond/waterscape, raised vegetable beds, trellises, potted plants, nice lawn, fruit trees, farm animals – all these things have interest and are worth seeing.

If you are a new gardener, this is your opportunity to have members of our group visit your yard, offer advice, and answer questions. We love to share our knowledge and talk about what has worked for us and what has not. Also, if you have shown your garden in the past, feel free to participate again; we have lots of new members that would enjoy a peek.

Please contact Betty Ference to volunteer.

Executive Board—2013

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

Committee Chairs - 2013

Correspondence	Carolyn Finzer
Email List Moderator.....	Eleanor Holt
Facebook Page	Robert Stephens
Flower and Garden Show.....	Tom Campbell
Flower and Garden Show Guide.....	Tom Campbell
Harvest Banquet	OPEN
Historian	Carolyn 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 Sales	Logan Wasson
Website.....	Peter Klassen

Website:

www.napervillecommunitygardeners.org

Our Mailing Address:

Naperville Community Gardeners
P.O.Box 9555
Naperville, IL 60567-9555

Thanks to Mark Mayszak and Pam Valle for bringing refreshments to our April meeting. Cricket Cressman did her usual splendid job with coffee.

MINUTES FOR MEETING OF APRIL 1, 2013

MINUTES OF OPEN COMMITTEE MTNG—attending Jan Gricus, Pres; Mark Mayszak, VP; Tom Campbell, Trsr; Eleanor Holt, Newsletter

A small glitch led to meeting held without secretary, but agenda was:

- Approval of 3/4/13 EC mtng mins
- Old Business:
 - T-shirt and badge order in and Tom is handling collection and distribution
 - Job descriptions—still needed from Betty, for President
 - Website info on dues changed to \$20
 - Missing key for PO box?
- New Business: (none listed on agenda)

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING—

Call to order 7:01p--24 members w/2 guests attending.

March minutes approved.

Treasurer report: \$17,077.41 as of March 29th bank statement.

Tom Campbell has onions/leeks for sale for early planting--white/red/yellow onions 25/\$1.50--leeks 25/\$3.50.

Tag and t-shirt money can go to Tom who has the delivered items.

Betty Ference still seeking Summer Garden Tour volunteers, as well as for hosting last stop picnic.

Plant Sale Prep: Bob Elvert's sign-up sheets circulated by Jan for volunteering--each member should pick something to do as required in NCG by-laws. Linda Allison looking for plant pricing committee and label making volunteers (label making will be W, May 8th). Members doing donation plants should communicate w/Linda by May 8th so tags with appropriate info can be made up in advance. The tag info and format will be available to members to make these if they can't get with Linda by May 8th. Donor plants should be delivered to sale area on West Street Friday afternoon or by 6a on Saturday.

Re-usable planting pots should be held by donors (NOT brought to church/meeting) but persons needing pots can email Linda who will communicate with those she knows have them to get them to persons in need.

Volunteers also needed for sale set-up and to unload truck from Schaeffer's from about noon to 3p on Friday, May 10th. Pricing of all stock will continue into Friday evening.

Jan reminds that club dues dead-line for 2013 is this month (for membership renewals).

Jan announced that Gail Butler fell and fractured her skull but was better and due for hospital release in first week of April. A member saw Ollie was out and about and he's still in treatment and appreciates well-wishes.

Mini-show: Jan ran this in Angel Whitt's absence with assortment of magazines and Jan's "bloom calendar", which you can contact her to get for printing a copy of your own.

Raffle: Betty conducted this and two prizes were given: a Bananagrams game and a pretty, purple tinted potted hydrangea.

Adjourned 7:17p for social and snack break, followed by Program by Diane Hunter, "Gardens as Healing, Sacred Spaces"

PLANT SALE SCHEDULE

To NCGC Members...from Bob Elvert, Chairman, Plant Sale

WANT TO BE IN THE RIGHT PLACE AT THE RIGHT TIME?? **THEN BE AT THE 23RD ANNUAL NCGC PLANT SALE EVENT ON MAY 10th and 11th.**

Friday, May 10th, noon—6 p.m. : Volunteers needed to unload, setup, and assist with member plants.

Saturday, May 11th, 7 a.m.—1 p.m.: Volunteers needed, two-hour shifts or all day.

We've got an exciting sale planned this year , and we are looking forward to great DRY weather and need your assistance to make it a success!!

This is **THE** NCGC member event of the year to help others plan their garden, assist the club, and socialize with everyone.

Please be sure to sign up at the MAY 6th NCGC meeting or contact Bob Elvert as to your availability.

Plants, tables, and tents have been ordered and scheduled for delivery. Now all we need is **YOU!**

SEE YOU THERE !!!!

At the Garden Plots

The Sensory Garden continues apace. We've staked out the area for installation (see below) and have begun formulating a planting plan. In addition to the \$500 donation from our club, the Naperville Park District, through its Naperville Parks Foundation, should be able to provide an additional \$1,200. This means that what once was a multi-year project might be able to happen this year! We're still planning to install most of the hardscape this spring and install much of the plant material also.

Additionally, another DuPage Master Gardener and I are taking classes to attain certification as 'Master Naturalists.' We hope to be able to use this project for our continuing volunteer hours. Thus we'll have some continuing care and maintenance of the area without burdening the maintenance staff of the Naperville Park District. That doesn't mean that club members are not welcome to continue their support of time and plants to make the garden flourish. We've got a commitment for lamb's ears and will welcome other "sensory" plants that you may wish to contribute.

—Ron Ory



NCG Member Plant Sale – Donation Form 2013

Please list the name and variety of the plant, sun/shade requirements, color, height/spread, bloom time, number of plants being donated, anything that would help with growing the plant.

No. _____ Name: _____.
No. _____ Name: _____
No. _____ Name: _____
No. _____ Name: _____
No. _____ Name: _____
No. _____ Name: _____
No. _____ Name: _____
No. _____ Name: _____
No. _____ Name: _____

Plants donated by: _____