

# We Go Gardening

Newsletter of the West Chicago Garden Club

Volume 22 Issue 8 August 2018



**Meeting Date: August 23**

**Meeting Location:**

**Faith Community Church  
910 Main Street, West Chicago**

**Meeting Time:**

**6:45PM Refreshments  
7:00PM Business Meeting  
7:15PM Program**

## Divide and Multiply: When to Divide What (And How)

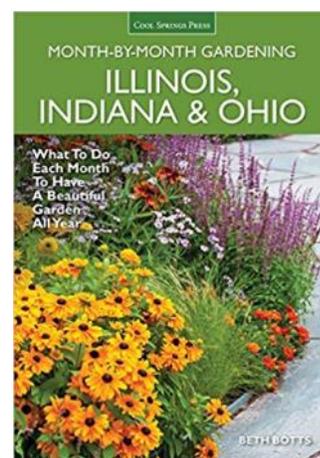
Every year we divide plants in the spring for our plant sale. This month's speaker will tell us more about the best ways to divide our plants.

How can you get more plants (or more flowers) from the perennials you have now? By dividing, of course. This talk will cover when, why, and how to divide many common plants and some uncommon ones.



Beth Botts is an award-winning garden writer and author whose many articles have appeared in the Chicago Tribune, Chicagoland Gardening, Organic Gardening,

Country Gardens, and other newspapers and magazines. She gardens near Chicago in the shade of a four-story building, and grows vegetables and roses in sunny spots. She is the author of [Illinois, Indiana & Ohio Month-by-Month Gardening: What to Do Each Month to Have a Beautiful Garden All Year](#).



SEPTEMBER 27TH MEETING

# Bulb Bingo!

## Plant Sale 2019

**Dan Beebe**

As we head into the Fall, it's a great time to start thinking about next year's Plant Sale. Take a look around your yard and decide which plants need to be divided, split them and then heel in the extras for next year's sale. Remember to place markers around plants that break dormancy late in the Spring so that you know where to dig when it is time for those early potting parties. As always, we need pots. Bring your clean pots (preferably in large plastic bags) from this year's plantings to our monthly meetings. We REALLY need #1 (Gallon) pots for potting up our perennials for the sale; we need hundreds for each year and are running critically low. If you have hanging baskets, to donate, please let me know.

## **Notes from Barbara Bizzarri**

**See Page 3 for  
photographs from the  
July President's Picnic.**

Our July 26th President's Picnic was a great success. The weather cooperated, and just a few mosquitos made their appearance.

Thanks to all of you for coming. The Fabyan Park location was a bit of a drive but the walk around the Japanese Garden was well worth the travel time. Pictures of this event are included in this newsletter. Thanks to Dan and Pamela's son, Darrah, for taking on the photography task. Great eye, Darrah!

It's time to...

- Perennials and biennials that reseed themselves have seeds ready to scatter where you want for next year.
- Prune off the dead and ratty-looking perennial foliage on things like peonies. — That said leave some of these perennials so you have some Winter interest.
- Harvest all the ripe produce you can.
- Divide overgrown irises to keep the flowers coming.
- Tidy up your daylilies by cutting back spent flower stems.
- Plant seeds of lettuce, radish and carrots for a sweet Fall harvest.
- Check shrubs, perennials and tomato and cucumber plants for leaf spots and powdery mildew. Your local nursery can help you find the right fungicide.
- Start thinking about where you want spring bulbs to go.
- Clean any houseplants that you brought outside for summer and bring them in before the first frost.

### **Getting to Know ...Pauline Briggs**

Resident of Glen Ellyn

West Chicago Garden member since: 2003. I became a member because of the plant sale!

Besides Gardening My Hobbies Include: My Church, reading and nature

Advice to New Gardeners: Join our club. Learn all you can about gardening and find the right plants for the right spots

Biggest Gardening Mistake: Planting yellow Archangel lamiastrum (which becomes invasive)

Last or Present Career: Church Administrator

Favorite Restaurant: Pomegranate Restaurant in Naperville

Favorite Vacations: Israel and France

Why Should Someone Join WCGC:

Lots of gardening information. The WCGC members are really nice. The low membership fee has a great return!

### **MEET YOUR BOARD/COMMITTEE MEMBER: Angie Sadauskas**

Favorite Flower/Plant: Cardinal Flowers

Resident of West Chicago since 1977

West Chicago Garden Club member since 1985

Last or Present Career: Microbiologist, worked for the EPA! U of I graduate

Biggest Gardening Mistake: Using too many varieties of plants

Hobbies: Anything on the water! And of course, gardening,

Favorite Restaurant: El Coco Loco

Favorite Vacation Destination: New Orleans and London

Garden Quotes: Beauty surrounds us, but usually we need to be walking in a garden to know it. ...Rumi

# July Meeting: President's Picnic



## News from Kruse

As usual, August has rolled around too soon and summer is coming to an end much too early. I really appreciate the respite of winter, but I feel like I'm just starting to catch up at about this time. I'm a part timer at Kruse garden and only started this year, but I have found that I really enjoy getting out of the office for a morning midweek and working on something beyond my own back yard. It actually encourages me to see my garden in a new light.



You also have another chance to see the seasonal changes at Kruse because the [Ice Cream Social](#) is coming up next month on Sept 8 (Noon to 3pm). If you haven't attended this before, I really encourage you to come. Along with ice cream, there is a multitude of home baked goods like cherry pie made from real cherries (not made out of a can), homemade cookies and all kinds of cakes. You can also wander around a selection of donations and decide if you want to bid on that

fantastic bottle of wine, interesting collectible or restaurant coupon. Besides strolling through the garden, you can also tour the house. The theme of this year's display is "A Tip of the Hat" and I am anxious to see it.

Getting back to the garden, I want to leave you with the thought that the garden we work on there is a present to the future and

"An established plant becomes a heirloom, for in all likelihood it will outlive the gardener who plants it"

(Elizabeth Lawrence from "A Summer Garden" - 1942)



## Gardening Tips & Questions—A tip from Barb Melville

*I bought a beautiful orange blooming bougainvillea from The Owl Barn Shop and planted it...but only this week did I see 3 little orange flowers blooming.*

### WHY WOULDN'T MY BOUGAINVILLEA BLOOM?

This info is from [southernliving.com](http://southernliving.com)

1. Plant in full sun, it won't bloom in shade
2. Don't water, this vine is well-adapted to arid climates
3. Go easy on nitrogen fertilizer or you'll get all leaves and no blooms. Try feeding it once a month in summer with a tablespoon of Epsom salts dissolved in a gallon of water.
4. To get blooms, the vine needs to go dormant between September and February; do not feed or water during this time. (this plants will not survive outside in our zone, needs to be brought inside)
5. Vines tend to bloom at times when nights are longer than days or the day length is decreasing.



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## Cantigny Park Events

**September 4: Tour: White and Pollinator Gardens** Visitors Center, 11 am—Join Jackie Kosbab and Liz Omura from Cantigny Horticulture for an up-close look at two newly designed gardens, each planted in 2018 as part of the park's Project New Leaf. Tour departs from Visitors Center . Free with parking (\$5).

**September 6 & 20: Evening Stroll Garden Tour** Visitors Center, 5 pm Experience Cantigny's newly designed gardens on this one-hour tour conducted by the park's Master Gardener docents. Free with paid parking (\$5).

**September 13 & 20: Monarch Butterfly Tagging** Idea Garden, 1:00pm. - Learn about a beautiful and fascinating insect! This tagging event at Cantigny's Idea Garden assists the Monarch Watch organization in tracking butterflies as they migrate back to the mountains of Mexico. Highly recommended for families! Free with parking (\$5) .

**September 16: Garden Photo Tips** Visitor Center 2:00pm -Receive advice, share your own knowledge, and enjoy the camaraderie of fellow shutterbugs in beautiful surroundings. Group size limited to 10—register at [Cantigny.org](http://Cantigny.org) or 630.260.8162. Free w/parking (\$5).

**September 20: Lunch & Learn: Trees of Cantigny** Visitor Center, 12-1:00pm –This noon program on the third Thursday of the month features speakers on topics of interest. Todd Henderson and Beau Nagan, arborists at Cantigny, will discuss the trees in the park and on the golf course. Bring a lunch or reserve one. To register or order a box lunch (\$13) call 630.260.8162. Free with parking (\$5)

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### Club Information

Website: [www.westchicagogardenclub.org](http://www.westchicagogardenclub.org)  
West Chicago Garden Club  
P. O. Box 313, West Chicago, IL 60186  
E-mail: [westchicagogardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:westchicagogardenclub@gmail.com)

### Membership Information

Dues for 2018: Individual: \$15 Family: \$25

### Board Meetings

2nd Thursday each month at 7 p.m.

### Regular Meeting Location

Faith Community Church  
910 Main Street, West Chicago

### 2017 WCGC BOARD:

President: Barb Bizzarri  
Vice President: Keith Letsche  
Treasurer: Kerry Perry  
Secretary: Billie Childress  
Program Director: Barb Melville  
Plant Sale Chair: Dan Beebe  
Newsletter: Pamela Darrah  
Director at Large: OPEN

To Contact any Board Member, please send email to  
[WestChicagoGardenClub@gmail.com](mailto:WestChicagoGardenClub@gmail.com)

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