

WE GO GARDENING

Newsletter of the West Chicago Garden Club

www.westchicagogardenclub.org

Volume 13 Issue 11 November 2010

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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, but if you plan to use it, please **call Linda Harlson** at 377-5750, so we can plan for the right number of children.

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



November 18th Meeting : "Potluck, Election, and Garden Dollar Auction"

Come for one of the most entertaining events of the year.

We have many items for the silent auction that will take place before, during, and after our dinner.

For dinner, main dish, beverages, and tableware will be provided. Please bring a salad, side dish, or dessert to share, arriving no later than 6:30 p.m.

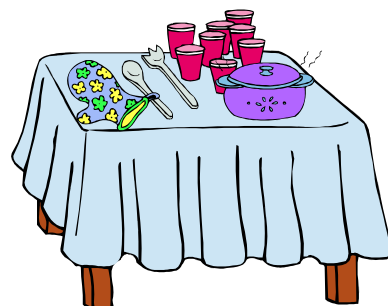
For the auction, bring your Garden Dollars with you—they are the only currency that will be accepted to redeem auction items. 25 Garden Dollars will be given to each attendee as they enter the meeting.

Do you still have uncollected Garden Dollars from this year's activities? (see sheet on page 5 for how to earn) Figure up how much you're owed, and collect them from the welcome table as you enter. Renew your membership at the November meeting, and earn 75 Garden Dollars!

Do you still items to donate for the auction? Bring new or gently used garden-themed items by no later than 5:45 p.m. to Faith Community Church, so those setting up can ensure everything is in place in time.

Faith Community Church at 910 Main Street in West Chicago.

Arrive no later than 6:30, dinner starts at 6:45



No meeting in December—HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Next Meeting: Thursday, January 27, 2011

Look for speaker information in the January newsletter.



Upcoming events (outside the club)

Dupage County Forest Preserve: Annual Christmas Bird Count. Enjoy the outdoors and see winter resident birds. Ages 8 & up. West Chicago Prairie, Saturday, Dec 18, 8:00 to 11:00. Meet at WC Prairie parking lot located on east side of Industrial Dr between Western & Downs.

Heinz Brothers Greenhouse: Wreath Decorating Demo. Nov 20, 11 a.m., Nov 21, 1 p.m. Free, please RSVP by calling 630-377-6288 to register.

Growing Place: Wreath & Container Classes. Nov 27 and Dec 2, 10 a.m. Both locations. Free, but call to register at 6430-355-4000.

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

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Bowling Ball to Garden Art Workshop

The second gazing ball workshop was held at the Childress' home on October 16 and 25 with about 8 crafty gardeners attending. Billie Childress and Angie Sadauskas provided all the materials (including delicious refreshments) to make beautiful garden or home decorations. Almost everyone chose to use a stained glass medium, and many of the patterns were nature-themed.

This was a really fun way to create a beautiful object and get to know fellow WCGC members at the same time. Be sure to sign up for the next one!

MANY THANKS TO ANGIE & BILLIE FOR THEIR LEADERSHIP AND CREATIVITY!





Calendar of events - 2010

Date	Speaker/Organizer	Topic/Event
November 18	All Club Members	Potluck Dinner Garden Dollar Auction

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The Growing Place

Aurora, 2000 Montgomery Road, 630-820-8088
Naperville, 25 w 471 Plank Road, 630-355-4000

Seasons change, snow falls, and TGP is a whole new kind of beautiful! Fresh greens, decorations, candles, garden gifts abound.

Holiday Event, 11-19 & 20

**Wreath, Swag & Container Workshops,
11-27 & 12-2**

Hours, Mon-Sat, 9am - 4pm
www.thegrowingplace.com

Our Thanks and Gratitude

Several board members will retire from leadership positions after this month, having worked tirelessly on our behalf for many years. These volunteers are: Lou Horton (program chair) and Dick Darrah (plant sale coordinator).



Many thanks to them for all their hard work and long hours! Your efforts have helped make the WCGC the great organization it is.

Club information

www.westchicagogardenclub.org
West Chicago Garden Club
P. O. Box 313, West Chicago, IL 60186
(630) 585-4005

Membership information

Dues for 2009:
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

2010 WCGC BOARD:

President: VACANT

Vice President:

Jeff Handel (630) 231-6765, jjhandeldds@yahoo.com

Treasurer:

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

Secretary:

Dee Soustek (630) 393-0652, dsoustek@aol.com

Program Chair:

Lou Horton (630) 293-7735, lehorton85@ameritech.net

Information Director:

Elaine McCluskey (630) 293-4773,
emcccluskey@sbcglobal.net

Plant Sale Co-Chairs:

Dick Darrah (630) 584-1900, info@bwdarrah.com
Tom Fessler (630) 231-0535, fess2000@aol.com



2010 Survey Results

Twice during this past year the WCGC Board distributed surveys to the membership to solicit feedback on how members like what's going on in the club. It was the same survey both times, and we had ~ 15% return rate. In general, club members seem satisfied with activities, format, and communication of the club. The Board reviewed the responses in detail and found the following:

Top meeting topic suggestions:

1. Roses
 2. Herbs
 3. Landscape Design(tie)
 4. Perennials
 5. Wild Flower and Native Plants
 6. Holiday Decorating
- and 3 write ins for vegetables.

Favorite past topics: Bonsai trees, peonies, Ball Seed annuals, and Dave Wanniger

Summer meeting at someone's house? 10 yes and 5 no

Community Service Project? 11 yes and 3 no with the suggestion of the train station.

13 want to go on a field trip.

Most popular field trip locations (in order):

1. Chicago Botanical Garden(5)
2. Cantigny(2)
3. Aqua Scapes(2)
4. and 1 each for Northwind, Rockford Gardens, Millenium Park, Bahai Temple, Morton Arboretum, Dubuque Arboretum.

Suggested workshops: Gazing Balls(done) and Holiday centerpieces.

Thanks to all those who filed out a survey!

The Board will use this information for future planning.

DIDN'T FILL OUT A SURVEY BUT HAVE IDEAS? TALK TO A BOARD MEMBER, SEE PAGE 3 FOR THEIR CONTACT INFORMATION.



Garden Dollars - remember to collect them!

WCGC distributes tokens (Garden Dollars) to members who participate in club activities. At the **November meeting**, you will be able to use them at the **auction to bid on fabulous prizes.**

Volunteer for workdays, plant sale or garden contest (1 to 4 hrs , >4hrs)	75 - 150	Donate plants for the sale <50, 50-149, ≥150	75, 200, 300
Donate pots	50	Write newsletter article	100
Donate snack for meeting	75	Donate door prize	50
Set up or clean up meeting	25	Meeting attendance	25
Trip attendance	25	Pay dues before Garden Dollar Auction in 2010	75
Donate to Kruse House	50	Pay dues before February 2nd	50

To receive your Garden Dollars after earning them, pick them up at special events from the event organizer, or see club officers at the information table at any meeting, and let them know what you've earned. Contact Jeff Handel for more information, 231-6765.

Pick up the Garden Dollars you've earned before the auction in November!



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WCGC Board - Open Positions for 2011

The board for 2011 will be needing some new leadership. Please read the information below about the upcoming open positions and see **where you can help out**.

Vice-President: No pre-determined tasks go with this job. The president will make special assignments as things come up. This is a great way to get involved without knowing a lot of people or taking a whole lot of time.

Programs: Lou Horton has been our program chair for many years and is stepping down after 2010. This position could be filled by one energetic individual or a small committee. Tasks include finding and scheduling speakers for the months for club meetings for February, March, April, May, June, August, September, and October. Lou will take care of January this year. Speaker resources are available. Another task is to welcome the speaker to the meeting and introduce him/her. Can you do part of this?

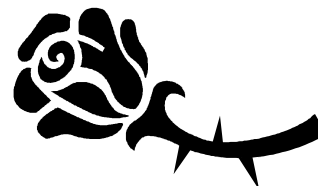
Publicity: This position is open right now. The job entails finding ways to make WCGC known in the community. This might include posting meeting dates to the TribLocal, making use of an existing contact list for other media outlets, and helping with special event publicity. This also includes recording the Calling Post message that reminds us to come to meetings!

We hope you will consider one of these - please contact any board member (see page 3 for the list) for more information. **Elections will be at the November meeting.**

Caring for Roses in Winter

by Heather Prince of The Growing Place

We love roses! Some of our most popular roses such as hybrid teas, need a little extra care in the winter, as they are usually grafted. Grafted roses will need more protection, as they are more sensitive to our winter weather. Others such as shrub and species roses grown on their own roots are very hardy and do not need winter protection. Frequently planted roses such as Knock-Out, Carpet, or Meidlands, are very hardy and will not die completely to the ground come winter.



Mulch, The Growing Place Garden Mix and leaf clippings are perfect to protect roses. These amendments offer protection from winter winds, but are loose enough to allow some air circulation so that the stems and crown do not rot. It is important to not use the styrofoam rose cones as they hold in moisture and heat, creating a perfect environment for fungus and rot. We recommend mounding your amendment loosely up about 8 to 12 inches. If you have a hybrid tea, you may want to create a cylinder of chicken wire and fill it with loose mulch and leaf clippings to about two feet high for extra protection. Evergreen boughs make terrific mulch that also keeps the rabbits away. We have found that it is best to wait until spring to prune the canes. With our tough winters, expect to see some cane dieback and the longer the canes, the more chance you'll have living tissue come March.

Wait! It is important to wait until the ground is truly frozen and often in our area that is not until Christmas. Our November and December temperatures usually bounce up and down and we will frequently go from rain to snow to rain again. You want to mulch roses when it is as dry as possible and when the ground has truly cooled down. Once the weather begins to warm in March, it's time to take away that mulch layer. Roses benefit from good air circulation and good drainage.

If you have severe rabbit problems, you may want to cage your roses with chicken wire Bunny Fence or graduated rabbit fencing over the winter. When there is nothing else to eat, roses become the favorite snack of hungry rabbits.



West Chicago Garden Club Membership Application - 2011

Our club year runs from January 1st through December 31st. Membership dues for 2011 are due by the February meeting and will be considered over-due as of February 28th. The board would appreciate receiving dues as soon as possible

With your paid membership you receive a copy of the monthly newsletter and membership in the Garden Clubs of Illinois, which includes the quarterly publication Garden Glories.

Individual Membership:

\$15 per year

Family Membership:

\$25 per year

(For multiple members at a single address)

Our meetings in 2011 will be held on the 4th Thursday evening of each month from January through October and the 3rd Thursday of November (no meeting in December).

Please make checks payable to the West Chicago Garden Club. You can bring this form and your check to a club meeting or mail both to:

West Chicago Garden Club
c/o Mike Saad
27W206 Manchester Rd.
Winfield, IL 60190-1440

**Members paying dues early will
receive Garden Dollars!**

By Nov 18, 2010 - 75 GD

By Feb 2, 2011 - 50 GD

Application

type: ☐ New or ☐ Renewal

class: ☐ Individual or ☐ Family

Name(s): _____
(Print) _____

Address: _____

City/ZIP: _____

Phone Numbers: (include area code)

Home: _____

Work: _____

Cell/other: _____

E-Mail Address(es):

Note: e-mail addresses may be shared with garden club members.

Send newsletters via: ☐ E-mail or ☐ Mail

☐ Please do not add my phone number to the Calling Post. (Note: if you check this box, you will not get phone reminders of any garden club events.)

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