



WE GO GARDENING

Newsletter of the West Chicago Garden Club

www.westchicagogardenclub.org

Volume 17 Issue 6 June 2013

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June 27th Meeting: "Yogurt, Vinegar & Lawn Care" with Bill Scheffler

Bill Scheffler will share green & organic gardening and lawn care tips with us. He has an in-depth knowledge of the chemical makeup of soil, and what is best for plants to thrive in without using chemicals.



PLEASE NOTE: Our June Meeting will be held outdoors at the Kruse House Garden, 527 Main Street. In the event of inclement weather, we will hold the meeting at our usual location

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.

Kruse House Garden at 527 Main Street in West Chicago

6:45 - refreshments and gathering (arrive early to enjoy the garden!)

7:00 - brief business meeting

7:15 - speaker

Next Meeting: Thursday, July 25:

President's Picnic—Details to Follow!

LOOK FOR NEW MEMBERS Dawna Coker and Jennifer Marconi AT THE JUNE MEETING!



Upcoming events (outside the club)

Cantigny: Morning Garden Tour. July 2, 11AM. No registration required (free with paid parking). Tour departs from the Visitor's Center.

Growing Place: Gardener's Art Festival. June 22, all day. Naperville. It features more than 40 garden artists, live music, talks and refreshments.

Heinz Brothers Greenhouse: Farmers Market on Wednesdays, 3PM—7PM.

Chicago Botanic Garden: Meet the Horticulturist. June 28, 1PM. Learn more about your favorite gardens from the people who help them grow! This event features an informal presentation and tour followed by a period of questions and answers. Each program runs 30 to 45 minutes. Call (847) 835-6851 for more information.

Morton Arboretum: Gardening for Fragrance. July 13, 8:30am. Tour the fragrance garden and discover which plants offer the most appealing smells. \$35 Member/\$43 Non-Member. Advance registration required: 630-719-2468.



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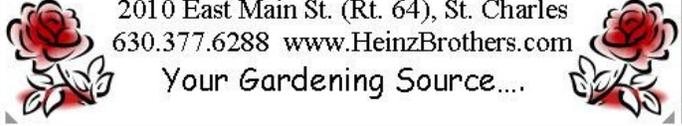
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Club information

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

Membership information

Dues for 2013: 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

2013 WCGC BOARD:

- President:
Keith Letsche 630-293-0192
- Vice President:
Dick Darrah 630-584-1900, info@bwdarrah.com
- Treasurer:
Barb Darrah 630-584-1900, info@bwdarrah.com
- Secretary:
open
- Program Co-Chairs:
Pauline Briggs 630-545-2234, pmb Briggs@juno.com
June Luther 630-876-1295, june@markluther.com
- Information Director & Publicity:
Melissa Birch, 630-621-0128, melissabirch@gmail.com



Planned WCGC Events - 2013

Date	Speaker/Organizer	Topic/Event	Date	Speaker/Organizer	Topic/Event
24 Jan	Nancy Schumm-Burgess	Pioneer Gardens	27 Jun	Bill Scheffler	Yogurt, Vinegar & Lawn Care
28 Feb	The Growing Place	Vegetables	25 Jul	All members	President's Picnic
28 Mar	James Rowan	Don't Squash That Bug	22 Aug	TBA	Monarch Magic
25 Apr	Wasco Nursery	New & Unusual	26 Sep	June & Pauline	Bulb Bingo
18 May	ALL MEMBERS!	PLANT SALE!	24 Oct	Bill Karges	Fall Garden Prep
23 May	Dave Wanninger	Low Maintenance	21 Nov	All members	Dinner & Garden Dollar Auction

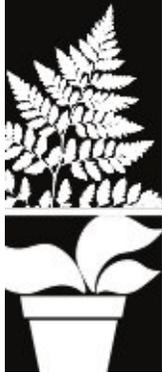
We're thinking ahead...

To next January. And, we're asking for your help. We would like to do a home grown program. Since we don't get to see everyone's gardens, we'd like to put together a slide show of our gardens. Or, maybe you would like suggestions as to what to do with that problem spot. Or, maybe you would like to tell us about your favorite tool? So, take pictures throughout the seasons.

Then, come December, or early January, e-mail or mail your best, or worst, pictures to Pauline: briggspm@gmail.com or 3S071 Cypress Dr, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137-7311. THANKS!



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News from Kruse

by Billie Childress & Angie Sadauskas

I know you read this on page one but it bears repeating...the June 27th general monthly meeting of the Garden Club will be held at the Kruse Garden. Arrive a little early to allow time to stroll around and get a good look at the gardens. Don't miss this opportunity to gather in a lovely garden. If the weather won't cooperate we will have to go to our usual meeting place at the church. Boo Hoo if that Happens!



One thing you want check out is the stone wall behind the pond. Pam Lurz and her husband Greg did a superb job of rebuilding it! As you can see they are hard at work on the left and right shows



to

wall half done. It went from a messy pile of rocks to a handsome stacked wall with about 12 hours of their skilled labor. Pam says "We started building stone walls in our own yard because it has lots of small flagstones

buried in the soil. I've always joked that we could build a quarry in our back yard. In one area it's almost 50% rock. After a while we started using the rocks to edge the grass and then started building low stone walls." We are very grateful for their work! Thank you Pam & Greg!



The honeysuckle vine by the shed door is a handsome sight and the iris right next to it was stunning! See you in the garden.

A B & T





PLANT SALE 2013

We continued the tradition with another successful plant sale! Club members came out and worked hard and the weather cooperated with mild, moist days leading up to the sale and a clear, sunny day for the event.

We deliberately potted fewer, but more selective plants this year, and, as we had intended, virtually all were sold by 3:00 p.m.. We grossed over \$8,000. Thanks to the unofficial "Plant Sale Committee," Dick, Barb, Marcy, Billie, Angie, Tom, Dan, Pam, Pauline, and Marion, and all of those who showed up to help the day of and evening before the sale, as well as at the potting parties. We could not have succeeded without all of your help!



A very special THANK YOU to Jesse Felix and the West Chicago Park District for use of the barn at Kress Creek Farms for storage of our materials and use of the space for our potting parties!

Do you have any comments on the Plant Sale? Let a board member know! What can we improve upon for next year? You can e-mail comments and/or suggestions to the board at westchicagogardenclub@gmail.com!

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Make a Difference with a Garden by Heather Prince of The Growing Place

Did you know that you can have a tremendous impact on our world just by planting a garden? Each tree, shrub and flower we plant creates an important piece of habitat for our birds, butterflies and other wildlife. Bees, butterflies and bugs all play an important role in fruit and vegetable production as well as charm us with their beauty and grace. Bats consume an amazing amount of mosquitoes and harmful insects each night. Birds fascinate us with their winged acrobatics and beautiful songs. Creating a wildlife-friendly garden can be a wonderful project for adults and children. Every little bit helps!

Our native pollinators including bees, flies, wasps, moths, lady beetles and more are champions in the edible garden. They work hard to pollinate our fruits and vegetables, plus they feast on insect pests like aphids. Encourage them by tucking some native plants and herbs nearby. Try building a bee hotel with cut bamboo or straws bound together and tucked into a clean, empty can. You can also drill holes of varying sizes into a block of wood. This can be a great project for kids!

A rain garden not only helps eliminate runoff and keeps potential pollutants out of our rivers and streams; it also is a haven for butterflies, toads, dragonflies, birds and more. Beautiful flowers such as Siberian iris, Queen of the Prairie, and swamp milkweed thrive in a rain garden offering us seasons of pleasure.

Our native trees and shrubs not only thrive in our clay soils, they frequently offer the best fall color and four-season interest. Did you know an oak tree feeds more than 500 different species of wildlife and some varieties grow very quickly? A red oak can grow more than two feet a year! Viburnums are some of our favorite plants for fall color and screening, plus are very attractive to songbirds.



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