



WE GO GARDENING

Newsletter of the West Chicago Garden Club

www.westchicagogardenclub.org

Volume 19 Issue 6 June 2015

Inside this issue

Club News, Contact Information & Non-Club Events	2
Planned WCGC Events	3
News from Kruse	4
Field Trip & Picnic	5
Growing Place Article	6

Babysitting—The Club provides babysitting during its regular monthly meetings when held at Faith Community Church. There is no fee to you for the service and no reservations are necessary.

Rides— Need a ride to the meeting? Call Billie Childress at 231-1791 the Wednesday before the meeting.

Make Note!

Our June meeting location is at the Kruse House Garden, 527 Main Street.

In the event of inclement weather, we will meet at Faith Community Church.

June 25th Meeting: "Grow and Go Green!" with Nancy Carroll at the Kruse House Garden!

Nancy, a Master Gardener Alumnus and Landscape & Garden Designer, will share tons of creative ideas of how to empty your Recycle Bin and make fun and charming items for neat gifts and your own home and garden.

Practical and Resourceful uses for everyday throw-away items will be shown—from making whimsical art objects for inside and outside to soil scoops to birdfeeders. Also included will be tips and suggestions to incorporate a much "Greener" approach to your gardening.

A terrific handout will be included as well as seeing "real" examples of what folks can make taking their trash to treasures!

The Kruse House Garden is located at 527 Main Street in West Chicago. Parking is available at City Hall, 475 Main Street.

Kruse House Garden at 527 Main Street in West Chicago

6:00pm arrive early to enjoy the garden!

6:45pm - refreshments and gathering

7:00pm - brief business meeting

7:15pm - speaker

Next Meeting: Thursday, July 30

President's Picnic!



Upcoming events (outside the club)

Cantigny: Purple Martins 101 Workshop. July 11, 8:30AM—11:00AM. Cantigny Golf, 27W270 Mack Rd, meet by little brick building near martin houses. Parking & program free!

Growing Place: Gardening 101: Hydrangeas. July 11, 10AM-11AM. Aurora location. Free.

Chicago Botanic Garden: WI-IL Lily Society Show July 11-12, Northshore Iris and Daylily Show July 18-19, Cactus & Succulent Society of Greater Chicago Show July 25-26. (847) 835-5440.

City of West Chicago: Railroad Days Fireworks, July 11, dusk (viewing at Reed-Keppler park). Parade on Sunday, July 12, at 1:00PM. More information at <http://westchicago.org/news/2015-railroad-days-an-abbreviated-version/>

You're invited to come explore, get inspired, learn
and add some beauty to your garden at



2010 East Main St. (Rt. 64), St. Charles
630.377.6288 www.HeinzBrothers.com
Your Gardening Source....



PLATT HILL NURSERY
222 W. Lake St. • Bloomingdale • 630-529-9394
2400 Randall Rd. • Carpentersville • 847-428-6767
Hours: Mon-Sat 9am-6pm • Sun 10am-5pm • www.platthillnursery.com

Club information

www.westchicagogardenclub.org

West Chicago Garden Club
P. O. Box 313, West Chicago, IL 60186
westchicagogardenclub@gmail.com

Membership information

Dues for 2015: 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

2015 WCGC BOARD:

President:

Dick Darrah, 630-584-1900, info@bwdarrah.com

Vice President:

Keith Letsche, 630-293-0192, keithletsche@aol.com

Treasurer:

Barb Darrah, 630-584-1900, info@bwdarrah.com

Secretary:

Annette Wulfe, 630-462-0208, annettewulfe@yahoo.com

Program Co-Chairs:

Pauline Briggs, 630-254-2969, briggspm@gmail.com
Marcy Kozlowski, 630-846-3466
marcellakozlowski@yahoo.com

Information Director & Publicity:

Melissa Birch, 630-621-0128, melissabirch@gmail.com



Planned WCGC Events - 2015

Date	Speaker/Organizer	Topic/Event	Date	Speaker/Organizer	Topic/Event
22 Jan	Cindy Tyley	Tips for Lazy Gardener	25 Jun	Nancy Carrol: Grow and Go Green	At Kruse Garden
26 Feb	Don Guzan	Basics of Pruning	30 Jul	All members	President's Picnic
26 Mar	Shawn M. Odneal	Vertical Gardening	27 Aug	Rich & Susan Eyre	Inspirational Gardens & Plants
23 Apr	Billie Childress	Kruse House History	24 Sep	Bulb Bingo	Pauline
16 May	ALL MEMBERS!	PLANT SALE!	22 Oct	Mel Zaloudek	Epiphytes
28 May	Blumen Gardens	FIELD TRIP!	19 Nov	All members	Dinner & Garden Dollar Auction



90 YEARS A Growing Legacy

A lot has changed in 90 years but our commitment to our customers and our community has not -- provide high-quality, locally-grown plant and landscape material, expert advice and professional installation and design services.

Since 1925

WASCO NURSERY & GARDEN CENTER

630-584-4424

6 miles west of Randall Road on Route 64, St. Charles
1 mile west of Wasco
www.wasconursery.com

Find everything you need for your beautiful garden

Spring Bluff Nursery, Inc.

Specializing in growing landscape quality trees and shrubs

Retail Garden Center

Landscape Design & Installation

Trees, Shrubs & Perennials

41W130 Norris Rd.
Sugar Grove, Illinois 60554

630.466.4278
www.springbluffnursery.com
plants@springbluffnursery.com

Growing, learning and educating since 1979...



News from Kruse

by Billie, Angie, Kerry and Tom

Boom!

May and early June were sensational at the Kruse Garden. It seemed as though nothing was coming back and then suddenly...boom! Plants woke up from the long, hard winter and exploded into bloom. First thing every Wednesday morning our team walks the garden. We look at what's currently blooming, what's starting to peek out and what tasks we want to complete. You can hear our "oohs" and "aahs"...not unlike hearing a crowd watching fireworks.

The peony displays were spectacular! The Single Shell Peony, donated by Billie, has large single flowers of delicate pink with yellow centers. In front of the house is a lightly scented, semi-double flower peony, from Klemms Nursery (photo on page 5), that stands upright over three feet. Behind the garage, is a fabulous pink, full double bloom peony, original to the house. Its fragrance is incredible! The back and side gardens contain several other vintage varieties, including bomb-type flowers.



Single Shell Pink Peony

Rosa Glauca gave us an impressive show. The oldest rose in the garden, has fragile, clear pink flowers. The species name of *glauca* refers to the bluish-green coloring found on many of the leaves.



Lemon Lily

Other lovely shows were the Lemon Lily, the first lily to bloom in the garden. It looks like lemon sherbet...good enough to eat. The Orion Geranium has a vibrant blue-violet bloom and puts on a spectacular foliar display in autumn. Some gardeners believe Orion is a true rival of the pretty Rozanne Geranium also found in the Kruse garden.



Orion Geranium

Selecting the right plants for under the large tree in the front yard has been a challenge. The area is dry and shady. We planted some Canadian Wild Ginger that will spread slowly, and we hope to have a dense bed in a few years.

Angie is our designer...she has a good eye for staging plants for texture, color, height and bloom time. Billie is our walking plant encyclopedia and knows the Latin names as well as the common names. They both really know their plants and how to care for them. Tom and I are learning a lot from them.

Come join us in the garden. Help us tend the lovely plants or just stroll and enjoy.

—Kerry, Billie, Angie & Tom



FIELD TRIP!

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 at 9:00 AM

Plan on spending the day in Rockford where we will tour Anderson Japanese Gardens, lunch at the Wild Rose Saloon (organic menu) and enjoy a guided tour of the Tinker Swiss Cottage Museum & Garden. Please have \$10 (cash or check WCGC) with your reservation to hold your spot.

Any questions please call Annette Wulffe 630 346-0406. Stop by the table at our club meeting to sign up.



*Kruse Garden Peony
from Klemms Nursery*

PRESIDENT'S PICNIC!

Our picnic will be held on July 30
at the home of Pamela and Dan
(thanks for hosting!)

More details will be available in the next
newsletter and by Calling Post.

Please remember that attendance is
limited to WCGC members and those
in their immediate household.



An Investment That Grows

THE GARDEN CENTER IS
BLOOMING WITH IDEAS!

**MEYER
LANDSCAPING, INC.**
Nursery, Landscaping Design & Construction

27W067 North Avenue
West Chicago, IL 60185
Tel: (630) 293-4800

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR SPECIALS!!!
WWW.MEYER-LANDSCAPING.COM

**LARGE TREES &
SHRUBS, ROSES,
PERENNIALS,
& ANNUALS**

SPRING HOURS
MON-SAT: 9-5
SUN: 10-4 (4/15-6/30)

Spring Bluff Nursery, Inc.

*Specializing in growing landscape
quality trees and shrubs*

**Retail Garden Center
Landscape Design & Installation
Trees, Shrubs & Perennials**

41W130 Norris Rd.
Sugar Grove, Illinois 60554

630.466.4278
www.springbluffnursery.com
plants@springbluffnursery.com

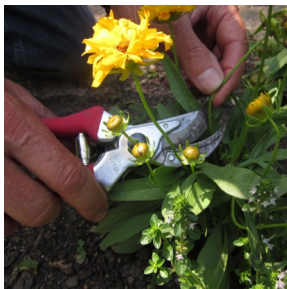
Growing, learning and educating since 1979...



Keep your flowering plants looking their best

by The Growing Place

This spring has given us some glorious days filled with flowers. Now the goal is to keep them looking their best. A little snip here and there goes a long way. I like to step outside in the morning with my cup of coffee and a scissors or pruners. For some perennials it means cutting back the spent flowers to an intersection on the stem near the mass of leaves and waiting for next year's blooms. For other perennials, cutting back encourages a second bloom. While for others, like Calamintha and Penstemon, leaving them alone is best. The seed pods will look nice and often feed the birds.



We call the process of removing spent flowers, dead-heading. A few of the perennials that will re-bloom after dead-heading are Daisies, Delphinium, Coral Bells, Salvia, Nepeta and some Daylilies.

Other perennial flowering plants will look much better if the spent flowers are cut back to an intersection within the main body of the plant. Don't just snip off the spent flower or you will have empty stems. Some of the perennials that will not re-bloom but benefit from dead-heading are Peonies, Siberian Forget-me-nots, Iris, and many Daylilies.

Flowering shrubs that bloom in the spring include Lilacs, Fragrant Viburnums, and Rhododendrons are best pruned up to two weeks after they finish blooming but no later. If you haven't pruned them yet, it should still be okay through about June 15th (flowers were a bit later this year). They set their flower buds for next spring during this summer's growing season so any pruning done in the summer or fall will affect next year's blooms.

Annuals keep blooming most of the season and many do not need anything but consistent water and a bit of fertilizer. There are some that will benefit from a little maintenance. Petunias will bloom more if the spent flowers as well as the seed pods are removed down to the intersection. You can also cut Lantana seed pods off at the intersections. Geranium flowering stems can be snapped off where you see a bulge at the intersection. Other annuals that bloom better when dead-headed include Marigolds and Cosmos.

Speaking of water, be sure to water slowly and deeply so that it soaks deep into the soil as soon as it dries out to encourages lush growth. But remember, some plants prefer it dry so in that case, less is best. You can over-water by not letting the soil dry out under the surface between watering so always check the soil before watering. A little mulch will keep the weeds down and the moisture levels more constant but be sure not to bury the bases of plants in mulch.

Experience

The Growing Place

Garden Center

Growing Place grown plants • Beautiful gardens
Special events & activities • Landscape services

<p>Naperville... 630.355.4000 25w471 Plank Rd thegrowingplace.com</p>	<p>Aurora... 630.820.8088 2000 Montgomery Rd Find us on Facebook!</p>
--	--